

of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 140) to amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit Federal employees from advocating for censorship of viewpoints in their official capacity, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF OLA COX

(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 today to celebrate the 100th birthday of Ola Cox.

Ola is a lifelong resident of Venango County, Pennsylvania, where she continues to make history in her own right over the last century. She has broken gender barriers, supported community endeavors, and brought a global perspective home.

Born in Pittsville, Pennsylvania, Ola graduated high school at 16 years old and enlisted in the Navy WAVES. After returning from naval service during World War II, she married Lester "Boone" Cox and started a family.

Ola continued to break gender barriers as a working mom beside her husband at their Franklin Print Shop. In Ola's 100 years of life, she has countless stories, from their working farm to raising four children.

Following her time in the print shop, she worked at Oakwood Rose Gardens, served as the township tax collector, and frequently volunteered in her community and with her church, the Rockland Methodist Church. She also traveled the world.

Mr. Speaker, Ola is a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She cared for her dear husband and spent countless hours with her children and great-grandchildren so they could learn and understand the importance of family, community, and the world.

I thank Ola for her service to our country and her dedication to our community.

CELEBRATING COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate March as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths nationwide, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This year, more than 153,000 Americans will be diagnosed with the disease, and more than 51,000 people will die from it. Yet, if we catch it early, 90 percent of patients can survive within 5 years.

The key is awareness and education. If we can educate more Americans

about colorectal cancer, we can limit the number of deaths from it. We can remove the fears and stigmas that prevent people from getting screenings.

It is 11 years, 2 days ago, on March 6, that I lost my father, Congressman Donald Payne, Sr., to colorectal cancer.

If more people get screened, we can prevent more families, more fathers, more mothers, more sisters, and more brothers from succumbing from the dreaded disease.

PARENTS HAVE SACRED ROLE IN RAISING THEIR CHILDREN

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, parents have a God-given right and role in the raising of their children.

When they send their kids to the public schools, they expect the schools to deliver a quality education to their children in order to prepare them for success in the future. Unfortunately, government schools have abused this trust and have been indoctrinating children with far-left lies and poisoning their minds with woke gender ideology.

School administrators and teachers unions seem to think they own America's children, that they alone have the right to decide what these children think and believe, and that they alone should be the sole authority in a child's life.

Schools across this country have been caught trying to convince vulnerable teenagers that their bodies are wrong, filling their heads with lies and convincing them to see their parents as enemies. This line of thinking is morally wrong.

In my own district, a school district is being sued by a parent for secretly changing her daughter's pronouns and identity without her parent's knowledge or consent. Woke administrators have no moral authority to experiment with children's minds in this way.

Parents have a moral right to be involved in their children's education and should never be kept in the dark about issues that their child is going through at school.

Congress must take action to enshrine parental rights over their children.

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CONGRATULATING EWING TOWNSHIP GIRLS' BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my alma mater, Ewing High School, on winning the NJSIAA 2022-2023 Group 3 girls' basketball championship—and their first State title in 24 years.

Their hard-fought victory comes after months of diligent work, consistent growth, and exceptional achievement.

I hope this big win instills in them the confidence and determination to succeed in any challenge that comes their way. There is no obstacle that these young women cannot overcome.

I hope head coach Dan Montferrat and the girls' basketball team are celebrating their accomplishment and enjoying this exciting time.

I wish Ewing High School all the best, and, as always, go Blue Devils.

OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, I had the chance to visit the southern border for the very first time. It was truly educational.

I thank the people of southeast Texas who showed me the true impact of what it means to have an open border.

President Biden and his administration officials continue to tell the American people that the border is secure.

Tell that to the families of two Americans who were killed this week by a Mexican cartel.

Tell that to the record number of parents who have lost kids to fentanyl that was brought over the border.

Tell that to the countless public officials we met on that trip who were pleading with us to say that they are just overloaded. Their facilities are overcapacity, and they need help.

Mr. Speaker, I have been to the border, and tonight I am here to tell you that it is not secure.

Mr. Speaker, you know that it is not just a Texas problem; it is America's problem. We need to secure the border. Our national security depends on it.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY TRAILBLAZER: BESSIE COLEMAN

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on International Women's Day to honor a trailblazer.

Mr. Speaker, Bessie Coleman inspired women to reach for their dreams just as she did soaring through the skies as the first African-American and first Native-American woman pilot. She continued to follow her dreams no matter how often those around her told her not to or to find a different path.

She wanted to be a role model so that future generations of women are inspired to accomplish whatever they set their minds to accomplish.

Because of Ms. Coleman, 21 women at Elizabeth City State University, located in my district, now have hands-on flight simulation, interactive panel

conversations, aviation program tours, and more as part of the Bessie Coleman Aviator Academy for Women.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, was inspired by Bessie Coleman. We must continue to celebrate and cherish Ms. Coleman for all she has done and for her contributions to women's history and American history.

HONORING LIEUTENANT RUTH COUGHLIN, TENNESSEE'S SECOND DISTRICT'S MARCH 2023 VETERAN OF THE MONTH

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lieutenant Ruth Coughlin, an American hero who served in the Navy faithfully from 1953 to 1958.

Lieutenant Coughlin was born in Spartanburg, South Carolina. After high school, she went to St. Vincent's Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama, where she graduated as a registered nurse. From 1944 to 1953, she worked in private practice in ophthalmology and oral surgery practices.

In 1953, she joined the Navy as a Lieutenant Junior Grade and was stationed in Maryland at Bethesda Hospital. During her career she served as a nurse aboard a medical ship that made 32 round trips crossing the Atlantic Ocean from Brooklyn, New York, to north Germany. In 1957, she was reassigned to the U.S. Naval Hospital in Corona, California, where she met her husband, Dennis.

They moved to Knoxville and raised five children together. She will be turning a very young 100 years old this month. I think it is very appropriate during International Women's Day that we honor her.

So happy birthday, Ruth.

Our country's heroes are the men and women of our Armed Forces, like Lieutenant Ruth Coughlin, who has dedicated her life to the service of her country. It is my honor to recognize Lieutenant Coughlin as the Tennessee Second District's March 2023 Veteran of the Month.

FACTS ABOUT OUR DEBT CEILING

(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 today to lay out a few facts about the debt ceiling.

Raising the debt ceiling is about meeting obligations the government has already made and has nothing to do with new spending.

Since World War I, we have raised the debt ceiling under every single President—every single President.

So let's remember a few facts: The national debt under the Trump administration rose significantly by \$8 trillion, a total of roughly 25 percent of

the entire debt at the time he left office. That is one-quarter of the entire debt by President Trump.

Republicans voted three times—three times—to raise the debt limit under the Trump administration.

So where was the Republican outrage then?

President Biden has lowered the deficit by \$1.7 trillion during the first 2 years of office and has a plan to reduce it even more.

Mr. Speaker, yet House Republicans used their very first bill to hand a giveaway to big corporations and billionaires that cheat on their taxes, adding an explosive \$114 billion to the deficit, and still no plan to reduce debt. House Democrats put people over politics, solutions over rhetoric.

HIRZEL CANNING COMPANY AT 100 YEARS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to say hurray and recognize a northwestern Ohio institution, Hirzel Canning Company and Farms, on its 100th anniversary.

Headquartered in Northwood, Ohio, the Hirzel family rose from humble beginnings to become a major player in the national canned produce market, particularly canned tomato products. They are the best you will ever eat.

Carl Hirzel was a Swiss immigrant who lost his job as a brewer during Prohibition and moved to northwest Ohio to find opportunity. In 1923, he began farming a 60-acre plot in what is now Northwood.

He initially had trouble selling fresh products in the established produce market, until a local butcher who liked his sauerkraut told him there was an untapped canned vegetable market.

As their CEO, Joe Hirzel, always says, "Whatever you guys do, do not forget quality." That is the Hirzel way.

So today with plants in Northwood, Pemberville, and Ottawa, and a farming operation near Luckey, Hirzel now distributes in 36 States nationwide. Their company is top quality, grown right in northern Ohio, and especially top quality are the people who operate and work there.

I just want to congratulate Hirzel again. Our entire region is so very, very proud of them and all of their accomplishments.

SYRIA WAR POWERS RESOLUTION

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

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support Congress' restoring its constitutional authority over matters of war and peace.

No matter what else we are discussing here today, the plain and simple truth is that Congress has not au-

thorized military presence in Syria. For far too long, we in Congress have neglected this key Article I responsibility.

If my colleagues believe that we need the military in Syria, then they should author an AUMF. They should debate that in committee, and they should bring it to a vote on the floor. We must not continue to hand over power to the executive branch when the politics get too difficult.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support today's resolution.

IRAN STUDENT POISONINGS

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

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, schools aren't battle zones, but Iranian students are caught in the crossfire.

In recent months, a chain of chemical attacks have hit Iran's schools. Although the motive is unclear, girls and young women have been the clear target. Hundreds of schoolgirls have been poisoned, and an 11-year-old was killed.

As a mother, I share the anger and frustration of every parent too fearful to send their kids to class.

Iranians deserve answers and accountability, but their government remains silent. The regime cares more about covering up these attacks than stopping them. Iranian authorities have falsified medical reports and spread disinformation. They have even intimidated parents of victims to keep their stories from the press.

I stand with these parents demanding a full investigation and a quick end to these attacks. The United States must stand with them and every Iranian demanding a future free of violence.

DEMOCRATIC AND SAFE ELECTIONS IN NIGERIA

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor where I am always reminded of the privileges of this Nation. That is why we fight so hard to end voter suppression, oppression, and the denial of the right to vote.

This institution is the cradle of democracy. This past weekend we were in Selma, Alabama, where really the first start of democracy and the right to vote was reignited in the 20th century.

As Nigeria, our ally and friend, begins to look at its national elections, I call upon the Nigerian diaspora to insist on democratic and safe elections and to be assured that the count is accurate and that the people's voices are counted.

As the chair of the Nigerian Caucus in the United States Congress, I must insist that our ally gives the same rights and privileges that we fight for in the United States: the unfettered right to vote and for the vote to count.