

War II, who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country over Romania in 1944.

Marie met her husband, the late Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence Carastro, while working with the Alabama Civil Air Patrol. She is the mother of two children and spent her career as a practicing nutritionist. She had over 50 years of flying experience and was recognized in 2015 with the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award.

Marie has lived a life of great distinction, and I celebrate her many noteworthy accomplishments.

HELPING MILITARY COMMUNITIES GET THE HELP THEY NEED

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

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, we have a responsibility to care for our troops and their families. That is why I have been a champion for the Governor's Challenge to prevent suicide among servicemembers, veterans, and their families.

The military community is not monolithic, and that is why this program is so important. It provides assistance and training to State healthcare agencies—tailored to meet their specific needs and demographics—so that military communities can get the help they need.

Last year, I worked across the aisle to boost funding for this program, and soon the House will vote on a package including my bill to expand the Governor's Challenge and make it even more versatile.

California has more veterans than any other State and is a leader in many ways, but we still need to take the Governor's Challenge.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Governor Newsom to do so.

STAND FOR LIFE

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in defense of life. Since the Supreme Court's 1973 ruling in *Roe v. Wade*, more than 63 million American babies have had their lives cut short. That is simply unacceptable. I stand here today for the sake of women, for the sake of children, and for the sake of the moral integrity of our Nation.

They say follow the science, which tells us that pre-born humans are, in fact, humans. Unfortunately, the pro-abortion left has decided that human does not automatically grant the right to life, and that humans should only be accorded this right under certain circumstances. That mindset is a travesty, and legal abortion will go down in history as a great stain on the United States.

Thankfully, it appears as though the Supreme Court may be poised to right

this tragic error and overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

God willing, come this summer, State legislatures across the Nation will truly be able to defend the unborn without the constraint of *Roe*. Here in Washington, I will continue to be a voice for the voiceless and stand for life as we fight to protect the unborn.

AMERICA'S INFLATION

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, as we break for a couple weeks here—or at least we go back home to do our work for a couple weeks—I want the American public to be aware that the huge inflation we have, which is making food more expensive, gas more expensive, and especially putting housing—which is part of the American dream—out of the reach of our young people. This inflation didn't just appear from nowhere, it appeared because of overspending government programs.

We started off this session with the American Rescue Plan, which sounds good, but it was I think probably one of the most fiscally irresponsible packages I have ever seen. We still have a President hoping he can pass the Build Back Better plan, which would make things even worse.

Madam Speaker, I remind the American public that when we overspend, dollars have to be printed by the Federal Reserve. Those dollars get distributed throughout the economy, and we have a situation in which the money supply goes through the roof. That is where the spending comes from.

Madam Speaker, I beg Americans to not ask Congress for articles that we cannot afford because Congress will not say no. Far too much of my time is spent here holding meetings with group after group after group, sometimes representing very wealthy people, who want more government money.

Please, America, stand up to the politicians. Stop asking for more money. Stand up to President Biden and don't let him appropriate anymore.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. PORTER) laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 18, 2022.

HON. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to Section 1091(b)(1)(E)–(F) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY2022, I am pleased to appoint the following member to the National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology:

Dr. Angela M. Belcher, Lexington, Massachusetts

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Republican Leader.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, at this time I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JACOBS).

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to address the House.

Kathrine "Kat" Massey, age 72; Pearl Young, age 77; Roberta Drury, age 32; Ruth Whitfield, age 86; Geraldine Talley, age 62; Celestine Chaney, age 65; Aaron Salter, age 55; Heyward Patterson, age 67; Andre Mackneil, age 53; Margus Morrison, age 55.

Madam Speaker, these are the names and the ages of the 10 people who were brutality and senselessly murdered in my hometown of Buffalo, New York, last Saturday.

I rise to say their names in these hallowed Chambers. I stand here in sorrow for their deaths and for the suffering that their families and friends are enduring right now. I have thought of little else since this carnage occurred on a beautiful Saturday afternoon in Buffalo.

The murderer, who I will not give the satisfaction of saying his name, targeted this grocery store and this neighborhood because it was heavily populated with African Americans. As our sheriff stated at the crime scene, this was a racially motivated act, and this was a hate crime.

I do not have the honor of representing this community in Congress, but I have represented it previously. I served for many years on the Buffalo School Board and frequented this area as there were many schools in proximity. Through my services on the Buffalo School Board I came to know Kathrine "Kat" Massey, one of those victims. Kat was a tireless advocate for Buffalo's children, and her impact to her community will be felt for generations.

I grew up in Buffalo. Buffalo is a great place for many reasons: its stunning architecture, its location on the shores of Lake Erie and the Niagara River, and its beautiful neighborhoods. What makes our community so very special are its people. They are kind, warm, and fun. There is always a priority on family, friends, and community. That, in my mind, is what makes it the spectacularly special place it is.

These 10 represented some of the best of Buffalo, and we mourn their tragic loss. May God's grace be with these 10 who perished, and their grieving loved ones.

Madam Speaker, I will conclude by saying this: Our city is right now in

the national spotlight due to this vile and horrific act. Predictably and inevitably, the national attention will fade, and it will be our community's task to heal. It is my great hope that we come together in this healing progress, we unify, and we do not succumb to division and polarization.

In honor of those lost—in our healing—it is my great hope that we would become a stronger, more unified, and a more loving community.

Madam Speaker, I conclude by quoting a sign that someone put up on their front lawn in my community: "I love you. You are probably thinking, you don't even know me. But if people can hate for no reason, I can love."

□ 1245

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my friend from New York's well-considered comments.

At this time, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), my longtime friend, for such time as he may consume.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from Texas for a few minutes this afternoon on the House floor, and I thank him for his long service to this House and to the people of Texas.

LOUIE GOHMERT has set the standard for constituent service, and the people of east Texas are grateful for his many years of service in the months to come.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the resounding response and intense unity that all of us as Americans have witnessed by the NATO alliance since the barbaric invasion of Ukraine on February 24.

The history of civilization tells us that freedom and the peace and stability necessary for free people to pursue their interests, their pursuit of happiness, is not the natural state. Rather, man's fallen nature gives rise to tyranny, domination, and violence.

The United States and our European friends, who value their freedom and their prosperity, suffered two of the deadliest and most destructive wars, which threatened the blessings of freedom and prosperity on the continent of Europe. In the wake of these world wars, and in the face of the communist menace threatening elected governments, the United States and European countries realized that a free people must stand together to deter and, if necessary, defend the encroaching forces intent on squashing freedom and spreading communism and authoritarianism.

Smartly, the United States policy insisted that she would only provide military support to Europe if Europe did its own work and was united in that effort.

This principle gave rise to the first fundamental concept of collective defense, which is the backbone of our transatlantic NATO alliance. As we all know, an attack on one NATO member is treated as an attack on all.

After the September 11 terror attacks on the United States, NATO in-

voked the Article 5 collective defense for the first time and agreed on a package of strong defensive measures to come to our aid in the war on terrorism and the attack on our homeland.

It was, indeed, an example of the power of standing together. But as I have consistently warned since my time in the people's House, the pillar of collective defense had, over time, been weakened by lagging investment and commitment by many member states. Collective defense does not work unless each member is fully invested in and committed to protecting the whole.

In 2014, only three countries met their commitment to spend not less than 2 percent of their gross domestic product on defense. Now, think about that, in the decades since the end of the Second World War, only three countries. This is after decades of President after President after President urging that full commitment, starting with the frustration of President Kennedy.

In contrast, this year, we have witnessed NATO member states joined in solidarity on Russian sanctions. We have seen increases in defense spending from member nations, most notably Germany. The largest economy in Europe, the most prosperous country in Europe, the largest current account surplus in Europe, the largest budget surplus in Europe is now committed to its full obligation to the NATO partnership.

NATO is also doubling the number of battle groups deployed to Eastern and Central Europe. The United States has increased its commitment of troops deployed to Europe by 25 percent.

We are witnessing a historic display of 30 member countries galvanized in the face of Putin's tyranny and barbarism. It is now attracting other European countries that see the value and realize the need to protect their way of life from the rising threat of Russia.

This week, Finland and Sweden announced their desire to join NATO. This would be a strategic success for the alliance. Both Finland and Sweden are free, democratic countries with sizable and well-regarded military forces.

In February, Germany Chancellor Olaf Scholz used the term "zeitenwende," or turning point. He is turning away from the decisions made by his predecessor, Angela Merkel, who somehow thought we were going to achieve peace with Russia through commerce. We see how that worked out. So a turning point is a key element, and I agree that we are absolutely at a turning point.

As antidemocratic forces aspire to great power conflict, a free Europe has thankfully turned toward the proven collective defense of NATO. NATO members and, therefore, the alliance itself are living up to its promised ideals. NATO is as strong as it has ever been in the past 73 years.

Putin must realize the catastrophic consequences that he will subject the

Russian people to if he dares to go toward a NATO member.

In addition to military leadership, the United States must use its global capabilities and amazing energy resources in this great country in support of its European allies. President Biden must end his failed energy policy and take every action to return to the 13½ million barrels of production we had prior to the pandemic and our strategic value in this great country for every household, every business, every ally of energy independence.

This will lower prices for our families. This will strengthen our allies as they move toward independence from Russian oil and gas. Europe is now moving, after so many years of debate, toward an all-of-the-above energy strategy, including expanding nuclear energy.

I am encouraged by the European response to the crisis and brutality of Putin. This unity and commitment to mutual defense are necessary to deter and defend Europe, as well as the homeland, so I commend our allies for their being on the same page in an inspiring way.

Now, Madam Speaker, we have more to do on economic sanctions to target and focus additional economic pain on Russia, Belarus, and anyone, any country, that is economically benefiting these perpetrators of the atrocity in Ukraine.

Taken together, our transatlantic partnership will send a message to all tyrants, not only czar Putin but all tyrants in any corner of the world: If you attack a sovereign country, if you invade a sovereign country using military force, you will pay a military cost. You will lose. You will pay a diplomatic cost. You will be kicked out of every organization in the world. Your diplomats will be isolated. You will pay an economic cost for the mistakes of your leaders.

Madam Speaker, there is much more work to be done. I am proud of that transatlantic response. Beating Putin here is a blow for freedom, and the only thing a bully understands is the full force of military, diplomatic, and economic might.

I thank my friend from Texas for the time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, and great words, great observations.

This is a difficult time, but it is also a time to show our resilience and do so as one with those who believe in having representative government.

At this time, I yield such time as he may consume to my friend from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN). It is an honor having known him for so many years and having become such good friends.

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT), my friend, for yielding. My sentiments exactly right back to you, sir.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my friend, Phil

Smartt. Philander Knox Smartt, Jr., dedicated his life to public service in our Chattanooga area community.

During his distinguished life, he was a founding member of the Pachyderm Club; an active member of the Chattanooga Rotary Club; served on the Hamilton County School Board, including a key role as chairman; and served with many other community and civic organizations. He was also a successful businessperson and a giving businessperson.

Phil loved our great Nation and was active in our Nation's body politic. As a matter of fact, he was one of Tennessee's first supporters of our late, great President Ronald Reagan. Phil actively supported individuals for office who stood for religious freedom and who supported our great United States Constitution.

Phil passed away last week after a lengthy illness. I was greatly saddened, and I still am.

Most importantly, Phil dedicated his life always to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our State, nationally, and around the world. I especially appreciated the fact that he would invite me to stake meetings and his always welcoming presence when I would show up and visit at his church.

Our State and our community have lost a great man and public servant. We will miss him, and I am proud to honor his life and legacy today in this great United States House of Representatives.

Phil was not only a fine man, but he was a good friend and a great American. I am thankful to have known him.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GREEN of Texas). The gentleman has 43½ minutes remaining.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

To follow up on comments by my friend from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), how fortunate the United States was, has been, to have had Donald Trump as President when NATO was languishing, when there was no resolve that we could discern that would allow NATO to stand up to evil actions that were in the future to be taken by the leader there, Mr. Putin.

Our allies in Europe did not seem to appreciate the American President, President Trump, questioning them about utilizing and becoming so dependent on Russian oil and pointing out that, gee, we are spending American money to put troops in Europe and keep so many there to protect you when you are paying money to Russia and growing dependent on them so they can blackmail you for the future and extort concessions from you. By the way, you, as a part of NATO, are expected to spend 2 percent on your own defense. You haven't been doing that, and you are going to start doing that.

Thank goodness President Trump took those actions. It didn't make him popular with leaders in Europe, but right now, even those who didn't care for Mr. Trump, President Trump, they can surely see the value of the stands he took and the goading that he provided to get them to help prepare to stand up for their own defense. Otherwise, they would have been in a position to start falling like dominoes.

But because they started spending more of their money on defense and started trying to take actions that would not make them so reliant on Russian oil, they are in a better position than they would have been had we not had a President named Trump to stand up for what was right, to stand up for a republican form of government.

□ 1300

And that is not Republican Party. It is an elected representative form of government. We call it a democracy. Many people do. It is really more of a democratic republic.

We had the leader from the Hellenic Republic, Greece, gave a terrific speech here. And as I mentioned to him, I was glad he mentioned Pericles because Pericles doesn't get enough credit for the inspiration that he provided, the logic that he provided to so many of our Founders who wrote and spoke about his brilliance.

That is something we are not getting a lot of in our schools. As education has now taken so much of its direction from the Federal Government and the Department of Education, we have schools that have increasingly been eliminating lessons in government and lessons in what it takes to sustain a republic.

That is why Ben Franklin said, It's a republic, madam, if you can keep it, because he knew—he was so well read—he knew traditionally, you can't keep this phenomenal form of self-government that we made all the better, as the Prime Minister pointed out, he made it even better.

We have been so blessed here in America. People take it for granted. And they do not understand that you can't sustain this self-governance if you are not teaching people what it takes to sustain it.

Now, we heard the majority leader—we know he would not knowingly, intentionally misrepresent the facts, but apparently, not aware of the true facts, that we don't have a majority that supports a replacement theory. We do not have a majority that fears minorities becoming the majority.

No, in fact, the majority of Republicans, the huge majority, have no fear of minorities becoming a majority. Our concern about the mass influx of people that have never been educated to what it takes to have a self-governing country, is that you lose it.

Now, I have pointed out for years, people say, oh, you must hate Hispanics because you want a secure

southern border. It is exactly the opposite.

I look at the Hispanic culture and I see three basic—and I know it is usually not good to generalize, but I see, generally speaking, three commonalities. Most Hispanics have a faith in God; they have a devotion to their family; and they have a hard work ethic. Those are the three things that made America the greatest Nation in the history of the world.

And it was so wonderful to hear the Prime Minister from Greece pointing these things out about how America—clearly, they know around the world, they know, you took it, and you expanded the freedom, expanded it, made it better than it ever was in ancient Greece, where democracy began.

Years ago, there were, I think, four or five Members of Congress, we had stopped, we had made a trip to the Philippines. We went to see our American troops that were training Filipino troops to fight against radical Islam that existed and had created so much chaos in some parts of the Philippine islands.

But we stopped on the way back to refuel at the Maldives islands, and we were having lunch with some of their leaders. And I was talking to one of them.

They are such gorgeous islands, beautiful white beaches, water crystal clear, just beautiful.

But he was telling me, you know, we are a new democracy. And he said, there are always rumors about a military coup taking power. And then he paused, and he said, we never had a George Washington to set the proper example, so we are always worried about military coups. Well, they have had problems there.

But here I was on the other side of the world, a little, bitty island, and this leader knew more about our American history than so many, maybe even a majority of American students, know now about what a huge thing it was.

It is depicted in one of the eight big paintings in our rotunda, of George Washington with a piece of paper in his hand. That was his resignation. He copied 13 that he sent to each Governor, and this one was the original that he presented to the Continental Congress there in 1783.

He had won the Revolution as the head of the military. He could have been like Napoleon and been an emperor. He could have been a czar, dictator, whatever, king. In fact, some wanted him to become, in essence, a king.

And there he was. Congress had even given him authority to make all kinds of contracts and pay whatever he needed to pay to win the Revolution.

And here he was, with all that power, could have been, in essence—here is all the power back. I am going home. Incredible. That was historic. And so many don't know.

But leaders, like the Prime Minister here this week, he knew. The Maldives, those little, bitty islands, they knew.

But when we have an administration like the current one that, basically, despite saying they have secured the border, the border is not secure. People are flooding in.

And we don't fear having minorities be the majority. What some of us are concerned about is people flooding in, out of control, that have not been educated in what it takes to sustain a republic; because I have heard this from other leaders in what we consider free countries around the world, and they are getting scared.

They see what is happening in America. They say, don't you understand, when you lose your freedom in America, there will be no more freedom in the world.

This week, Ronald Reagan has been quoted a number of times, and the Prime Minister mentioned as well, that freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.

But for America to lose our freedom, which is what is in the process of happening when you take more and more right of the American people and give it to the Federal Government, and you give more and more right to the Department of Justice and Intelligence to spy on the American people, and you have an Attorney General who seizes more and more power, and says we are going to start spying on people that raise questions at school board meetings, you are jeopardizing self-government.

And to even think about creating a disinformation board that truly was—oh, it has been put on pause—a ministry of truth? The government gets to tell you what you can believe and not believe? Might as well just start calling us the Soviet Union. Good grief.

I can't believe how close we have come to what George Orwell, using his pen name, described in 1984. As I have said before, it is appearing that the main thing he got wrong was the year. It wasn't 1984, it is now.

But people have got to wake up. And for those—and I have heard it around, everywhere I go, including the airport here, the airport in Texas, you have got to do something about the price of gasoline, the price of diesel. It is making everything go up. I don't have money to fill my tanks.

Well, who caused that? The Biden administration. Who caused the shortage of formula? The Biden administration.

And we already got a question from a TV station back in Tyler, Channel 19, they always try to pick things apart.

Well, I didn't vote for this new bill that is supposed to fix baby formula. Well, I can tell you, giving millions of dollars to the FDA or the Biden administration is not going to produce one drop of baby formula. And, in fact, if they were going to be the ones to fix things, they would never have allowed us to get to this point.

But what happened? Without any regard for what would happen, they went after the Abbott facility, and it turns out, none of the formula was found to

have been contaminated. Yet, they created this shortage.

And now, this administration thinks the solution is more government, more money to the government. If we could just get more money, more people employed in the government, we can fix anything. No, that is why we have a shortage, because government is not the answer. Government is not the answer to getting cheaper gasoline prices and diesel prices and stopping inflation.

Government, right now, is creating, has been creating inflation. It is time to allow the incredible economy that wants to grow and wants to be a pie that is not a zero pie, where everybody just gets smaller shares. No, it grows. We get a bigger pie.

And nobody explains the economy and what can help fix things in this body better than my friend from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT).

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

HEALTHCARE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona has 27 minutes remaining.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I try to come behind the mike at least every week when we are here, and the last few times I have been rather cranky. I am intensely frustrated with the policies of the majority.

The majority, the Democrats, the left, have controlled this place now for what, 15 months. Poor people are poorer. Working poor are poorer. The middle class is poorer. And there is just this frustration for people like myself; we have got to stop it. Stop hurting people.

And a couple of the responses to the YouTube video that went out on one of the previous floor speeches was, okay, just give us something optimistic. So let's try to do something optimistic today.

But understand, this optimism requires this body to think differently, particularly my brothers and sisters in the majority. On occasion, you are going to have to back away from who writes checks, you know, and start to think about what the future would look like if we would just even fixate, focus, consider, listen to, some of these ideas.

□ 1315

This is the first one. I have been to the floor multiple times on this. I am not going to even start with the debt chart, which used to be a tradition. But

I would often stand here with this chart and say: Hey, you do realize in the next 29 years, we are functionally heading to—what is it—\$112 trillion or \$115 trillion of borrowed money in today's dollars.

The thing we are terrified to tell the American people is that 75 percent of that is functionally Medicare and the other 25 percent is the shortfall in Social Security. It is demographics. But when you break it apart, that \$80 trillion-plus of borrowing, that is in today's dollars, that is the shortfall in Medicare. Thirty-one percent of that is just diabetes. Thirty-three percent of all healthcare spending in the United States is diabetes.

If you want to lower the cost of healthcare, if you want to make healthcare more available and accessible, you have got to stop doing what this place has been doing for a couple decades now where we play the game on who pays and who gets subsidized. Obamacare, the ACA, was about who gets subsidized and who has to pay. The Republican alternative had some of the same sin, and heaven knows, Medicare for all is purely a financing scam. It isn't about what we pay.

So let's actually do some things that are hopeful.

We have been tracking the theory behind this for a couple years now. It is functionally replacing insulin-producing cells. I did a whole presentation on how they take stem cells and convert them and tap them with a CRISPR so your body doesn't want to reject them. But the fact of the matter is, we have now had a couple people who have been cured of type 1 diabetes.

Now, it is a proof-of-concept study. They have begun phase 1. Right now, the FDA has them on a pause as they are working out dosing. But the fact of the matter is, we are that close, conceptually, to a cure for type 1. And the fact of the matter is, the premise works for type 2, but you have got to deal with some of the ancillaries, which are really uncomfortable conversations.

I represent, we believe, the population with the second-highest diabetic population in the world, one of my Tribal communities. Mr. Speaker, and many of the others here, we may have urban populations that have diabetic populations, like our rural poor.

The fact of the matter is, wouldn't it be amazing if Republicans and Democrats in this place were fixating on this concept of, we are going to fixate on curing the misery; we are not going to go out and build a bunch more clinics and say we care, so live with your misery. The concept that there is a chance that if we put our resources in the right place, just like Operation Warp Speed did—remember how many people here said you can't do that in a year, but they did it. Then we could actually have the more difficult debate here about if this is a cure for type 1, how do you move into type 2, what do you do for lifestyle, health, and what we eat.