

Though his Active Duty has ended, he continues to serve as Honorary Colonel of the 75th Ranger Regiment, and he still inspires young people in his community today.

Colonel Puckett was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame and received a Distinguished Service Cross for his actions at Hill 205, in addition to two Silver Stars, five Purple Hearts, various awards from Vietnam and Colombia, and a Distinguished Graduate Award from West Point. His bravery is a testament to his strength and patriotism, and he is an inspiration to the people of the Third District of Georgia, as well as our country.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Colonel Puckett and extending our sincere appreciation to him and all of our men and women in uniform. As a nation, we are forever grateful for their service and their sacrifice.

CONGRATULATING THE FIRST CLASS OF GRADUATES FROM THE KIRK KERKORIAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

(Mrs. LEE of Nevada asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the historic first class of medical students to graduate from the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Four years ago, the 50 students of this inaugural class donned their white coats, pledged their formal oaths, and began their lifelong medical journeys.

But for southern Nevada, this was more than your average first day of school. Nevada has consistently ranked among the lowest rates in doctors per capita; and before this class, Las Vegas was the largest metro area in the Nation without a medical school capable of bestowing M.D. degrees.

These graduates are pioneers in providing for the health of our community, and their dedication to home is clear. Ninety-seven percent of this class hails from the Battle Born State, and well over one-third of the graduates will stay right here to continue their education.

We cannot thank them enough for their dedication to the health of our community, especially in the midst of this pandemic.

Congratulations to the UNLV Medical graduates.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mrs. STEEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. STEEL. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize National Police Week.

Our police officers put their lives on the line every single day they go to work. They answer the call of duty on

holidays, weekends, birthdays, and through the COVID-19 pandemic to selflessly protect our communities.

When I was chair of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, I introduced a resolution to recognize Law Enforcement Appreciation Day in Orange County because now, more than ever, we owe these brave officers our support and appreciation.

I am especially grateful for our Capitol Police officers who have been through so much this year with the devastating loss of multiple officers in the line of duty.

Thank you to all police officers for your continued bravery. I and so many others are proud to stand with you today and every day.

BENEFITS OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, the American Rescue Plan is the most transformative economic legislation for working families in a generation.

Our expansion of the child tax credit will literally cut child poverty in half. But unless we make the expansion permanent, we will find ourselves a year from now in the same dire straits that existed before the pandemic: A country where we accept that 11 million people live in poverty, nearly 15 percent of all children in this country; a country where we accept that 25 percent of Black children live in poverty.

I have been in Congress for 5 months and I am already tired of having to vote to reauthorize things that we know should be permanent. Expanding the child tax credit is a moral and economic imperative. It should not have an expiration date.

For the last year, we have talked about the impossible choices that families have been forced to make: childcare or healthcare; food or rent.

The reality is, these impossible choices existed for millions of families before the pandemic began, and they will continue to exist after the pandemic is over. Poverty is a choice that we make here in this Chamber, and we can choose to end it.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT FIRST CLASS DONALD KEITH STRICKLAND

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Sergeant First Class Donald Keith Strickland. Donald passed away recently after a long life of service to his country, his fellow Americans, and his family.

Standing with me today is my good friend, Representative ALEX MOONEY of West Virginia. We are both dear friends

of Donald's son, Tony Strickland, who I served in the legislature with and who has a long relationship with this great person here.

What you see in a legacy with a man like Donald, who was an Army staff sergeant, also known as a drill sergeant—which, by the way, the family home was known as “strict land” because it was very strict there due to that background. The legacy shows the great family that we know with Tony and his kids and all the wonderful grandchildren that Mr. Donald Strickland had.

He is survived by his wife, Antonie; his three children; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The legacy of how we are measured is truly in your family and what you leave behind as you touch your country.

For our dear friend Tony, our hearts are with you in the loss of your father, and God bless you all.

HONORING LOCAL POLICE OFFICERS

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I recently toured my district to meet members of the community nominated by their fellow residents who served their fellow citizens extraordinarily during the pandemic.

During my tour, I had the honor of meeting Mena Police Chief Tommy Stueart and Bearden Police Chief Nathan Greeley. These men cared for their communities by delivering food and prescriptions and taking care of the sick and elderly, all while dealing with their own staff shortages.

When our local police officers go to work, they wear many hats. Of course, they are protectors, but they also play the role of nurse, comforter, teacher, caretaker, and confidant.

Ask any police officer and they will say it is just part of the job, but it is a grave mistake to take this for granted.

Madam Speaker, another grave mistake is the Democrats' move to defund police. This National Police Week, let's honor the heroism and the daily kindnesses shown by our law enforcement, and let's work to support those brave men and women who protect and serve.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT

(Mr. BAIRD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in honor of National Police Week, a week where we honor the men and women who risk their lives every day to protect and serve our neighborhoods.

I want to take this opportunity to highlight some of the great work from

law enforcement in my district who are helping to keep their communities safe.

First, there is West Lafayette Police Officer Brian Danosky who risked his own life to provide lifesaving care to a 22-year-old who had a gunshot wound.

In Frankfort, Indiana, Sergeant Chris Salaba was awarded Officer of the Year last year for helping his department overcome challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Putnam County, Sheriff Scott Stockton and his deputies kept deadly drugs off of our streets by seizing 225 pounds of meth.

These are just a few of the examples of police officers working to keep our neighborhoods safe.

I think it is important to highlight their work and remind citizens that most police officers are good people who want to protect their communities and serve the people within them.

RECOGNIZING THE RIVERHEADS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Riverheads High School football team of Augusta County, Virginia, who recently won the Commonwealth's class 1 State football champion.

After a close first quarter, the Gladiators scored 34 points in the second quarter, propelling them to a resounding 65-29 victory over the Galax Maroon Tide.

Riverheads has now won a notable five consecutive State titles. Senior running back Zac Smiley, who led the team with 121 rushing yards, said: "It almost feels normal, but it's not."

The Riverheads' running game had been strong all season, which allowed the Gladiators to catch the Maroon Tide off guard with an impressive three passing touchdowns, culminating in an all-around unstoppable offense.

When asked what the pressure was like to win again, Head Coach Robert Casto said: "We didn't get caught up in all of that stuff." He said their victory "was just a byproduct of the hard work these kids have put in."

Indeed, every State championship is earned, not given, and this squad certainly earned it.

Congratulations to the players, coaches, and staff on their remarkable accomplishment.

BUSINESSES NEED WORKERS

(Mrs. McCLAIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to be the voice for business owners in my district, who, again, have been kicked while they are down.

This majority and President Biden insist people need more unemployment

benefits. They don't. There is a record number of open jobs, more than 8 million, of which only 266,000 of those jobs have been filled. That means that this administration is incentivizing people not to work.

For President Biden to suggest that we need to spend another \$4 trillion on the backs of our children and grandchildren to get back to work is insane.

The jobs are there. The incentives to take the jobs are not.

This nationwide problem is impacting Michiganders. In fact, the biggest issue that I hear from business owners in my district is not about COVID or mask mandates or vaccines. They need workers.

I am calling on the Speaker to actually go out into her district and learn what businesses actually need. They don't need more money. They don't need more stimulus. They need more employees.

COLONIAL PIPELINE ATTACK

(Mr. CAWTHORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAWTHORN. Madam Speaker, the energy crisis created by the Russian hack of the Colonial Pipeline is impacting my district in the worst possible way. Gas prices have skyrocketed. Lines are forming all across the great State of North Carolina.

Madam Speaker, I am here today to say what few politicians will, but what most of the Americans believe. We were attacked. We were attacked by a foreign entity, and the current administration has done nothing in response.

When our leadership is weak, our Nation suffers.

You don't believe me?

Take a look outside. Our border has dissolved into ruin, gas prices are skyrocketing, and the dollar is worth less and less each day. Israel is burning, China is rising, and Russia attacks our homeland.

All the while, the American people wonder when this administration will finally grow a backbone and stand firm against a growing wave of international tyranny. President Biden is weakening our defenses. The wolves are at the gates, and America's leader is asleep at the wheel.

But you know what?

Thank heavens we have a President who doesn't tweet mean things anymore.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

RECOGNIZING THE MOUNTAIN FIFES AND DRUMS OF TWIN PEAKS, CALIFORNIA

(Mr. OBERNOLTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, I rise in proud recognition of the Moun-

tain Fifes and Drums music program in my own district in Twin Peaks, California.

This program is dedicated to the patriotic mission of teaching young Americans, age 10 to 18, appreciation of and performance of 18th century military music.

They do this through instruction in classic musical instruments, such as the fife and the rope tension drum. I am extremely proud that the Mountain Fifes and Drums music program is performing today in Mt. Vernon, appropriately, the home of our first Commander in Chief, George Washington.

It warms my heart that programs like this exist to teach this patriotic art and appreciation of this unique period of American history to a new generation of Americans.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE CARLOS ROMERO BARCELO

(Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a distinguished past Member of this House, the Honorable Carlos Romero Barcelo, also former Governor of Puerto Rico, who passed away on May 2, 2021.

Congressman Romero Barcelo represented the people of Puerto Rico in this Congress from 1993 to 2001.

He was not only a dear friend, but also a mentor whose tireless, lifelong devotion for the equality of all island residents inspired me to follow his footsteps.

I ask that the House observe a moment of silence in his memory.

□ 1230

RECOGNIZING DETECTIVE STACY HINSHAW AND ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

(Mrs. SPARTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. SPARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Police Week to recognize the members of law enforcement who bravely serve to protect our communities across the Nation.

I would also like to give a special recognition to Detective Stacy Hinshaw from the Lawrence Police Department for being named detective of the year. During the year 2020, Detective Hinshaw worked over 119 cases, the vast majority involving complex child abuse and sexual assaults. Detective Hinshaw has developed an extensive network of support resources for victims in partnership with many community organizations and has been recognized by the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's office for her work.

Congratulations to Detective Stacy Hinshaw, and I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for all law enforcement officers.