

I will greatly miss Pat, and I offer my heartfelt condolences to his family and all those who loved him.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND LATINA EQUAL PAY DAY

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

Ms. BOURDEAUX. Madam Speaker, I rise today, October 21, to recognize Latina Equal Pay Day, the day when the pay for Latina women catches up to that of White men from the previous year. Latinas typically earn only 57 cents for every dollar earned by White men.

This disparity harms women, their families, and the communities that depend on their wages for survival. This inequity is why I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 7, the Paycheck Fairness Act, which would close loopholes in the Equal Pay Act in an effort to break the patterns of pay discrimination and strengthen workforce protections for women, especially women of color.

I would also like to take this time on Latina Equal Pay Day to acknowledge the recent conclusion of Hispanic Heritage Month and to recognize and celebrate the many contributions, diverse cultures, and extensive histories of the American Hispanic community and the over 60 million Americans who identify as Hispanic or Latino.

I am proud to represent one of the most diverse districts in the United States and the more than 170,000 Hispanic Americans who call Georgia's Seventh District home.

One of my most significant legislative accomplishments was borne out of conversations with Tony Rodriguez, CEO and president of the Aurora Theater in Lawrenceville. My conversations with him encouraged me to introduce the Paycheck Protection Program Extension Act, which extended the deadline to apply for forgivable PPP loans from March 31 to May 31 and gave small businesses more time to access this critical assistance.

I would also like to recognize Antonio Molina, chair of the board of Georgia's Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, for his hard work ensuring Hispanic small business owners have the resources they need to be successful.

I also recognize Santiago Marquez, the executive director of the Latin American Association, which provides a critical safety net service for so many in the Seventh District.

I would also like to thank two Hispanic members of the Cabinet: Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra and SBA Administrator Isabel Guzman, who visited Georgia's Seventh District this year. It was an honor to host each of them and introduce them to the wonderful place we call home.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge my chief of staff, Estefania "Stefy"

Rodriguez, for her work leading my staff to serve the great people of the Seventh District.

As I host and attend events across my district, I am struck by the vibrancy of the Hispanic communities.

Recently, I visited with the Latino Lions Club of Norcross, the Latin American Association, the Hispanic Health Coalition of Georgia, and Latino Community Services to discuss how we can work together to address the issues that matter most to our community.

We all benefit from the contributions Hispanic Americans have made and will continue to make. The inclusion of their voices and values in our community make my district and the United States so much stronger.

They are the scientists, doctors, nurses, and essential workers who have helped us get through the COVID-19 pandemic; the teachers who educate the next generation of Americans; the artists who grace our television screens and our stages; the small business owners who drive our economy; and the many Hispanic elected officials, some who walk these very halls, who work every day to make a positive difference for our community.

I am a proud cosponsor of critical legislation, such as H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act, and H.R. 1603, the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, which extends the American Dream to millions of people who already call this great Nation home.

Today, on Latina Equal Pay Day, and following the conclusion of Hispanic Heritage Month, I reaffirm my commitment to always work to support and strengthen our vibrant Hispanic communities.

HORRIFIC EVENT ON SEPTA TRAIN

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

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I am here today to talk about something that apparently the person whose representative serves in this Congress refuses to talk about, and that is the horrific events that occurred last Wednesday on a SEPTA train.

"SEPTA" stands for Southeast Public Transit Authority. It is the transit system that runs around Philadelphia.

Now, I don't know whether folks in the House know it, but for nearly 40 minutes, a woman on the train was harassed and groped before an illegal alien forcibly ripped off her clothes and raped her right there on the train, while up to 10 riders watched without intervening. They didn't even bother to call the police.

Imagine this. It actually gets worse. This hellacious experience continued as the train passed 20 train stations. Instead of taking action, other passengers watched and some actually are reported to have filmed the attack.

It actually gets worse. The perpetrator of this horrific crime is here in

our country illegally. Despite previous convictions of sexual abuse and drug crimes, he is another one that was released from immigration detention rather than being deported.

Now, the severe emotional and physical trauma experienced by the victim could and should have been prevented by our elected officials, who often advocate for open borders and defunding the police. They have failed her, they have failed us, and they have created an environment where she was victimized in front of others by a man who should have been deported years ago.

While the man should have been deported years ago, the man should not have been in our country in the first place. We have laws for these things, and we should enforce those laws so that this lady could live safely in her American city.

This horrific crime raises questions and concerns about where we are as a Nation and how we got here.

When my colleagues on the other side of the aisle decide they want to speak on this floor and attack law enforcement and denigrate our immigration officials, like the ones that were down at the border on horseback trying to enforce the laws that are passed in this very Chamber, and they actively seek to release dangerous criminals into society, I wish they would realize that there are real human victims of their reckless, irresponsible, and absolutely dangerous policies and rhetoric.

I hope the majority keeps this in mind as they continue to work on their \$3.5 trillion spending bill that promises amnesty to dangerous criminals and puts Americans citizens in danger. That is what it does; Amnesty, letting criminals stay here without consequence, without accountability.

But there is accountability for this poor lady, I guarantee you that.

Open borders, abolish ICE, no bail, and defund the police are not merely harmless catchphrases that Big-Government, socialist politicians can spew without consequence. That rhetoric results in horrific crimes against citizens that are someone's constituent, someone who took an oath to the Constitution to defend this country and the citizens of this country. They are someone's family member. This was someone's daughter, someone's little girl.

I want to commend the off-duty SEPTA employee for having the courage to step up and do the right thing, calling the police and ending the most horrific event of this young woman's life.

I also want to thank the SEPTA police officer—law enforcement. Yes, I want to thank law enforcement who intervened and brought this nightmare to an end.

But I do want to take a moment and ask my colleagues: How much more must we endure?

There are so many others, so many other victims, from this side of the country to the other side: Kate Stienle

in California, killed by an illegal alien; Derek Kichline in Pennsylvania, far from the border, killed by the head of the Latin Kings in town; Mollie Tibbetts, in the heartland of the country, killed by an illegal alien. Read the story about Nilsa Padilla, whose three little girls watched an illegal alien beat her to death, chop up her body, dispose of it, and then went on to kill their youngest sister, a little toddler. Then he left the country and was never brought to justice, as far as we know.

How much longer? How many more? We have seen record numbers this year alone at the border of illegal aliens coming into our country and imperiling and endangering our citizens. It is our job. We take an oath to defend them. I think you get the point, Madam Speaker.

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HONORING THE SACRIFICES OF JOHN EADE

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American soldier, Staff Sergeant John Eade, a native son of Toledo, Ohio, of whom our citizenry is very proud and eternally grateful.

As our Nation approaches Veterans Day 2021, I enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the poignant story to honor John and his treasured colleagues for their superhuman valor. They are all heroes.

John, as a highly wounded Vietnam veteran, persevered and led a distinguished life as an architect and chief of the city of Boston's inspection division.

Our Nation must revere his lifelong valor in the face of overwhelming odds, terrible slaughter, and wounds endured from the deadliest single-day battle in the Vietnam war.

Sergeant Eade is held in the highest esteem by everyone who knows him. He is a trusted confidant, a faithful friend, a true patriot, and a very humble Purple Heart recipient. He would not seek that recognition for himself but would be thinking only of his comrades.

In November 1965, John was deployed to Vietnam as a fire team leader in the ill-fated 2nd Platoon, Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division.

On November 14, he and his team were sent as reinforcements to the Battle at Landing Zone X-Ray in the Ia Drang Valley made famous by the movie "We Were Soldiers."

On the morning of November 17, Sergeant Eade and his small team were marching to Landing Zone Albany. Only minutes after arriving, two much larger North Vietnamese regiments ambushed his unit.

As the North Vietnamese swarmed them through the trees, John's platoon was pinned down in ferocious hand-to-hand combat.

Sergeant Eade quickly rallied three of the only remaining soldiers able to fight: Wilbert Johnson, Barry Burnite, and Oscar Barker, Jr. Together, they fought valiantly to hold their position against the attacking Vietnamese.

Their plight was unfortunately short-lived. Burnite was struck in the chest by shrapnel, and Johnson pulled him to a position of cover to save him. The two men fought until Burnite died and Johnson was killed.

As the fighting continued, John was shot multiple times and sprayed with shrapnel. Barker tended to John's wounds. The rest of the platoon had already been killed. John urged Barker to leave him and retreat, but Barker refused. Moments later, Barker was killed.

Soon after, a napalm strike was dropped on John's position, leaving him severely burned. Weak, but still alive, John managed to roll in the dirt and extinguish the flames that had engulfed him, yet he continued his efforts to hold his position.

That afternoon, John was surprised by enemy soldiers, shot in the face, and knocked unconscious.

Despite the overwhelming odds and the horrific life-threatening wounds he had received, John refused to withdraw and continued exposing himself to the onslaught through the night, including throwing grenades with his remaining good arm. When dawn came, he was grievously wounded but remained alive.

Three days later, he was discovered by a recovery unit and awarded the Purple Heart for his massive sacrifice for our Nation. I believe to my core John and several of the men in his platoon have not been appropriately recognized for their valor.

It is for this reason I and my colleagues have nominated him for the Distinguished Service Cross.

John is now 78. He has lived with severe injuries sustained in battle that impacted him throughout his life and are impacting him now.

His reflections on life as a soldier and an American hero remain largely personal, but his valor endures. He is a soldier still, as he is now scaling another battle related to his wartime service.

He is handling this with such dignity, resolve, and even good humor. One can observe the raw courage that those of us who know him have witnessed through his life.

John, what a truly great soldier you are in the military and in life. America salutes you for your unyielding valor and for your deep patriotism.

No matter the challenge, you and your life are the very definition of courage. May God bless you and your fallen comrades, for surely you have blessed America.

RECOGNIZING FLETC PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers' Peace Officers Memorial Day Ceremony.

Each year, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers engrave the names of graduates who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty during the previous year.

This ceremony commemorates another year that has been distinguished by extraordinary law enforcement achievements but, unfortunately, has been marred by tragedy and personal loss.

We must always remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting and serving our community.

Sadly, a total of 263 FLETC graduates have paid the ultimate sacrifice since 1970. Tragically, we have had to add another 22 names for last year alone.

Behind each and every one of these names there is a son, a daughter, a husband, a mother, or a relative who misses their loved one.

To all of our police officers and Federal law enforcement officials, thank you for your service to our communities and God bless you.

I hope that my colleagues will take some time to thank these courageous individuals who work to keep us all safe.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING ANN ERNST

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Ann Ernst of Savannah, Georgia, who sadly passed away on October 5 at the age of 93.

Ann attended Chatham County public schools and Armstrong Junior College and graduated from Valdosta State University with a degree in biology. Following graduation, she worked at a research lab studying malaria transmission and control.

Throughout her life, she was involved in teaching and inspiring the Savannah community. She served as curriculum director at Hancock Day School and taught children with learning disabilities at the Royce Learning Center.

Cherished by the Savannah community for her contagious laughter and love of life, Ann's immense impact was felt by everyone she knew.

I am thankful for Ann's lifetime of service, and I know her legacy will be forever treasured.

My thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and all who knew her during this most difficult time.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PHARMACY WEEK

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize this week as National Pharmacy Week.

Today we honor pharmacists and technicians across the Nation. During