

It has been four decades and some change since the University of Georgia brought a national title home to Athens, and I am so excited to see it finally happen.

I was especially excited to see several players from the First District, the aforementioned Stetson Bennett, Nolan Smith from Savannah, and Jack Podlesny from Glynn County help secure this amazing victory.

Congratulations to the Georgia Bulldogs. You will live in the hearts of Georgia fans forever. Athens is title town again. Go Dawgs.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF CHARLEY TRIPPI

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the momentous 100th birthday of the Georgia Bulldog legend, Charley Trippi.

Charley is a fixture in Dawg Nation and the football community.

A member of both the college football and pro football Hall of Fame, Charley was a dual athlete at the University of Georgia, playing both baseball and football in 1942, 1945, and 1946.

While in college, Charley played half-back and quarterback and received the Maxwell Award given to the Nation's top all-around player.

Charley was also honored as a unanimous All-American SEC player of the year and as a two-time All-SEC player.

In 1942, Charley helped lead the Georgia Bulldogs to their first national championship.

Selected as the first pick in the first round by the Chicago Cardinals in the NFL draft, Charley continued to have an illustrious career in the pros.

The Cardinals organization inducted Charley into the Arizona Cardinals Ring of Honor following his time in the NFL.

We are so happy and excited that Charley has reached this milestone. Happy birthday, Charley.

CONGRATULATING THE BENEDICTINE CADETS
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Benedictine Cadets High School football team for winning the 2021 Georgia 4A State title.

Winning football games in Georgia, where the sport practically runs through our veins, is hard. But winning the State title requires exceptional grit, determination, and perseverance.

After the Benedictine Cadets suffered a loss in the 2020 State playoff semifinals, they entered the 2021 season with one goal: Winning a State title.

Benedictine has consistently exhibited drive, dedication, and the winner's mentality.

Head coach Danny Britt has tirelessly worked to lead this team to a State title, and their work has finally paid off.

The Georgia 4A State title included Division 1 talent on both sides and was a battle from the beginning. Winning by only a touchdown, it truly was a game for the ages.

We here in the First District of Georgia are so proud of the Benedictine Ca-

dets and all that they have accomplished and will accomplish.

Let's do it again next year.

OREGONIANS HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW

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

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to S. 192, the so-called River Democracy Act.

This bill, contrary to what the title implies, has nothing to do with democracy.

Instead, it would, if passed, label some 4,700 miles of Oregon's rivers, creeks, and streams as "wild and scenic." A more appropriate phrase would be just waiting to be burned and ruined.

However, this is not your typical wild and scenic river bill. This bill would designate a mile-wide corridor running the length of every inch of those 4,700 miles of waterways as wild and scenic. This mile is double the half-mile-wide corridor normal for such designations. This means that under this act, 4,700 square miles—an area about the size of Connecticut—would be locked up and left to the high probability of burning up.

Many of the miles of streams, creeks, and gullies to which the bill would apply are within the 20 counties making up my district. Many of those miles run through Oregon's most important watersheds, which are absolutely essential to the life of my communities, particularly in times of drought. Given the damaging impact of such designations to activities necessary to protect these streams, it is no wonder this bill is deeply unpopular, something that has been made crystal clear to me by the overwhelming majority of my 62 county commissioners. They have serious and unanswered concerns about the dangers the act presents.

Chief among them is that this designation will prevent what needs to be done to protect these watersheds, placing them in a bureaucratic wasteland where it will take years, if not decades, to initiate and then complete plans which may or may not allow the treatment activities needed right now.

Also, a top-down approach to land management is wrong because it completely ignores the interests of well-informed local people, businesses, and stakeholders.

The approach the bill's sponsors used in developing this bill was seriously flawed because the river and stream nominations were solicited from various groups and the general public without any clear legal or scientific analysis to identify those rivers, streams, and creeks that would qualify as scenic. If a scientific or legal analysis exists, the sponsors should share it.

Additionally, the public deserves to know which special interest groups crafted the bill, provided the unofficial

maps of the streams affected, and conducted the outreach to the public.

It is absolutely clear, whatever the process was, that local stakeholders, elected officials, county commissioners, landowners, users, and experts should have been consulted, and they were not.

Let me explain why so many who truly want to protect our public lands are so outraged by this bill.

So far this year, over half a million acres of forests and other lands have burned up in my district. Last year it was even worse with over a million acres laid to waste by fire.

Inexplicably, the bill focuses upon only one method of protecting this 4,700-square-mile proposed area from fire, and that is by what are called "prescribed burns." I cannot emphasize how dangerous it is to prescribe prescribed burns in overgrown, densely packed, dry forests without thinning the forest first. Prescribed burning before thinning puts at extreme risk the very rivers and watersheds this designation is supposed to protect. It is like dropping a match in a tinderbox. It is impossible to contain these types of fires once they start.

The River Democracy Act, if passed, would threaten watersheds, homes, businesses, ranches, livestock, and most importantly, human lives.

The bill contains provisions throughout that leave the door wide open for frivolous litigation by far-left special interest groups, who have profited for years from lucrative sue-and-settle tactics.

The bill contains no explicit protections for the current multiple uses of the land, including sustainable timber harvests, hunting, grazing, fishing, and mining.

Regardless of legislative intent, the applicable agencies will have broad authorities to restrict these activities.

To date, no official maps have been provided. Oregonians need to have access to clear official maps to see just how much land is affected by this bill. I believe no further action should be taken with regard to this bill until the questions I have raised today and necessary maps are made available to the public so that Oregonians know exactly what this bill would do.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JANICE GALLAGHER

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of an extraordinary person, Mrs. Janice Gallagher, who our community tragically lost.

Born in Philadelphia, Janice was a lifelong resident of Bensalem and was a proud graduate of Archbishop Ryan High School and Holy Family University.

Janice worked at her family's farm market, D-G's Farm Market, for over 30 years. Janice went on to own and operate her own market, J&M Deli and Produce for many more years. Janice spent the last 5 years, Mr. Speaker, working at the Bensalem Police Department, a phenomenal organization of tremendously courageous women and men where she was widely respected by our law enforcement community throughout Bucks County.

A longtime volunteer of St. Ephrem Catholic Church, Janice will always be remembered for her kind and giving spirit.

I send my deepest condolences to Janice's beloved husband of 45 years, District Judge Mike Gallagher, her son, her siblings, and all who knew and loved her. I know I speak for our entire community when I say that we are all grateful for Janice's contributions during her incredible 66 years of life on this planet.

Mr. Speaker, may the spirit of her generosity and service continue to inspire everybody in our community and everybody in this Chamber.

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NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS DAY

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, and I rise in support of the more than 40 million men, women, and children, who are victims of this global tragedy.

Human trafficking is a \$150 billion criminal industry that exploits vulnerable individuals and strips them of their fundamental human rights.

Mr. Speaker, while this criminal conduct may seem a world away, it is very often taking place right in our own backyards. Human trafficking is reported in cities, suburbs, and rural areas in all 50 States in this Nation. Last year alone, the National Human Trafficking Hotline reported 221 cases of human trafficking in my home State of Pennsylvania and more than 10,000 cases nationwide.

These staggering and horrific numbers underscore the need for increased victim support services, education and awareness, and legislative advocacy surrounding human trafficking.

On this National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, let us renew our commitment to the global fight to end this abhorrent crime against humanity and redouble our efforts for the millions of survivors and their victims.

VOTING FALSEHOODS

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

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere concern for the falsehoods Democrats are spreading across the country regarding Americans' ability to vote.

Over the last year, Democrats have repeatedly alleged that the 2020 elec-

tion was the most secure election in American history, bludgeoning any dissent or legitimate election integrity concerns as "the big lie."

Yet in the same breath, the left has also spent the last year championing an election reform bill, the so-called For the People Act, that aims to federalize our elections processes, ban voter ID, and fund incumbent campaigns with Americans' hard-earned tax dollars—in the name of improving election security.

In fact, the Senate Democrats are attempting to destroy 200 years of precedent by removing the filibuster to solidify Democrat control of elections, thinly veiled as election reform.

But why is it necessary for the Federal Government to take over our elections process—a role specifically designated to the States by our Founding Fathers—if that process is working soundly and securely?

You see, Democrats are willing to put political gains above morality in order to quench their ever-longing thirst for power. This is a perfect example of "the ends justify the means." And that is wrong.

It is really quite simple: Republicans want to make it easier to vote, but harder to cheat. We should all want that. But no, Democrats are tenaciously gearing up to destroy our Republic as we know it by making it easier to cheat.

Take my home State of Georgia. Today, the Vice President and the President will travel to Atlanta to spread more misinformation about voting rights as an attempt to pressure the Senate to eliminate the filibuster. Yet, Biden will conveniently leave several facts out of his remarks:

He will refuse to admit that before this year his home State of Delaware denied voters in-person early voting, and now only requires 10 days of early voting—less than Georgia's minimum of 17.

Why? Because this reality flies in the face of Biden's false narrative that our democracy is under attack by Republican efforts. This is more hypocrisy.

He will fail to mention that just last week, Georgia finally launched an investigation into alleged illegal ballot harvesting in the 2020 election.

Why? Because this truth does not support Biden's vilification of Republicans that raise concerns about the 2020 election.

He will ignore the fact that New York is attempting to grant more than 800,000 noncitizens the right to vote in municipal elections.

Why? Because Biden is willing to overlook illogical and dangerous solutions to obtain control over Americans' lives. Instead, he will comically claim that many Republican States, including Georgia, are attempting to disenfranchise Americans when in fact their State voting laws strengthen election integrity to ensure every solitary American has free, fair, and honest elections. One citizen, one vote.

I firmly reject Democrats' dangerous and deceptive ploy to centralize elections in Washington. It is wrong for Americans. It is wrong for election security. And it is wrong for the future of our Republic.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA'S COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAM

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2022 College Football Playoff National Champions, my alma mater, the University of Georgia.

During a thrilling game last night, the Bulldogs defeated the University of Alabama 33 to 18. This exciting win marks the first time the University of Georgia will bring home the College Football Playoff national championship trophy to Athens and our second national championship trophy in the history of Georgia Collegiate Football. What a triumphant ending to an exceptional season.

Congratulations to the talented young men that put their all into the game, and to head coach, Kirby Smart, and the coaching staff for leading the Dawgs to a monumental win. May God bless the great State of Georgia as we now hail two champions from the 2021 season—the Atlanta Braves and the Georgia Bulldogs.

Go Dawgs. Soli Deo Gloria.

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

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF RANDY POTTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, in life there are names that once spoken give rise to great emotion. The name "Randy Potter" is one of those names in our community.

Today, I recognize the life of one of Upstate New York's most colorful and original characters, Randy Potter. Simply mentioning Randy's name puts smiles on the faces of all who knew him. Seeing his crazy hair and fun attire always covered in campaign slogans and buttons put a smile on the faces of people who didn't know him.

Randy was a music aficionado and a diehard Grateful Dead fan who attended hundreds of concerts, and he will always be fondly remembered for his love of music. He also enjoyed sports, and it didn't matter which team was playing; as long as it was a New York team, Randy was always their biggest fan.

Perhaps most importantly to Randy, he was someone who cared a lot about our community and about politics and the importance of government, and our community depended on him to get the message out.

Sadly, Mr. Potter passed away quietly on the evening of December 23. A treasure trove of stories, jokes, and the smiles of many, many residents across