

South Carolina (Ms. MACE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Buck Limehouse, a beloved member of the Charleston community, public servant to the State of South Carolina, and a fellow graduate of the Citadel, the military college of South Carolina.

Buck served as a commissioner from the First Congressional District for the South Carolina Department of Transportation and would later serve as South Carolina's first Secretary of Transportation. He even started the State infrastructure bank, the first of any State in the Nation. His leadership was instrumental in the implementation of several transportation projects across the State of South Carolina.

Buck was a pillar of the Charleston community, the consummate entrepreneur. While he will be sorely missed, his legacy will live on in our State for decades to come. I offer my sincerest condolences to the Limehouse family.

RECOGNIZING BEAUFORT FILM SOCIETY

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today because for over three decades Beaufort has served as the backdrop for major motion picture films, including *Forrest Gump*, *The Big Chill*, and of course Pat Conroy's *The Prince of Tides*.

Today I rise to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Ron Tucker and his team at the Beaufort Film Society.

This past month, the society recognized aspiring filmmakers of every genre at the 16th Annual Beaufort International Film Festival, showcasing Beaufort's sweeping marsh vistas and quiet charm to visitors from all over the world.

Over 10,000 attendees from four continents, eight countries, and 32 States gathered at the University of South Carolina-Beaufort for this incredible exhibition of independent films and documentaries.

After such a spectacular festival this year, I know the global film community is looking forward to coming back to Beaufort next year.

COASTAL CAROLINA EAGLE SCOUTS

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate 98 Coastal Carolina Eagle Scouts, including their first female Eagle Scouts, which totaled six young women from our area to achieve this distinct honor. It was an honor to meet these women just a few weeks ago.

Only about 6 percent of Scouts achieve the Eagle rank, and as the first woman to graduate from the Citadel, I can appreciate the special challenges inherent with being one of the first women anywhere.

As a conservationist, I am also pleased to inform the House of Representatives that over half of the projects completed by the Eagle Scouts in the Charleston area were conservation, climate, and environment-related. In reaching this goal, these Scouts completed over 21,000 hours of volunteer work in their communities.

I commend their efforts, and I was glad to congratulate each of them in person just last month.

CRISIS IN UKRAINE

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the rising crisis in Ukraine. I want to recognize President Zelensky and the people of Ukraine for their valor, for putting it all on the line to defend their freedom, their country, their democracy. We have seen people from all walks of life, all ages defending their country and their homeland.

As much as I dislike social media, I think it has really influenced how quickly we have responded to sanctions, not only us but our allies. I commend us and our allies, our friends and partners around the world for doing that, but more needs to be done.

Upwards of 600,000 barrels of oil a day are imported into our country from Russia. Vladimir Putin funds his war machine, his wars and his invasions of Ukraine and elsewhere through the oil and gas economy, so every gallon that we fill in our cars today from Russian gas has the stain of blood from the Ukrainian people. I can't think of one person in the State of South Carolina who wants to put one more gallon of gas in their car from Russia.

I am encouraged to see the administration today is looking more seriously and may announce a moratorium and ban on Russian imports of oil and gas, and we need to do that, but the administration should be concerned about getting jobs here going to Texas, going to South Dakota, North Dakota, Oklahoma, American jobs, and not a job in Venezuela. Venezuela is aligned with Russia. They are an ally of Vladimir Putin. We shouldn't be seeking jobs for Venezuela and Saudi Arabia to replace Russian oil when we have those jobs right here in our country or our neighbors to the north in Canada, who are not aligned with Russia, who do not support Putin. Replacing one bloody regime with another is just wrong.

We need to be able to keep costs down. We should not be dependent on kowtowing to global dictators. When I look at the rise of inflation, the cost of goods over the last year is up over 100 percent, gasoline over 80 percent, coffee over 70 percent. Every single crisis our Nation is facing today, whether it is Ukraine, whether it is Afghanistan, whether it is the border, is a direct result of President Joe Biden's failed policies in his first year in office, and it has got to end today.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, last week I shared a series of historical facts for Virgin Islands History Month, which falls in the month of March. Today, in celebration of International Women's Day, I proudly recognize the

indomitable spirit of women from the Virgin Islands.

This year, the theme of International Women's Day is centered around the bold hashtag "Break the Bias." For decades, women have worked to break the bias in communities, workplaces, schools, universities. We learn about different historical figures in history, but often we forget to give recognition to the lesser-known women whose stories and contributions help to propel the historical narrative.

First on my list, I want to recognize the most influential and enigmatic writer of Harlem Renaissance, Nella Larsen, or as she was more commonly known, Nella Larsen. With a father from the Danish West Indies, what is now the Virgin Islands, while working as a nurse and librarian, she wrote two instant success novels, *Quicksand* in 1928, and *Passing* in 1929, which made its screen debut on Netflix in 2019. Nella was the first African-American woman to receive the prestigious Guggenheim fellowship award for creative writing.

Also on my list is an individual who has a series of firsts for Virgin Islanders, Ruby Rouss. Ruby Rouss was a Crucian known for breaking the bias throughout her short life journey. She broke the mold for what was considered possible for women during her time and was the first of many things:

She was the first female member of the drill team at Fort Dix in New Jersey.

She was the first Black woman to be permanently assigned to the staff of General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Parole officer, probation officer, legislator, leader, Ruby Rouss was a woman who advocated for those most in need, spoke out against injustice, and was true to her belief that women belong in politics.

My very own chief of staff, Angeline Muckle-Jabbar, comes from a long lineage of powerful women from the Virgin Islands. One such woman in her family was Ann Marie Shrader from St. Croix, who was at the forefront of pivotal changes that were taking place in the 1970s at the FBI National Academy. She was one of only two women to graduate from the academy in 1972.

And, of course, bringing it forward, I would be remiss if I did not include the Virgin Islands' very own Aliyah Boston who, through her excellence in the NCAA women's basketball league, continues to break the bias. Aliyah posted a record-breaking 23 consecutive double-doubles this season. Miss Boston's team, the South Carolina Gamecocks, are currently the number one overall seed for the upcoming NCAA tournament.

All of these women faced deliberate or unconscious bias, and yet they prevail. As a Black woman, I think about my own mother and all the mothers who, every day even when it wasn't common to work, they sacrificed, occupied spaces where they were under-rated, underappreciated, marginalized.

Women continue to face tremendous obstacles across a number of spheres. For example, managerial and leadership positions continue to be male dominated, with women holding approximately 27 percent of managerial roles. In the business world, on average, women hold 19.7 percent of corporate board seats. Of that number, 6.7 percent are chairs, and only 5 percent are CEOs.

The importance of representation for women in leadership, politics, law enforcement, and across every sphere is evident. In politics alone, evidence shows that more women in public decision-making and public policy produce policies that benefit women, children, and families in general. Loans given to women's businesses exponentially support families and communities. We need women.

On this International Women's Day, I pay homage to the women who have come before me and the ones who stand beside me, and I send special prayers and strength on International Women's Day to the women of Ukraine, those fighting on the front line, those bringing support and comfort to children and elders and bringing them to safety, all of the women in Ukraine, especially today.

Let us all continue the great work to break the bias and advance the cause of women's rights in our communities, our government, and our world.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM WESTRICK UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate William Westrick of Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

William recently accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

William is the son of Ryan and Carissa Westrick and the grandson of Bill Itle of Loretto, Joyce Itle of Ebensburg, Barbara Westrick of Bakerton, and Albert Westrick of Ebensburg. He has a younger sister, Sophie Westrick.

As a student at Central Cambria High School, William is active in the classroom and on the athletic field. He is a member of the National Honor Society, the 4-H Dairy Club, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Outside of school, William is a member of the Ebensburg Borough Junior Council and is employed by Vale Wood Farms.

I would like to thank William for his commitment to service and wish him the very best of luck as he embarks on this exciting new phase of life in Annapolis.

RECOGNIZING JOSHUA HERSHBINE UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Joshua Hershbine of Port Matilda, Pennsylvania.

Joshua recently accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Joshua is a senior at State College Area High School, where he has excelled in and out of the classroom. He is a member of the student council as well as the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

He is an active member in his church community, spending time as an altar server, videographer, and supporting the Toys for Tots Christmas campaign.

Joshua is the son of Todd and Julie Hershbine and the grandson of the late Clarence and Dolores Farabaugh of Carrolltown and John and Kathleen Hershbine of Sanibel, Florida. He has two sisters, Brynn and Tara Hershbine.

Joshua has a clear passion for service and is a great example of what leadership looks like.

Best wishes in West Point, Joshua, and I look forward to seeing all that you achieve.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM RISHEL UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate William Rishel of Philipsburg, Pennsylvania.

William accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

William is a graduate of Philipsburg-Osceola High School and currently a first-year student at Penn State University. He is the son of Jason and Ann Rishel.

In high school, William was a 4-year varsity athlete as well as a member of the National Honor Society and the Mountie Nation Service Organization. By the time he graduated high school, he had accumulated over 260 community hours of service.

As a first year at Penn State, William is an active member of the Air Force ROTC Detachment 720, and he also earned his private pilot license from University Park Airport.

I am confident William's experience in and out of the classroom will serve him well as he looks forward to this exciting new phase of life. I thank William for his commitment to our Nation and wish him the best of luck in Colorado Springs.

Mr. Speaker, it was an honor to nominate these young men. Their dedication to serving our country is inspirational. I look forward to seeing their successes in the years to come. I thank all the appointees for their commitment to our great Nation.

STANDING WITH UKRAINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STANTON). The Chair recognizes the

gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and stand with our brothers and sisters who are fighting for democracy, Mr. Speaker, for their country, for the world, in Ukraine.

As you may know, Mr. Speaker, New York City is a gorgeous mosaic of people from all over the world. In my district, the 13th Congressional District, I stand in solidarity with constituents that come from Ukraine, Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainians who are part of my district.

New York City stands in solidarity with them. People in the Brighton Beach area of Brooklyn, called Little Odessa today, we stand in solidarity with our Ukrainian brothers and sisters.

Vladimir Putin has waged a war—it is called Putin's war—of unprecedented proportions on the people of Ukraine, the likes of which we haven't seen since World War II, Mr. Speaker.

He continues to pound on civilian sites. As he waits to assault Kyiv, the world braces for what could be, really, an attack of unprecedented proportion as he prepares to slaughter the Ukrainian people and engage in, clearly, war crimes.

These unprovoked and unjustified attacks have caused tragic losses in human life and suffering. They are grandparents. They are moms with their little children being forced out of their homes out of fear of rocket attacks; fathers, uncles, cousins leaving their families behind to defend democracy in Ukraine and on behalf of the world.

This week, the Permanent Representative of Ukraine at the United Nations told the Security Council that hundreds of Ukrainian civilians have been killed, including children, Mr. Speaker.

Thousands of people are wounded as a result of Russia's military aggression as Vladimir Putin continues to engage, to perpetrate war crimes.

This is a war without remorse, Mr. Speaker. More than 1,000 civilians have died, and more than 1.5 million Ukrainians have been displaced, causing a humanitarian crisis.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Putin, Vladimir Putin, has engaged in war crimes. This isn't just Putin's war on Ukraine. It is a rebuke of Western values. It is a rebuke of democratic structures. It is a rebuke of the will of the people and basic human rights. It is a rebuke of law and order and peaceful coexisting.

He has doubled down, Mr. Speaker, and has premeditatedly, illegally, and immorally engaged in this war. But those on the front lines in Ukraine are relentless in their defense of democracy.

It is our duty, Mr. Speaker, to support Ukraine to the best of our ability, to defend its freedom and sovereignty from Putin's war.

President Zelensky's message is clear. He will defend Ukrainian sovereignty and statehood to the very end,