

THANKS TO THE STAFF OF GEORGIA'S SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the men and women that I have had the pleasure of working with over these 10 years in Congress.

When you announce that you are retiring, folks need to start looking for that next opportunity. So the people who stick it out with you are a special breed. So, too, are those men and women who come and join you, knowing that their service will be short.

Mr. Speaker, there are three such people: Sean Lerner, Emily Macdonald, and Tomas Rodriguez. Knowing I was going to retire, they came and joined the fight to serve the men and women of the Seventh District of Georgia and have done an amazing job for me over the past year.

Catherine Morvis, a name long known in Georgia circles, having served with Congressman Phil Gingrey, came back to the Hill to help keep things together for me and move us across the finish line. She is still serving even today.

Mr. Speaker, I have longtime staffers—Lauren Williams, Nicholas Scoufaras, Vesna Kurspahic, Naomi Pillsbury—men and women who have been doing extraordinary work, always under difficult circumstances, recently under incredibly difficult circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, I have got staffers who have been with me a decade or more, who have recently departed: Alex Poirot, Kelley Kurtz, Janet Rossi, and Elena Gabrysh.

Elena and I started working together in 1999, serving the people of Georgia. Now, more than 20 years later, she has gone into retirement, having served literally thousands of constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I want to call particular attention to two public servants that I have been incredibly honored to be able to know in my life: My State director, Debra Poirot; and my chief of staff, Derick Corbett.

Mr. Speaker, if you have not had an opportunity to meet Debra Poirot, she brightens up every room that she walks into with a genuine love for this country and a love for her community. She lives in Forsyth County, though she grew up as an Air Force child, calls Texas home from that time, but has claimed Georgia.

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So committed is she, Mr. Speaker, I remember a World War II veteran, a widow, and she was losing her housing. Debra woke up on a Saturday morning and read about it in the newspaper. She spent the next week finding this family and spent the week after that solving that problem.

She made a difference in that life that can never be measured and did it not because a constituent called, not

because someone knocked on the door, but simply because she lives a life of looking for opportunities to make other people's lives better.

She finds herself out in the community each and every day, not just serving us but fulfilling a true heartfelt mission to see what she can do that others could not. An amazing woman, an amazing mother, and certainly an amazing public servant, and I thank her for that.

Derick Corbett, Mr. Speaker, I had the pleasure of hiring him back in the year 2000. I didn't think he was going to amount to much at that time, but we needed somebody on the bottom rung of the ladder and he agreed to raise his hand and do it.

He could not be more of a rock, a rock for our office, a rock for our community. The common refrain I find when I go out into the district is: "Hi, Rob, good to see you. Where is Derick?" because he has such an impact on folks.

He won't take "no" for an answer when a Federal agency won't serve a constituent. He demands the service that each and every citizen knows that they deserve.

He is an even better husband and an even better father than he is a public servant.

But, Mr. Speaker, there would be no Congressman ROB WOODALL if there were not a Chief of Staff Derick Corbett, if there were not a District Director Debra Poirot. These two have changed countless lives, and among them has been mine.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all of my staff for the amazing work they have done over the years. They are great Americans. They love this country, and I love them.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ROSIE LEE ATCHISON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, to live to become 109 years old in this country, or any country, as a matter of fact, is quite a feat. Such has been the life and legacy of Mrs. Rosie Atchison, who was born on August 15, 1911, in Bolivar, Mississippi, and passed away on November 23, 2020.

Her birth mother passed away when Rosie was just 6 weeks old. She was taken into the care of her father, Mr. Henry Liner, who raised her as the second oldest of 27 children whom he fathered.

Rosie grew up in Clarksdale, Mississippi, where she lived a typical life of Blacks in that area. She worked the fields, went to church, got married, had two children, lost a child, got tired of the fields and a failed marriage, and took her two children and migrated to Chicago, looking for a better life. That is exactly what she found.

With faith in God, she joined the Greater Salem Missionary Baptist

Church, where the renowned gospel singer Mahalia Jackson was a member, and she also sang in the choir.

She met and married her second husband, Mr. Andrew Atchison, who worked for the Diamond Glue Factory. She found a job cleaning railcars for the Pennsylvania Railroad and worked there until her retirement in 1970.

Mrs. Atchison and her husband became very productive citizens and developed a reputation for helping others less fortunate than themselves. She became known to many as Big Mama, not because of her stature, but because she embraced any and everyone who needed help that she could help.

She and her husband lived in the heart of the Bronzeville community until they were forced out to make room for the Illinois Institute of Technology. They protested and held marches around city hall but lost.

After her husband died, she purchased a two-flat building in the Englewood community and kept on helping people.

On November 23, 2020, after 109 years and 3 months, Rosie passed away, leaving 2 daughters; 15 grandchildren; 60 great-grandchildren; 95 great-great-grandchildren; 24 great-great-great-grandchildren; 1 sister, Ms. Josephine Liner Wilson; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and extended family.

What a life and what a legacy.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LEE RAYBON

Mr. Speaker, I also pay tribute to Mr. Lee Raybon, a pioneer West Side of Chicago business and community leader.

Whereas the Almighty God has called to his eternal rest Mr. LEE Raybon, a skilled mechanic and business leader who became a legend on the West Side of Chicago in the automobile repair business, and whereas I met Mr. Raybon in the late 1960s when one of my staffers, Ms. Arlene Granderson, introduced me to Mr. Nate Irwin, who was her mechanic and working at Raybon's Automotive Repair shop, Mr. Irwin became my friend and my mechanic.

I had a reputation in my community for keeping cars a long time. I drove one car for 19 years, and everybody in the neighborhood knew the car. Mr. Raybon and his mechanics kept my cars running for more than 50 years. Whatever it was that I drove, they had it running.

Ultimately, he and his colleagues developed a little group of businesspeople: Garfield Major; Willie Barney; the Knox family at the hardware store; Cliff Duwel White at the fish market; Walker Harris, the ice man; Dave at the hotdog stand; and Reverend Murphy at the Rose of Sharon Cleaners. They were the heart of the business support group in that area.

After he no longer worked, Mr. Raybon would come to the shop, sit around, and give people advice. He loved his community. He loved his business. He loved what he did.

He will be greatly missed. I am sure I will never find another mechanic who can keep my cars running for 50 years.

DEFENDING COMMUNITY PHARMACIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. JOHN W. ROSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of community pharmacies not only in my district, the Sixth District of Tennessee, but across the country.

Late last week, I received this letter, notifying me that my community pharmacy would no longer be in-network and that if I had any future prescriptions filled at this pharmacy, I would have to pay personally in full. This change would take place almost immediately.

Like most Americans, I have a years-long relationship with my community pharmacy, Gordonsville Drugs, and my community pharmacist, Amy Dudney.

But I was not part of a select few individuals to receive this notification; there have been approximately 60 independent pharmacies throughout Tennessee that recently found themselves out-of-network for certain plans administered by the pharmacy benefit manager, CVS Caremark.

This is not happening just in Gordonsville, Tennessee. Many Americans have a community pharmacy like Gordonsville Drugs and a pharmacist like Amy Dudney in their community.

Thankfully, due to sustained lobbying efforts by the independent pharmacy community, CVS Caremark has reached out to many of these pharmacies and offered them contracts to remain in-network.

However, letters like the one I received remain extremely damaging to our independent pharmacies. In the specific case of Gordonsville Drugs, although CVS Caremark made the right choice to keep the independent pharmacy in-network, they have yet to send a letter with this updated change to customers like me. CVS Caremark must commit to sending new letters, notifying customers that they can continue to use their neighborhood independent pharmacy with whom they have long-term relationships.

We continue to let our community pharmacies be bullied by pharmacy benefit managers like CVS Caremark, but we can't let this continue. With winter upon us and the pandemic surging, there has never been a greater need to ensure the viability of our community pharmacies.

PROVIDING COVID-19 RELIEF

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, the COVID-19 pandemic crisis continues to have a terrible impact throughout the Nation.

Cases are surging, and thousands are dying from the virus every day. There have been over 16 million United States cases, and over 300,000 people have lost their lives in the United States.

Over 20 million people across the country are collecting unemployment and struggling to make ends meet. In California, more than 1.3 million people have become unemployed over the past year.

Hunger is growing across the Nation. One in five renters is behind on paying their rent, meaning that millions are on the brink of eviction as months of back rent are coming due.

The Federal Reserve estimates that renters in California will owe \$1.7 billion in unpaid rent by the end of the year, representing almost a quarter of the total rental debt that will have accrued nationwide during the pandemic.

Small businesses are struggling. As many as one-third of small businesses, including more than 40 percent of Black-owned and Latinx-owned small businesses, say they will be forced to close their doors for good without immediate relief from Congress.

Families across the country desperately need relief.

So, it is absolutely essential that Congress finally come to a bipartisan agreement for a relief bill. As Democrats are nearing a compromise with our Republican colleagues, we must ensure that the legislation helps all of those who are struggling during this pandemic.

It is especially important that the relief bill contains another round of direct stimulus payments for individuals and families to help them make ends meet. We must also provide additional unemployment assistance to those who have lost their jobs as a result of the crisis.

As chairwoman of the House Financial Services Committee, I am working hard to secure the inclusion of much-needed emergency rental assistance in the bill and the extension of the eviction moratorium, as well as funding for community development financial institutions and minority depository institutions that support access to credit and investment in communities of color, which have been hit hard by this crisis.

As this pandemic continues to rage, it would be completely irresponsible and foolish to take away the Federal Reserve's and the Treasury's crisis management tools that can help address threats to jobs, small businesses, municipal government, and the economy.

Let me be clear that the compromise bill that is now being worked on, while important, will not be enough by itself. Families across the country will need more help. Congress must work with the incoming Biden administration to take additional action to support those who are struggling every day and put the country on a path to recovery.

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DEMOCRATS COULD STEAL A HOUSE SEAT AGAIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to remind my colleagues that, in 1985, the Democrats in this House stole a seat, and they can do it again.

The day after the election in 1984, Republican Rick McIntyre was ahead of incumbent Frank McCloskey by 34 votes. After the State's recount, McIntyre's lead grew to 418 votes. In the weeks following the election, McIntyre was certified the winner of Indiana's Eighth Congressional District.

But come January 1985, House Democrats refused to seat the duly-elected Member of Congress, Rick McIntyre. Instead, they sent a partisan task force to Indiana which then determined ballots not valid under Indiana law should have been counted. They changed the rules. Under the Democrats' new rules, McCloskey was now ahead by four votes.

On May 1, 1985, the House voted to seat McCloskey. Ten Democrats joined every Republican in voting against seating him. This contest was dubbed the "Bloody Eighth," and my Democrat colleagues are considering repeating this same battle this year in Iowa's Second District.

Just as in 1985, they are about to change the rules of the game after the game has already been played. Democrats have been trying to do this in States throughout the 2020 cycle.

After a thorough recount of votes in all 24 counties in Iowa's Second District, Mr. Speaker, and a unanimous bipartisan vote by Iowa's State Canvassing Board, Congresswoman-elect Dr. Mariannette Miller-Meeks was declared the winner.

Instead of challenging the certification that Dr. Miller-Meeks now has in her possession in court, the Democrat candidate has decided to skip that step and, instead, is going to ask Washington Democrats to overturn Iowa's voters. And the reason is because she couldn't win in court.

But if Washington Democrats change the rules, she can. She can disregard the people of Iowa.

Setting this precedent that you don't have to exhaust all of your options and prove your case in court, but that whatever party is in charge of the House can come in, change the rules, and determine the winner is a terrible precedent to set.

I am hoping that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will think long and hard if they want a repeat of the Bloody Eighth, because there will come a time when the shoe is on the other foot.

The Federal contest of 1985 eroded public trust in our elections and undermined the integrity of our election