

the town of Bucha revealed the scope of the appalling war crimes committed by Vladimir Putin's military.

Journalists and the Ukrainian military discovered mass graves, bodies left in the streets, and the evidence of a massacre of civilians. These are war crimes.

We know now, with certainty, what fate awaits Ukrainians who are subjected to Russian occupation. The United States must open its doors to welcome Ukrainians who are fleeing this invasion.

As co-chair of the Congressional Ukraine Caucus, early on in the conflict, I and others called on the Biden administration to extend temporary protected status to Ukrainians already in the United States. I was proud when the President heeded that call and when he subsequently increased the refugee cap.

We must do everything in our power to accept fleeing refugees expeditiously. This is a matter of life and death. Over 4 million refugees have already fled the violence in Ukraine. Half of those refugees are children. Millions more remain trapped in cities and villages without access to food, clean water, or medical care.

We now know that Putin's military is willing to slaughter any innocents left behind. It is absolutely critical that the U.S. do everything in its power to assist the people of Ukraine. This means military assistance, yes, but it also means providing for Ukrainians who make the difficult decision to leave their homes behind.

We must support the nations that are already taking in refugees. Allies, like Poland, have already admitted more than 2 million Ukrainian refugees into their nation, and we should ensure that Poland and other countries that have opened their doors are able to help these Ukrainians resettle safely.

This also means continuing to investigate the reports of refugees of color being turned away at border crossings. Here in the U.S., we have a long history as a safe harbor for people of the world.

It has been inspiring to see Americans offer unwavering support for Ukraine from the outset of the Russian invasion. I am confident that this support will mean Americans will rally together to support any Ukrainian refugees who arrive on our shores. As they do, Congress has an opportunity to reform our immigration system to be more welcoming to individuals around the world who are in need.

I share the outrage of my constituents who are watching what is unfolding in Ukraine. As an advocate for Ukrainians here at home and abroad, I am also reminded that there are other atrocities occurring around the world. We can, and must, extend the same outrage we have for the crimes in Bucha to the crimes in Syria, the conflict in Tigray, the famine in Yemen, and the violence in the Northern Triangle. And just as we open our doors to

Ukrainian refugees, we can, and must, open our doors to refugees from around the world.

In recent weeks, I have urged the Biden administration to end title 42. This policy allowed the U.S. to use the pandemic as justification for expelling migrants without a hearing before an immigration judge. The administration just announced last week that they intend to end this policy.

One immediate effect will be that Ukrainians arriving at our borders will be able to seek asylum more easily, but, critically, it also means that migrants from the global south will no longer be stranded in the immigration process. The Federal Government should seek out other avenues in which providing recourse for Ukrainians will make our system more equitable for all immigrants.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, foreign citizens seeking entry into the U.S. have faced months-long waits for counselor appointments. That backlog now threatens to prevent fleeing Ukrainians from reaching our shores.

The lengthy immigrant visa delays have caused many Ukrainians to turn to nonimmigrant visas so they can reach temporary safety with family or friends in the U.S. Yet, as Ukrainians and other foreign citizens have been increasingly forced to utilize nonimmigrant visas, wait times have drastically increased.

Reporting last month showed that wait times in Hungary were 275 days. In Moldova, the wait was 329 days. On February 28, the wait in Warsaw, Poland, was 86 days. Two days later, the wait was 134 days for visitor visas and more than 40 days for other types.

I sincerely hope the State Department finds a way to dramatically decrease processing times for Ukrainians who have fled their homelands, but we cannot simply prioritize Ukrainian cases and leave all others behind. These wait times impact immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers from around the world. Ukrainians are not the only ones whose lives are in danger.

The tragedy in Ukraine has shone a bright spotlight on the need for our entire immigration system to be more inclusive. Congress cannot allow this moment to pass without finally addressing the flaws in our system. Too many lives hang in the balance for us to do nothing.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF MIKE JILOTY

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

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, on December 25, Volusia County, Florida, lost a great businessman and valued community leader, Mike Jiloty. Through Mike's hard work and personal approach to business, he received hundreds of industry awards. Serving as the president of United Way of

Volusia and Flagler Counties, Mike fought for the health, education, and stability of every person in his community. He dedicated his time to the FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools to better prepare students for their careers.

As a graduate of the Leadership Florida Class XIV, Mike used his skills as a leader to serve his community and was honored by several organizations, including the Volusia Association of School Administrators, the Daytona Beach Community College Foundation, the Conklin Center for the Blind, and the Lodging and Hospitality Association of Volusia County.

Madam Speaker, Mike Jiloty is a true example of a servant leader. He sought to inspire others, to make his community a better place, and he is missed dearly. It is my honor to recognize him on the floor of the House of Representatives today.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF JACKIE ROBINSON INTEGRATING BASEBALL

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, Jackie Robinson once said, "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." On April 15, 1947, Jackie Robinson created a lasting impact on the lives of generations of Americans when he stepped out of the dugout at Ebbets Field before a crowd of more than 26,000 spectators. This moment would change the course of history and have a lasting impact for generations as he broke the color barrier as the first African-American player in professional baseball history.

Jackie Robinson is a true servant leader, and his life and legacy has had a major impact across the country, including in my own congressional district, where I am honored to have a piece of his legacy at the Daytona City Island Ballpark where, in 1946, Jackie Robinson played in the very first integrated major league baseball spring training game. In 1990, in honor of the life and legacy of Jackie Robinson, the Daytona City Island Ballpark would be renamed the Jackie Robinson Memorial Ballpark.

Jackie Robinson's impact was felt across the Nation. It was the first time a Black player competed with a minor league team against a major league team since the color line was implemented in baseball in the 1880s. As we observe the 75th anniversary of his courageous act, it is clear the impact and legacy of Jackie Robinson on the advancement of human rights will be everlasting.

A1A DESIGNATED AN ALL-AMERICAN ROAD

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, of the approximately 4 million miles of byways and highways that stretch in all directions across the United States, there are very few that come close to the beauty, history, and serenity that encompasses the 72-mile stretch of A1A that runs from St. Johns County, Florida, to Flagler County. Flanked by the Atlantic Ocean and crisscrossing the St. Johns River and Intracoastal Waterway, for more than 75 years the A1A

has provided motorists with breathtaking views as it seamlessly intertwines Florida's most remarkable coastal landscapes and deep-rooted history.

As a kid growing up in northeast Florida, any drive along the A1A scenic and historic coastal byway was a reminder of how lucky we were to live in such a beautiful place.

Now, as the Representative of Florida's north central region, home to beautiful segments of A1A, I was proud to cast one of my very first votes in support of the Reviving America's Scenic Byways Act in February of 2019. This act requires the Department of Transportation to issue a request for nominations to be designated under the National Scenic Byways Program and make publicly available a list specifying the roads designated. President Trump signed the bill into law in September of 2019.

I am pleased to announce in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that on March 29 of 2022, the ribbon-cutting ceremony occurred for the Federal Highway Administration's designation of this beautiful stretch of A1A as an All-American Road.

#### REMEMBERING DR. TERRANCE NEWTON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to remember the life of a remarkable public servant, leader, and educator, Dr. Terrance Newton.

Today, family, friends, and his beloved Warner School community are saying good-bye to a person who they called Newt.

Dr. Newton was a fixture in the Delaware education system for decades, himself a product of Wilmington's East Side, a Kappa Alpha Psi man, and a Delaware State University man.

Newt would become known to his students as their most fervent advocate and ally. Every morning, he would stand on the front steps of Warner Elementary and greet students as they passed through the front doors, hugging them, high-fiving them, and inspiring every child.

Dr. Newton was always looking for unique and impactful ways to connect with his students, going so far as to open a barbershop where he could cut the students' hair in school, giving them a safe space to talk about their academics, their communities, and their lives.

It is no exaggeration to say that Dr. Terrance Newton was a powerful pillar of the community, a real-life superhero who spent every day devoted to the next generation of Delawareans.

We have lost Dr. Terrance Newton far too soon, but because of all the energy, inspiration, and love that he poured into his students, family, and commu-

nity, his legacy will live on for a lifetime.

To his family, colleagues, students, friends, I send sincere condolences.

Madam Speaker, I close with some words from Dr. Newton himself. He said of his students: "When I see them, I see me. So, my goal is to change the world."

Indeed, Dr. Newton, you did.

#### FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES TAKING FARMERS' WATER SUPPLY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I have been speaking a little bit lately about our supply chain issues and the effects of inflation on real Americans, real families, and talking a lot about food grown in this country and the effects of some of the decisions made by government on the ability to grow food, especially in my home State of California, which affects so much of the supply chain for fruits, vegetables, and nut products that the whole country, and even the world export market, enjoys and uses.

What we are wrestling with right now are decisions made by Federal and State agencies on the effects of water supply in California and the ripple effect it has on so many products.

For example, earlier this year, a decision was made to withdraw what is called a TUCP, a temporary urgency change petition, for the amount of water that would be flowing from our storage in California out through the delta and into the Pacific. This is geared toward how much water is going to be there for delta salinity and fish habitat situations in the delta and upstream, somewhat.

There was an opportunity back in December and January to curtail some of the water flows that were coming out of limited storage we already have in the State of California, mainly Shasta Dam and Oroville Dam, this on the heels of a drought last year.

Lake Oroville, for example, hit its lowest number ever. It didn't even make hydropower for the first time in 50 years because the lake was so low.

So, decisions were made based on a pretty decent amount of rainfall in October and quite a bit of rain and snowpack in December to withdraw what was called the TUCP, the temporary urgency change petition, which would have the ability to let less water out through the delta and a little less for the salinity and fish habitat issues.

By the way, the fish, one of the ones we are talking about, is called the delta smelt. They haven't found one, in what they call trawls looking for the fish, in 3 years. They are pretty much nonexistent. Yet, we are still allowing hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of precious water to go out through the bay to somehow try to mitigate that situation.

They decided to withdraw the change petition, the TUCP, a decision made on January 21, to say we are going to go ahead and let the water flow at a higher level than is necessary. Water will be trickling out of our dams, out of our storage, at a rate much more than is needed for a perception of salinity or fish.

At the time when we are looking at drought in California, low water supplies, and all the unrest we have in the world's food supply chain—Hungary, for example, is not going to export grain this year. Russia and Ukraine had been world market participants in grain, especially Ukraine.

Ukraine is a very, very rich country in wheat and many other ag products. Their farmers, right now, are out there trying to plant crops amidst all the bombs being dropped on them by Russia. God bless them. But farmers in this country are having bombs dropped on them by Federal and State agencies taking their water away.

At a point where we could have curtailed a little bit of the water going out through the delta and kept it for ag use to grow rice, to grow almonds, to grow olives, to grow tomatoes, many things that we need, they decided on January 21, no, we are just going to let the water go out at the same rate.

At that point, Lake Shasta was only at 35 percent of its capacity. Lake Oroville was only at 45 percent of its capacity. They thought, well, we are going to bank on the idea that more rain is going to come post-January 21 up until maybe April 1, when, historically, the rainfall tapers off.

These lakes are both well under half full. They decided, no, we have plenty of water because we had a massive amount of rain and snow in December. I mean, they threw the baby out with the bathwater, so to speak, in making this decision because anybody could have seen that we needed to keep every drop in those lakes that is coming in there to build them up.

Now, had they reached the flood stage where they have to allow a buffer of space in the dams to provide for flood control, which is approximately about 850 feet of elevation in Oroville and, I am going to guess, about 70, 75 percent of capacity—they are well below that. They thought, oh, we are going to have so much water coming in that we will meet these marks.

Well, guess what? The rain did not come in the latter part of January or February or March, and now we are in the first few days of April.

Here at this point, we are going to be short on food, short on water, and they are just now thinking about putting the TUCP in here in early April. It is very shortsighted and appalling.

#### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. TOM RIVERA

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