

Road Baptist Church continue to grow in its sacred mission of magnifying God's word, blessing His holy name, uplifting the people in service to all humanity, and honoring their incomparable legacy.

HONORING HERB ELFRING

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II veteran Herb Elfring of Jackson, Michigan, for his distinguished service to our country. Herb truly embodies the very best of America and the Greatest Generation.

Herb turned 100 years old earlier this year, and he is one of a very few survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack to still be alive.

From 1940 to 1945, Herb served in the U.S. Army National Guard and was stationed in Hawaii at the time of the attack, barely avoiding fire from Japanese planes. Herb would earn promotions and various medals for his bravery in the line of duty.

Herb and his late wife, Ruth, were married for 57 years and had five children, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

To this day, Herb remains active in the Jackson community.

Thank you, Herb, for your service to our country and legacy in the Jackson community.

RECOGNIZING THE CONGRESSIONAL WORKERS UNION

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the bravery and initiative of the Congressional Workers Union.

On Monday, my staff became the first in the 233-year history of this Congress to form a union, with a unanimous vote. I look forward to bargaining a just contract to set strong standards for the years ahead.

The CWU has also announced that staff in the offices of Congresswoman OMAR and Congressman KHANNA are voting to form unions, as well.

As it happens, the Jewish New Year began on Monday. It is a fitting time to mark a powerful new beginning for workers here on Capitol Hill.

If we want Congress to have a workforce that reflects America's diversity; if we want poor and working-class people to work here, not just the children of the wealthy; if we want to reduce turnover and increase the effectiveness and efficiency of our work, then it is high time we afford our staff a say in their working conditions.

That is the journey we are embarking on, and I am delighted to be a part of it. Friends, there is power in a union.

□ 1330

CONGRATULATING LT. COMMANDER MICHAEL D'ANGELO ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lieutenant Commander Michael D'Angelo on his retirement from an incredibly distinguished career with the United States Navy.

For more than 40 years, Lieutenant Commander D'Angelo has served our country with incredible dedication and honor.

Upon graduation from Morris Catholic High School in New Jersey, he pursued a history degree at Penn State University. Enlisting after his graduation from Penn State, he began his career in the Navy as a Persian-Farsi cryptologic linguist, eventually rising to rank of senior chief petty officer in 2001.

After years of hard work as a naval cryptologic officer, he attended the Naval Postgraduate School. Following graduation, he was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He then returned to central Pennsylvania and set up roots in Ebensburg with his wife and seven children, where he commanded the Navy Operational Support Center for 3 years.

Lieutenant Commander D'Angelo had the unique experience of serving alongside his son, Chief Petty Officer David D'Angelo, in Afghanistan. These men risked everything in the service of our great Nation, and we are forever grateful to the D'Angelo family.

Congratulations on your successful career and best wishes to you and your family in your next chapter.

HONORING WALTER MUNK

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the legacy of Walter Munk, a groundbreaking scientist and oceanographer who advanced our knowledge of waves, ocean temperature, the Earth's rotation, and much more.

Born in Austria, he eventually made his way to San Diego and enlisted in the Army as World War II approached. In 1941, Munk returned to San Diego's Scripps Institute of Oceanography to work in the U.S. Navy Radio and Sound Laboratory.

The scope of Walter Munk's work was vast. He helped meteorologists predict the waves troops would face in Normandy during World War II and developed methods incorporated into modern tsunami warning networks. His passion for his work and for San Diego also led him to push to build the UC San Diego campus in the 1960s.

Later in life, and bolstered by years of expertise, Munk brought attention to climate change and conferred with figures like Pope Francis and the Dalai Lama to advocate for action. His work earned him the National Medal of Science and the Kyoto Prize.

In his honor, I have proclaimed October 19 Walter Munk World Oceans Day in California's 52nd Congressional District.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF STEVE CHAZEN

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

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, friends and family will gather to celebrate the extraordinary life of Steve Chazen. As they do, I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Pat, and his entire family.

The Steve I knew was a transformational leader, proud of his country and devoted to his loving family and community. His impact on Kern County and across America was enormous.

As a champion of American energy, he saw the value of investing in the Kern County oil patch. In 1998, he organized a masterful deal to purchase the Elk Hills Strategic Petroleum Reserve in my congressional district in California. It was a huge gamble, but it paid off. Today, Kern County is renowned for its energy production, largely because of the hard work of our oil workers and our embrace of innovative technologies.

The Elk Hills deal captures the essence of Steve's long and storied career. He was a trendsetter, not a trend follower. Others took cues, Steve took smart risks.

With his intellect and vision, his guts and wit, and his candor, Steve delivered an industry and helped deliver American global energy leadership.

I also appreciate that he didn't mince words. His quips were legendary. He famously said, "Houston had bad weather and good people. L.A. has great weather."

By the time we met, Steve was already a titan in industry, but I also saw another important side of Steve. I saw his boundless generosity. Here is the truth: Steve was a relentless philanthropist. When he wasn't working, he was giving back to his community.

Education, medicine, and environment, these are just a few of the many areas that benefited from Steve's unselfish support. His impact was profound. The most notable part is, Steve didn't care about getting the credit. He was a great leader, but an even greater person.

Finally, let me say a word about Steve's selfless patriotism. For several years, Steve served his country as a canine handler in the Vietnam war. He didn't talk about it much, but he was a decorated veteran. In Vietnam, Steve and his scout dog would find and disable land mines in front of the rest of his unit.

Dog handlers like Steve were so effective that they were special targets for the enemy. Only 13 of the 113 brave soldiers who trained with Steve returned home. Yet because of their courage, more than 10,000 American lives were saved. Imagine for a moment if the Vietnam Memorial had another 10,000 names on it.

Whether it was his visionary leadership, his philosophy, his pride in America, or his deep love for Pat, Steve was a great man. His life is an enduring example of leadership and service, a reminder of our duty to help one another.

As we celebrate his life and lasting impact, let's lift up Pat and the entire Chazen family in our prayers, and let's dedicate ourselves to continuing the lessons Steve instilled in us to improve our country.

SUSPENDING REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS

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

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I proposed H.R. 8331 to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to temporarily suspend required minimum distribution rules for certain retirement plans and accounts.

I would like to briefly discuss these. These distributions are generally minimum amounts that retirement plan account owners must withdraw annually or else they pay a penalty. The amount to be distributed is calculated based on the account balance as of December 31 of the previous year.

Since the market was nearly at an all-time high at the end of 2021, and it has dropped more than 20 percent, the distributions from 2022 are disproportionately high. While this administration pushes more terrible inflationary policies that hurt our market, it is our retirees who are suffering the consequences most from this downturn.

I have introduced this bill to waive the required minimum distributions for 2022, much like this body did in 2020 in the CARES Act when the government shut down our economy.

My office has received countless phone calls, not just from my constituents, but from American retirees all over the country who are demanding that Congress address this issue. I hope we can get something done by the end of the year.

BRING OUR HOSTAGES HOME

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as we begin to take our work recess and engage with constituents, families, young people—in Texas sports are sort of the heart of our State, we love our Friday night football—I want us to think of a young woman who did everything right.

Brittney Griner, her father was a Vietnam vet, grew up in Houston, Texas, went to high school in my district, was quiet but an outstanding athlete. Athletes are holistic persons with many talents. She even did better than that, graduating from Baylor University and becoming a two-time Olympian.

I guess the Russians realized how important a person she is. She is now in a cage in Russia, as many of our hostages are in Iran and Russia. Putin, I believe, thinks that this is his own special pawn, a 6-foot-9-inch young woman in a cage.

I ask my colleagues as they go home to their families to remember to tweet out to bring Brittney Griner home and direct it to Putin to stop the cruelty.

Bring Brittney Griner and Paul Whelan and all of our hostages home.

COMMEMORATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF BARSTOW, CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the city of Barstow, California.

Barstow got its genesis in 1947 as a key stop on Route 66 and has since grown to form an iconic part of California's diverse landscape. It is the home of the BNSF rail yard, one of the most important logistics hubs in our rail system.

It is also the home of the Marine Corps Logistics Base at Barstow, as well as the transit point for every piece of equipment and soldier who trains at the Army's National Training Center in Fort Irwin, where almost all of our soldiers who were deployed to Afghanistan have gotten their training.

As Route 66 approaches its 100th birthday, I have no doubt that Barstow will continue to be a key component of the Mojave Desert's diverse infrastructure and economy.

I join Barstow Mayor Paul Courtney in wishing the city a very happy birthday and many years of prosperity in the future.

REPUBLICANS WILL RESTORE FISCAL SANITY

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, the American people have one thing on their minds, and that is inflation. So let's talk about it.

Inflation is caused by a rapid increase in the money supply, the kind of increase that only follows a drastic rise in government spending. Since Inauguration Day, Biden and the Democrats have passed nearly \$4 trillion in new spending.

For reference, that is almost all the money we brought in last year, and we

had record revenues. It is all out the door before we even fund the government. But that is not all. Through his executive orders, Biden has singlehandedly spent another \$1.5 trillion.

This reckless spending has set off an economic crisis the likes of which we have never seen. The average American family will spend an extra \$8,000 this year just to keep pace with rising prices. For most Georgians, that is almost 2 months' pay.

The current majority has dug us deeper and deeper into debt. It is time to stop digging.

Republicans will put an end to this recklessness and restore fiscal sanity to the people's House.

WAKE UP, AMERICA

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, from time to time we talk about the crisis at the border, but we still don't talk about it enough. A lot of times I get people saying, well, maybe these are all wonderful people, maybe they will get a job. It is still a big problem because you are having people skip in line ahead of people who are doing things right.

But something came out in the last few weeks that ought to have people really mad—it maybe should even wake up the Biden administration, who has done so much, I think, to permanently damage this country—and that is news that Venezuela may be sending people here out of their prisons.

Can you imagine any quicker way to ruin America than to accept people from other countries who are emptying out their prisons?

But that is apparently what is going on.

And nothing is done. We still have over 150,000 people a month crossing the border, even now, knowing that probably we are getting people who are committing crimes, heinous crimes in Venezuela, and sending them here, and the communist government of Venezuela, I am sure, is laughing all the way.

Please, America, and, please, our comatose press corps, wake up and educate America that we may be ruined because we have criminals coming here from Venezuela and allowed to cross the border.

JOE HIGGINS AWARDED MARNE ROCKSTAR AWARD

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Joe Higgins, chairman of the Veterans of Chatham County organization, for being awarded the Marne Rockstar Award.