

served in the Army during the Vietnam war. His passion for helping our veterans stems way beyond his service in the State; it stems throughout the Nation.

Bob is a no-nonsense cowboy. He has got a zest for life and a zest for serving God. He also has a zest for telling the truth, even if you didn't want to hear it.

I am honored today to recognize Bob and his beautiful wife of 48 years, Janna. They have two children and five grandchildren.

Today, in New Mexico, we are celebrating Bob Wooley's 75th birthday. On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I wish Bob Wooley a happy 75th birthday.

RECOGNIZING LAKEWOOD POLICE AGENT ASHLEY FERRIS

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Agent Ashley Ferris of the Lakewood Police Department for her heroic actions which undoubtedly saved lives and protected our community from further violence.

On December 27, 2021, the Denver and Lakewood, Colorado, communities experienced a terrible tragedy. A gunman opened fire at multiple locations in Denver before traveling to Lakewood where he continued the shooting spree.

As a result of this gun violence, five lives were taken and two others were injured. My condolences go to the friends and family of the five victims of these murders: Alicia Cardenas, Danny Scofield, Sarah Steck, Alyssa Gunn-Maldonado, and Michael Swinyard. Jimmy Maldonado was injured as well as Agent Ferris, who bravely confronted and killed the gunman even after being shot in the abdomen, undoubtedly preventing additional loss of life.

The Lakewood Police Department said it best: "If not for the heroic efforts of Agent Ferris and other law enforcement, this incredibly violent tragedy could have been even worse."

Agent Ferris was previously recognized for her actions on the job in 2020 when she, along with two fellow Lakewood Police Officers, performed life-saving measures on a woman suffering medical distress. For her actions, she was presented with the department's Lifesaving Award.

I am thankful Agent Ashley Ferris was recently released from the hospital. I wish her a full and speedy recovery, and I extend my deepest appreciation for her bravery, sacrifice, and service to our community.

CALIFORNIA'S STATEWIDE DROUGHT EMERGENCY

(Mr. VALADAO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, in the midst of a statewide drought emergency, California has experienced much-needed rain and snowfall during these winter months.

While communities across my district are especially grateful for the rainfall we have encountered, I remain concerned that the State of California has already announced a zero percent allocation for water deliveries for this year.

I also remain concerned that the Bureau of Reclamation could possibly announce a similar water allocation for 2022 within the next month.

This is unacceptable.

We must work together to figure out a way to fully utilize the water we have access to in a way that benefits our communities and agriculture production. Farmers are desperate for water to grow their crops. Rural towns continue to face water shortages.

We need this rain, but we also need to do a better job of managing our resources. We have opportunities to move our water responsibly when the snowpack melts.

As you can see here, more than 5 million acre-feet of water was sent out to the ocean over this past year. This water could have gone a long way for our communities and for farmers in the Central Valley.

I have asked time and time again for support from the House majority to address this issue. The families of the Central Valley cannot continue to wait. I ask my colleagues yet again to join my efforts to improve water management in California.

BENEFITS OF THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share how the recent enactment of the bipartisan infrastructure law is already delivering for organized labor and businesses in the First District of Indiana.

My district is home to three airports that are drivers of our economy. They are essential to moving goods and people throughout the region and Nation and create good-paying jobs and increased economic opportunities.

According to the Federal Aviation Administration, three regional airports are expected to receive funds under the bipartisan infrastructure law, including over \$150,000 to the Michigan City Municipal Airport, almost \$300,000 to the Porter County Regional Airport, and over \$750,000 to the Gary/Chicago International Airport.

I look forward to continuing the work in a spirit of cooperation with local and State officials to harness the impact of the bipartisan infrastructure law.

HONORING MATT PEDIGO

(Mr. COMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Matt Pedigo of Allen County, Kentucky, who recently retired as general manager of the Citizen-Times newspaper in Scottsville.

After 22 years of reporting on the community he loves, Matt decided to put down his pen and pursue other ventures. At a time when many people are distrustful of the agenda of the media, Matt has been a shining star over the years, accurately reporting on current events and happenings in Allen County.

Through numerous interviews and conversations with Matt during my years in public service, I grew to appreciate his work ethic, knowledge of the issues, and passion for sharing the news with his community.

While he may be retiring, I know from my interactions with Matt that he is not finished making positive contributions to the community of Allen County and south-central Kentucky. I wish him nothing but the best in a well-earned retirement from journalism.

□ 1230

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDNA BROWN

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to distinguished Ohio Senator Edna Brown, a trailblazer who recently passed away.

Edna Brown was a remarkable public servant from Toledo, Ohio, who dedicated her life and her three decades of service to improving the well-being and future of our community.

As the first and only African American to represent Lucas County in the Ohio Senate, she blazed a trail for many to follow at the highest level of elected office in Ohio.

She was a warm, inviting, and immensely kind person whose focus was always on public service and bettering the lives of the people she served, the people she truly loved.

Northwest Ohio lost a great champion. Her family lost a great mother and grandmother. America needs more people like Edna Brown in public service.

Her memory will live with us, and I know her legacy will inspire the next generation of Ohio's leaders, including women leaders.

I will include her life story and her obituary in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as a tribute to her persevering accomplishments for our Nation's betterment.

Godspeed, Edna Brown. May the angels carry you very high, and may you rest in peace.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF HENRY AND ARLENE LANGREHR

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an incredible veteran from my district for his service to our country and eastern Iowa.

Henry Langrehr of Clinton served in Europe during World War II with the 82nd Airborne Division. Because of his heroic and brave actions in France, he received two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, and the French Legion of Honor.

Henry was a paratrooper who flew on a C-47 transport plane across the English Channel before being dropped into Normandy on D-day during the Allied invasion.

During the campaign, Henry was injured by shrapnel and taken as a German prisoner of war. He successfully escaped a Nazi work camp and made his way back to his countrymen.

Henry always makes sure to praise Arlene, his wife of nearly 80 years. While Henry was in Europe, Arlene worked 12 hours a day, 7 days a week, making machine gun stands needed for the war effort, a real-life Rosie the Riveter.

I am incredibly grateful to have amazing Americans like Henry and Arlene living in my district.

Thank you for your incredible service to and love for the United States, Iowa, and Clinton.

CONGRATULATING THE GEORGIA BULLDOGS

(Mr. HICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate this year's college football national championship team, the Georgia Bulldogs.

For the first time since 1980, the Bulldogs are bringing the college football national championship trophy back to Athens, Georgia, after beating the Alabama Crimson Tide by a score of 33-18 this past Monday.

I could not be more proud of the Dawgs for showing all of us the true definition of heart, of character, and of dedication.

After losing to the Crimson Tide in the SEC championship game a few weeks back, the Bulldogs worked, they prepared, they practiced with intense focus in order to come back and win the national championship.

This team really gave us everything they had. They put it all on the field, and I am humbled to represent the University of Georgia and the 10th Congressional District of Georgia.

The Dawg spirit never ceases to amaze me. I want to extend sincere congratulations to the entire team, to Coach Kirby Smart and his coaching staff, and to the entire Dawg Nation.

Go Dawgs. Congratulations. It has been a great season.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF DR. ANTHONY ORTEGON

(Mrs. BOEBERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life of Dr. Anthony Ortegon of Pueblo, Colorado.

Dr. Ortegon and his amazing, strong, powerful wife, Vera, realized their American Dream early on. He will be remembered by those he loved as a God-fearing, country-loving, family man who was defined by his strong work ethic and love for helping others.

Dr. Ortegon was born in Bogota, Colombia, and made a courageous move to America, determined to create a better life for himself and his family. He finished college in 2½ years and attended the University of Miami's medical school to begin his passion for medicine and his patients, whom he loved. His work ethic was guided by his faith in God, and he trusted that he could build a life for himself in America.

He served the community of Pueblo for over 40 years, providing care to thousands of southern Coloradans through his medical practice, and he owned several small businesses. His spirit will live on through his strong wife, Vera; his sons, Anthony and Arthur; his four grandchildren; and through his impact on the community as a constant reminder of the potential of the American Dream.

DONALD HUISENGA RECEIVES HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AT AGE 98

(Mr. PFLUGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with an incredible and inspirational story to congratulate San Angelo's Donald Huisenga on receiving his high school diploma after nearly 80 years of waiting.

Although originally in the class of 1943, he was drafted into World War II just 3 months before graduation was scheduled.

His service with the U.S. Army Special Forces took Mr. Huisenga behind enemy lines and to the front of the D-day charge.

Recently, after Ms. Tess Gooding of San Angelo's VA clinic met with Mr. Huisenga and heard him mention always wanting to receive his diploma and graduate from high school, she got the ball rolling, and she went above and beyond the call of duty. And so did Mr. Huisenga's original high school district, East Sac County.

Last Wednesday, alongside friends and family, Mr. Huisenga was awarded his high school diploma at the ripe age of 98 years old.

It is touching to hear this story of service. I want to honor not only Mrs. Gooding for her work in the community, for her compassion, and for going above and beyond, but I would also like to honor Mr. Huisenga for his sacrifice to our country in World War II and for his continued desire to learn, teaching us an important lesson that it is never too late in life to learn.

I thank everyone who helped Mr. Huisenga earn his diploma. They have all made us very proud. Congratulations on this incredible achievement.

CPI'S ASTONISHING INCREASE

(Mr. MOORE of Alabama asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today the latest Consumer Price Index numbers were revealed, confirming what Americans buying gas, groceries, and other necessities already know. Over the past year, the CPI increased an astonishing 7 percent.

That is the highest inflation rate we have seen in four decades. The last time we saw inflation like this, the University of Georgia football program had already begun its historic 40-plus-year championship drought that ended this week.

This catastrophe could have been avoided, could have been headed off. But last July, despite economists insisting it was a fantasy, the Biden administration brushed off inflation concerns as just a transitory inconvenience.

Of course, Biden—or at least his string-pullers—knew better, but he did not want the daunting economic realities facing American families to get in the way of this massive socialist tax-and-spend agenda.

You don't need an economics degree to know that trillions more in government spending will drive up inflation. Unfortunately, that is exactly what we are seeing.

If the Biden administration and the House Democrats get their way and pass this harmful Build Back Better scheme with trillions more in spending, inflation will soar like never before.

Americans are suffering. We must defeat the Democratic agenda, restore fiscal sanity, and take meaningful steps to combat the record inflation crushing American families and businesses.

FBI SHOULD NOT INTIMIDATE PARENTS

(Mrs. MILLER of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, yesterday news reports suggested that President Biden's Secretary of Education was involved in requesting a letter from the National School Boards Association, calling for the FBI to intimidate parents who have shown up to school board meetings.