

As a former law enforcement officer, some of the very first calls I responded to involved domestic violence. During my years as a young officer, I saw firsthand the damage this uniquely heinous crime can do to survivors and their families. As a homicide investigator later, I saw it on a continual basis through the court system and the devastation that it means to families across America.

This is an issue close to my heart and one I have focused my public policy efforts on from day one of my public service. Beginning with my time as a member of the Arizona legislature, all the way to the Halls of Congress, I have advocated for survivors, their children, and the resources needed to get whole families into stable and safe situations.

That is why, as a member of the Bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence, I am proud to cosponsor a resolution to recognize the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and to have championed legislation that uplifts survivors across Arizona.

Together, as a Congress, we must commit to working to do whatever is in our power to secure justice for survivors both in and out of the courtroom.

This week I will reintroduce my Help End Abusive Living Situations or HEALS Act.

□ 1015

My bill will assist survivors of domestic violence to rapidly secure safe housing situations by directing the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to prioritize funds for transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

No person experiencing these crimes should be forced to stay in a dangerous situation because they do not have housing elsewhere.

The horrible legacy of domestic violence affects communities across our Nation, including Tribal communities.

As the Representative of Arizona's First Congressional District, I am humbled to represent 12 Sovereign Tribal Nations. Federal data indicates that 55 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced physical violence by an intimate partner.

However, it is estimated that less than 1 percent of the Crime Victims Fund reaches Tribes.

This Congress, I reintroduced two of my bills that address domestic violence in Tribal communities.

First, the SURVIVE Act, a bill to provide legal, medical, and counseling resources to women and children in Tribal communities who are survivors of domestic violence. This bill also corrects the Crime Victims Fund's allocation to Tribes, ensuring they receive a fair percentage of resources.

Second, my Native Youth and Tribal Officer Protection Act, bipartisan leg-

islation that ensures children and law enforcement officials in Tribal communities are protected when present at domestic violence incidents.

Currently, Tribes can convict non-Indian perpetrators of protection order violations, domestic violence, and dating violence.

But under current law, both the children of survivors and law enforcement officers who risk their lives to save victims are not protected by these same laws. My bill extends this Tribal jurisdiction to cover kids and cops, who so often deal with dangerous domestic situations.

I am committed to continued work with my colleagues in Congress, advocates on the ground in Arizona, and brave survivors. We hear you, and we believe you.

To those experiencing domestic violence and to those who have lost a loved one to this heinous and deeply personal form of violence, let me say this: I know that we cannot ever truly know your pain, but we will keep fighting for change at every level.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF LUKE SIEGEL

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of a remarkable young man named Luke Siegel, who inspired so many with his strength of spirit and will to live in the face of tremendous adversity.

On July 28 of 2015, Luke suffered severe brain damage as a result of a tragic golf cart accident that changed his life forever and left him immobile, lifeless, and even without the ability to speak. Doctors said, Madam Speaker, that he would stay in that condition as long as he lived.

But, through the love and support of his family, the prayers of our wonderful community, and the relentless and tenacious fight that Luke brought every day, he defied all odds and the diagnoses of numerous doctors, recovering to a life no one believed was possible.

Sadly, on August 19, our hero and west Texas warrior, Luke Siegel, went home to be with his Heavenly Father. Luke is survived by one amazing family: father, Tim; mother, Jenny; and sisters Alex, Kate, and Ellie.

Madam Speaker, Luke never gave up. He was a symbol of hope for people throughout the country whose families have struggled with the challenges of traumatic brain injury. Luke is an inspiration to us all to live every day to the fullest and never give up no matter what the circumstances.

I am confident that Luke Siegel heard those beautiful and sweet words of our creator and Lord of heaven and Earth.

Madam Speaker, Luke fought the good fight, he finished the race, and he kept the faith. May Luke enter into his

eternal rest. God bless Luke Siegel, coach, your family, and God bless west Texas.

#### RECOGNIZING NANCY LILES

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of an outstanding lady, Nancy Liles, who recently retired after an illustrious 36-year career as executive director of the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Ms. Liles' passion for hospitality embodies the spirit of west Texas and has made Abilene a thriving tourist destination where visitors feel right at home.

West Texas is known for its friendliness and hospitality, and Ms. Liles has exemplified these attributes in her service to our community and the Key City.

Abilene, Texas, is a warmer and more welcoming place because of the leadership and service of Nancy Liles. We wish Nancy well as she spends more time with her family and continues to be a champion for the Big Country in Abilene, America. God bless, and go west Texas.

#### RECOGNIZING MINDY PATTERSON

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding west Texan, Ms. Mindy Patterson.

Mindy has served the city of Abilene for three decades, from her start as an entry-level accountant to her current position of deputy city manager.

This year marks her 30th year of service for the city of Abilene, and her colleagues know her as a servant leader and a tireless worker who will do anything for her beloved community.

The city manager, Robert Hanna, describes Ms. Patterson as somebody who is, "simply indispensable to my leadership team."

I am grateful to Ms. Patterson for her service to Abilene and look forward to even more successes from her in the future and for our great city and community.

God bless Ms. Patterson, who is keeping the wheels turning out in west Texas. And go west Texas.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GABRIELLA MILLER

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

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and legacy of a young constituent, Gabriella Miller, who passed away on this day 8 years ago due to an inoperable brain tumor.

Gabriella was a fierce fighter not just in her own battle with cancer, but as an advocate on behalf of the millions of other children who have suffered from this disease. In the months following her terminal diagnosis at age 9, Gabriella became a national force for change, urging Congress to grant increased funding and to develop better treatments and cures for childhood cancer.

Her passionate plea for lawmakers to “stop talking, start doing” helped deliver a successful push to pass the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act, bipartisan legislation named in her honor. Gabriella’s family joined sponsor Representative Eric Cantor from Virginia and President Barack Obama in the Oval Office in 2014 for the bill signing.

The Kids First program established a 10-year Pediatric Research Initiative Fund and led to the creation of the National Institutes of Health Kids First Pediatric and Data Resource Center. It has allocated millions of dollars to research grants looking into pediatric cancer and rare diseases, supporting over 60 research projects.

I am honored to carry on Gabriella’s mission by sponsoring the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0, which would deliver a new sustained and expanded funding source for this lifesaving program.

It has been 8 years since we lost Gabriella, and there is still a long fight ahead to better understand, treat, and ultimately cure childhood cancer. The 2.0 bill would give a dramatic boost to that fight and help demonstrate that Congress is serious about ensuring that no other family has to go through what the Miller family has.

Madam Speaker, I share Gabriella’s story today so that her legacy continues to live on. May Congress have the courage to answer Gabriella’s call to “stop talking, start doing” and deliver the resources needed to treat and cure childhood cancer.

#### RECOGNIZING BELLE HALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Belle Hall Elementary School in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. They were recently awarded the National Blue Ribbon School designation by the U.S. Department of Education.

Belle Hall is one of 325 schools in the Nation, one of five in South Carolina, and the only one in South Carolina’s First Congressional District to earn this distinction.

Led by their principal, Kevin Conklin, and the assistant principal, Bonita Foster, and numerous dedicated teachers, Belle Hall attributes their success to the tremendous level of support from their families, from businesses, and from the community as a whole in Mount Pleasant.

I would like to recognize the PTA as well who has made significant strides in increasing student learning outcomes for math and reading by raising more than \$100,000 a year to supplement one-on-one tutoring for their struggling students.

As we all know, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented enormous chal-

lenges for our schools, teachers, and parents. Belle Hall has overcome these challenges and demonstrated excellence despite them.

RECOGNIZING BARBARA MELVIN’S NEW POSITION  
AND RECOGNIZING JIM NEWSOME’S RETIREMENT

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Barbara Melvin on her new position as the new president and CEO of South Carolina Ports Authority.

Barbara will be the sixth leader in the history of the port and the first woman to lead a top 10 U.S. operating container port.

Barbara has been with the South Carolina Ports Authority for over 23 years, and I am confident in her ability to lead our State and our region and our Nation.

Today I also recognize our much beloved outgoing president and CEO, Jim Newsome.

Jim has been the keystone in providing supply chain stability in our State and indeed our Nation and has developed visionary strategies for the port of South Carolina.

For 13 years, Jim oversaw countless projects which extended the port’s reach and led to a doubling of container volumes over the last decade.

I applaud Jim Newsome for his service and his incredible career on behalf of the First Congressional District. We thank him for his leadership, his passion, and his direction.

HONORING CURTIS BOSTIC

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to an incredible feat under extraordinary circumstances. South Carolina’s First Congressional District constituent, Curtis Bostic, was called to action to assist an endangered employee based in Afghanistan. Their communication was over 7,000 miles apart.

Mr. Bostic and his aides at the Christian relief group from Charleston called Remember pulled off an evacuation using intelligence reports from the streets of Kabul, Google maps, and a secure cell phone application to communicate with the employee and his family as they avoided all of the Taliban’s roadblocks.

I am happy to report the employee that Mr. Bostic and Remember had been working to assist has arrived in the UAE safely along with his wife and three children who were all under the age of 10.

I applaud Mr. Bostic and Remember for their perseverance as many said the evacuation would be abandoned and it would never happen. They continued fighting for their employee’s life and for the safety of his children and their family with ultimate success.

RECOGNIZING TRUIST BANK AND TRIDENT  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Truist Bank and Trident Technical College for working together to create a new CDL training program this summer in north Charleston.

There is an acute need for truck drivers right now, particularly given the

supply chain shortages and the issues we are seeing across the country from COVID-19.

This CDL program will enable students to obtain their certificate in as short as 9 weeks. Trident Technical College will have day and evening sessions for students, and these programs will start about every 3 weeks. I have heard there is already a wait list for the program, and I couldn’t be happier to hear it.

I commend Truist Transportation and Logistics Center and Trident Technical College and Mary Thornely for their collaborative effort to fill a much-needed void and gap in our supply chains and for bringing the Lowcountry to the forefront of innovation and problem solving in the private sector during COVID-19.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. In the U.S., one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. Almost every one of us knows someone who has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Sadly and tragically, it is the most common cancer among women worldwide.

On average, every 2 minutes a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer, and one woman will die of breast cancer every 13 minutes.

Over three million breast cancer survivors are alive in the United States today.

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, I also recognize South Carolina reporter from the Associated Press, Meg Kinnard, who had the courage to talk about being diagnosed with breast cancer earlier this year. Meg came home just a few days ago from her many treatments, and she is now free from breast cancer. It is a heartwarming story, and I wish we had the research and the resources to ensure every woman who is diagnosed with breast cancer comes home cancer free.

□ 1030

#### FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES IMPROVEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to stand in support of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act. I want to start by, of course, thanking Congresswoman MCBATH for her work to reauthorize this bill and wisely using this moment to strengthen protections for our communities with bipartisan support.

Domestic violence, unfortunately, impacts every community in the United States. It impacts every community in New Mexico. In fact, over 540,000 New Mexicans experience intimate partner violence in their lifetimes. It is so sad that children witness