

Philadelphia is a city of neighborhoods, and Jim works with character, generosity, and a deep love of all of his neighbors. He did not hesitate when asked to moderate a free library discussion about our family's book on addiction and recovery.

Jim Gardner has provided stability through uncertainty, from things electoral to environmental, and lift through our joys, like the current Eagles season.

For 45 years, Jim has been our Walter Cronkite with his signature mustache.

We will miss you in our living rooms, Jim, delivering the news with honesty, integrity, and respect. We wish you, America's anchor, a happy retirement. Thank you, Jim.

#### WELCOMING JULIAN BIDDLE PENDARVIS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to congressional foreign policy adviser Stephanie Pendarvis and her husband, Julian Hunter Pendarvis, on the birth of their first child, a boy.

Julian Biddle Pendarvis was born at 2:03 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington. He weighed 5 pounds, 10.5 ounces, and measured 18.75 inches long.

Stephanie has long been a valued member of the congressional team and has not only been instrumental in getting important policy legislation through the House but a positive influence on the staff and those around her. I know she and her husband will pass those fine qualities to baby Julian.

Additionally, I offer congratulations to the extended Biddle and Pendarvis families on the newest addition to their team.

In conclusion, God bless Ukraine and President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Putin's Iranian drones attacked yesterday the key district I visited Saturday on a codel. Fortunately, the people of Ukraine have destroyed in the last week 85 percent of Putin's missiles and drones.

#### REMEMBERING THE SANDY HOOK TRAGEDY

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 20 innocent little children and 6 brave teachers who were taken from their families 10 years ago today at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

I truthfully can't even comprehend the immense pain that these families must have felt and continue to feel every day.

I never want another family to experience this type of loss. That is why we

must remain committed to ending the gun violence epidemic that plagues our country.

Earlier this year, House Democrats passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which President Biden swiftly signed into law. It will save lives by funding violence prevention programs at schools, expanding background checks for those under 21 years of age, strengthening mental health resources, and so much more, but the fight is not over.

I promise to continue fighting until we are all saved from gun violence because we owe this to the victims of gun violence, their families, and their children.

We will always put children over the NRA. We will always put people over politics.

#### RECOGNIZING CHARLIE BOURG

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

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Charlie Bourg.

Charlie lives in Chewelah, a small town in northeastern Washington. He is an Army veteran. He served in Vietnam, and he is a fierce advocate for his fellow men and women who have served in the Armed Forces.

Charlie also has terminal cancer. He received the devastating news months ago after a yearlong delay in receiving care from the Spokane VA due to a broken electronic health record system.

This could have been prevented. He should have more time to spend with his wife, Debi, his children, and his grandchildren. My heart breaks for them.

Charlie is here sharing his story this week, and I would like to make him a promise: No matter how long it takes, we will fix this system.

You will be the reason that it never happens again. You will not be forgotten. Matthew 28:11 says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join in recognizing Charlie Bourg. He is an incredible American and an even better husband, father, and grandfather.

#### RECOGNIZING THE KELLER FAMILY

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share the story of an admirable family in my district who has provided decades of service to their friends and neighbors through the U.S. Postal Service.

John Keller worked at the U.S. Postal Service for 34 years, including 15 years as postmaster of the Ridley Park Post Office.

Now retired, his twin sons, Joe and Mike Keller, have worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 23 years each and are now both postmasters in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District.

Our Postal Service is an essential part of our Nation's infrastructure. The Postal Service delivers medicine to veterans, birthday presents from grandma, and, even in this day and age, holiday greetings from friends across the world.

The Postal Service keeps us connected with our communities, families and friends, businesses, nonprofits, and public agencies all over the country, and provides jobs to over 500,000 Americans; 3,000 in Pennsylvania's Fifth District alone.

We are so grateful to the Keller family and to all of our Postal Service workers for everything they do for us every day.

#### RENEWABLE ENERGY DOESN'T DO THE WHOLE JOB

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, nuclear power, hydropower, biofuels, solar, and wind are all positive sources of energy. They take advantage of available resources and bring high-paying technical jobs to rural areas, especially.

However, forcing people into renewable sources of energy only will not help families immediately heat their homes this winter or next.

Right now, in California, renewable energy accounts for roughly one-third of our power grid, depending on whether or not you count hydroelectric power, which large power plants aren't counted, for some arbitrary reason in our State.

Each summer, we face rolling blackouts throughout the State. Each winter, mountain towns face power shortages due to snowstorms knocking down power lines.

At this moment, natural gas and oil remain by far the most efficient and affordable sources of energy, a fact that the Biden administration must accept.

Renewable energy won't do the whole job. Yet, what are they doing? They are attacking oil and gas, which is based on some idea of CO<sub>2</sub>. I remind you that CO<sub>2</sub> is only 0.04 percent of our atmosphere. It is dwarfed by all the others. Even trace gases are about equal.

Yet, we are hell-bent on getting rid of CO<sub>2</sub> and making people unable to use the energy they need, do their jobs, heat their homes, et cetera.

#### REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF SANDY HOOK

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

Mrs. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, Charlotte Bacon, Daniel Barden, Rachel Davino, Olivia Engel, Josephine Gay, Ana M.

Marquez-Greene, Dylan Hockley, Dawn Hochsprung, Madeleine F. Hsu, Catherine V. Hubbard, Chase Kowalski, Jesse Lewis, James Mattioli, Grace McDonnell, Anne Marie Murphy, Emilie Parker, Jack Pinto, Noah Pozner, Caroline Previdi, Jessica Rekos, Avielle Richman, Lauren Rousseau, Mary Sherlach, Victoria Soto, Benjamin Wheeler, Allison N. Wyatt.

Those are the names of the 20 children and 6 adults who were killed at Sandy Hook 10 years ago today. I want them to know we will never forget them, and we will continue to honor their memory with our action.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF BRIAN HYLAND

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

Mr. SEMPOLINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Chemung County, New York, legislator Brian J. Hyland.

Brian was an extraordinary, talented, kind, and interesting man. He was appointed to the Chemung County Legislature in 2011.

Brian was a dedicated public servant and worked tirelessly to help his constituents. There was no job too big or too small for Legislator Hyland.

Brian was also a teacher and mentor at Tioga Tae Kwon Do in Waverly, New York, where he used more than 60 years in martial arts to teach hundreds of students how to be the best version of themselves.

He was a businessman, a community leader, and, above all else, a family man. His wife, Suzanne, was the love of his life. He took immense pride in his six children, including my legislative director, Tom Hyland. He cared deeply for his sister and helped all those around him to succeed.

Brian will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

#### HONORING JOE LILES

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary work and upcoming retirement of Joe Liles, a law enforcement officer with the Ouachita National Forest.

Joe has faithfully served Arkansas for 30 years, going above and beyond in each mission to loyally serve the people of Arkansas.

Throughout his successful career, Joe received many awards, including the "Delivering Benefits to the Public" award at the 2019 Regional Foresters Honor Awards for his heroic efforts in locating and recovering a lost hiker in the Caney Creek Wilderness.

Joe's humble nature and hard-working spirit made him a vital part of the Ouachita National Forest. I speak

for all Arkansans when I say thank you for your service and wish you the best in retirement.

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#### CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

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

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 30th anniversary of the Central Utah Project Completion Act—an absolute game changer for Utah's water optimization and conservatory efforts.

Our State is the fastest growing economy per capita, and our population will double by 2065. Historic drought is crippling States like Utah, which reminds us that water truly is the lifeblood of the West.

The Central Utah Project plays an integral role in efficient and innovative water use and conservation measures to meet the demands of our booming population and economy.

Since this act became law 30 years ago, the Central Utah Project has ramped up water delivery to 1.5 million Utahns daily. This remarkable accomplishment would not be possible without the tireless work of Utahns.

I am committed to working hand in hand with local, State, and Federal partners to ensure Utah remains on the right track. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone.

#### INFLATION HURTS

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, the latest inflation numbers are in. Inflation has increased 7.1 percent in the last year, and in my home State of Pennsylvania, it has increased 12 percent.

Despite the Biden administration celebrating, nobody in my district is celebrating. There is no celebrating when my constituents go to the grocery store, the gas station, and when they pay their home heating bills. They feel this pain every day.

This inflation has primarily been caused by the assault on our domestic energy and excessive government spending. We are now in discussions on our appropriations bill.

Mr. Speaker, not only is the plan to add over 7 percent to compensate for inflation—which was originally created by such excessive spending—we are now going to double down and spend hundreds of billions of dollars in excess of pre-COVID levels. In fact, the Government funding bill being discussed is 25 percent more than prepandemic levels and 10 percent more than last year.

There is no merit to this continued spending spree. It will only further drive inflation and grow our deficit which, in turn, incurs more interest to

be paid on our debt. All the while the Fed is increasing interest rates to further burden my constituents and to also dampen our economy.

This is absolutely "gas backwards" policy.

#### CONGRATULATING NATALIE NAVARRETE

(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 to congratulate the University of Georgia's Natalie Navarrete for being named a 2023 Rhodes Scholar, an honor received by only the most outstanding young minds from around the world.

As many of you know, the Rhodes Scholarship is the oldest and most celebrated international fellowship award in the world. To be recognized with such an honor is synonymous with the qualities typical of the brightest people this country has to offer: hard-working, brilliant, and boundary pushing.

Natalie is no exception. A Morehead Honors College student and foundation fellow at the University of Georgia, Natalie is pursuing degrees in international affairs, Russian, Spanish, and Latin American and Caribbean studies.

She will continue her studies at the University of Oxford in October where she plans to pursue a master's degree in Russian and Eastern European studies. I have no doubt that she will continue to excel in these studies and make important breakthroughs in her field.

I join the entire University of Georgia family in congratulating Natalie on this truly extraordinary achievement. Her success is a testament to world-class opportunities offered by the University of Georgia, and I am confident that she will continue to make us all proud for years to come.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1948, VA EMPLOYEE FAIRNESS ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 3905, PREVENTING ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN FEDERAL ACQUISITION ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 4003, LAW ENFORCEMENT DE-ESCALATION TRAINING ACT OF 2022; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1437, PROVIDING RESEARCH AND ESTIMATES OF CHANGES IN PRECIPITATION ACT; RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 2617, PERFORMANCE ENHANCEMENT REFORM ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1518 and ask for its immediate consideration