

and opportunities they need so they could succeed, as well.

Rest in peace, Conen.

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**CONGRATULATING CHAMBERSBURG HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD**

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chambersburg High School on winning the PIAA boys' track and field championship this past week at Shippensburg University.

Under the leadership of Coach Bob Walker, Chambersburg outdistanced their competition on the way to scoring 48 points and claiming the team's first-ever State championship.

Coach Walker has consistently worked with student athletes to demonstrate that there are no shortcuts to success. Practice, hard work, and determination are the hallmarks of what has made this an incredible team.

Chambersburg's commitment to academic excellence is an example of how student athletes can be supported both on and off the track.

On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate the Chambersburg High School Trojans and wish them every continued success.

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**HIGHLIGHTING SOCIAL MOBILITY AND CSUSM**

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to highlight California State University San Marcos, located in my district in San Diego County.

Recently, the university was ranked number one in the Nation in the 2022 Social Mobility Index out of 14,000 colleges and universities.

This annual index measures the opportunities universities provide economically disadvantaged and first-generation students to graduate into well-paying jobs.

With approximately 80 percent of their students remaining in our region after graduation, the university's success is a major benefit to the San Diego region.

California State University San Marcos has opened its doors wide and welcomed students of all backgrounds: 54 percent of students are the first in their family to attend college; 40 percent have high financial need; 12 percent are military-affiliated; and the campus has the highest enrollment of former foster youth per capita in the Nation.

Through teaching hard skills and providing a world-class STEM education, California State University San Marcos drives upward social and economic mobility. We should encourage

universities across the Nation to look to this institution as an example of how to put student success first.

I congratulate California State University San Marcos and President Neufeldt. I am proud they are serving the citizens of my district, and I look forward to seeing the ongoing success of their graduates in our region and beyond.

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**ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A FIFTH GRADER?**

(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 fifth grade students from Mid-Prairie Middle School in Kalona, Iowa, for serving as an excellent example of how young Americans can have a positive impact on their communities. They spent the last few months learning about financial literacy and entrepreneurship by starting their own endeavor selling candy to other students in the district, with the goal of donating their profits to a local animal shelter.

What the students and teachers didn't know when they started the business was how successful it would become. With an initial goal of raising \$100, they blew everyone away when they presented their grand total of \$750 to the local shelter this past Tuesday. The money will go toward saving the lives of countless animals in need of a home.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have such bright young entrepreneurs in my district. When they ask if you are smarter than a fifth grader, I would say to look to Kalona Mid-Prairie Middle School.

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**HONORING THE LIFE OF CONEN MORGAN**

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

Mrs. FOUSHÉE. Mr. Speaker, with a heavy heart, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring the memory of Mr. Conen Morgan, an extraordinary North Carolinian who was taken from us far too soon.

Conen was a steadfast advocate for equity and played a pivotal role in shaping North Carolina politics as a renowned political consultant and a founding member of Advance North Carolina.

He was a remarkable human being and had the unique ability to inspire and touch the lives of everyone he encountered through his kindness, compassion, and genuine care for others.

Conen's leadership, passion, and tireless efforts will have a lasting impact and will leave a profound void in many folks across North Carolina that will be felt for years to come.

I am immensely honored to have known Conen, both personally and professionally. Indeed, he was my friend. I

extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Reyna Walters-Morgan, and his family, friends, and loved ones.

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**RECOGNIZING FIRST-EVER JMU VALLEY SCHOLARS GRADUATING CLASS**

(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 to recognize the first-ever graduating class from the Valley Scholars program at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Between eighth grade and high school graduation, potential first-generation college students are recruited as scholars from surrounding public school districts, and they engage in educational and cultural enrichment activities.

During the Valley Scholars program, students are encouraged and motivated to become leaders in the classroom and the community while building skills that will increase awareness and access to institutions of higher education.

With the goal of receiving scholarship support to attend JMU, the students have the opportunity to be the first in their families to earn college degrees.

Virginia's Sixth District is incredibly proud of these talented students for their hard work to achieve their American Dream.

I congratulate the first graduating class of Valley Scholars and their families back home. America can't wait to see what the future has in store for them.

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**FIGHTING FOR VETERANS**

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

Mr. Speaker, extreme Republicans have been dead set on demanding harmful cuts that would be disastrous for the American people. If they didn't get their way, they threatened to default on our economy.

In fact, Republicans demanded: a 22 percent cut to veterans' healthcare; to make essential toxic exposure and burn pits funding discretionary so that veterans would have to come hat in hand to the Federal Government every year; and to zero out funding for the PACT Act's toxic exposure fund or use it for other purposes.

Republicans were willing to cause an economic default that would have raised costs for families, cut one million jobs for workers, and cost seniors their retirement, if they didn't get their way.

Now, under these horrendous circumstances, the House today will vote on a bipartisan budget agreement. Under President Biden's leadership, this bill saved veterans' healthcare

from Republicans' harmful cuts and prevented an economic disaster for the American people.

This bill will fully fund the PACT Act's toxic exposure fund for veterans exposed to burn pits with an increase of \$15 billion, and it makes this funding mandatory. That is why I will vote "yes" today.

#### REMEMBERING DR. ALLAN BERNSTEIN

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

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Dr. Allan Bernstein, a former Tustin mayor known as "Doc". He passed away on May 24, 2023.

Dr. Bernstein devoted many years to serving the city of Tustin, serving on the city council from 2012 to 2020 and as mayor in 2017 and also in 2020. He also served on several State and county boards and committees.

He was committed to seeing Tustin thrive and always looked after the best interests of his residents, businesses, and staff.

Doc was a dear friend of mine, and I know he truly cared about the Tustin community. I join our Tustin community in mourning his passing and send my deepest condolences to his wife, Randi; son and daughter-in-law, Adam and Karlee; and his mother, Ruth.

#### OHIO ENERGY RATE HIKES

(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 today to address an immense burden being shifted onto Ohio electric ratepayers beginning this week while Congress works to prevent a national default.

Ohio customers who buy electricity directly from disgraced FirstEnergy Corporation may see rates increase by as much as 47 percent starting in June.

If your energy bill is \$50, you will now pay \$73.50 a month. If your bill is \$100 a month on average, you will pay \$147 per month. These new rates will last through May of 2024.

The State of Ohio seems to have no problem with a system where FirstEnergy, a criminal nuclear enterprise, can shift \$1.3 billion in their losses to ratepayers. When it comes time to pay its taxes, the company has an effective tax rate of negative 1.3 percent. Then FirstEnergy bilks millions more from the Federal Government instead of paying its fair share.

As Ohio families struggle to keep up with inflation, put food on the table, and pay for childcare, FirstEnergy is squeezing consumers to pay for its criminal behavior. For shame. This corruption cannot stand.

#### RECOGNIZING GENERAL RANDY GEORGE

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

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize General Randy George, a native of Alden, Iowa, who was recently nominated to be the next Army Chief of Staff. This is a tremendous and well-deserved honor for General George.

General George served our Nation both in Iraq and Afghanistan. He is a decorated military hero, having earned a Purple Heart and Defense Distinguished Service Medal, among many other accolades.

General George exemplifies distinguished and selfless service. It is only because of brave Americans like General George that we can wave our American flag, we can speak freely, and we can practice the religion that we choose.

I am hopeful that his service inspires the next generation of Iowans and Americans to answer our Nation's call.

General George has made his hometown of Alden, Iowa, and the entire Hawkeye State proud.

#### CLEAN DEBT BILL

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

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in awe of Republicans' ability to hijack our economy and put lives at risk.

We should be voting on a clean debt limit bill, not a quasi-budget bill that began with their phony default on America act.

They usurped a legitimate policy process to get gains they knew would never make it across the finish line. This has been about a vengeful GOP party chomping at the bit for retribution and willing to push our country to the brink of economic catastrophe.

Let's not forget where we started. Republicans wanted to cut food benefits, eliminate healthcare, and take away benefits from veterans.

I want to know how they can say they stand for this Republic and the American people, when their actions say the opposite. They have proven what they were willing to do to our families and the global economy.

They think they are drawing blood from Democrats, but really, they are exacting their pound of flesh from the American people. If that is what they stand for, then like the Speaker votes, later today should be easy for them.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF FAUSTO G. DIAZ

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

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my constituent and friend, Fausto G. Diaz.

A fellow member of the Christopher Columbus High School family, Fausto was a successful Cuban-American entrepreneur and job creator who, along with parents Remedios and Fausto and sister Rosie, took their business to new heights.

Fausto was deeply patriotic, loved this country and never forgot about his parents' native homeland of Cuba. He was a tireless advocate for Cuba's freedom and the importance of keeping sanctions on the brutal regime that strangles the island.

Above all, Fausto was a loving son, brother, father, grandfather, and uncle who was so proud of his growing family.

Fausto passed away unexpectedly on the morning of Tuesday, May 30, but his legacy lives on in his children, Jacqueline and Fausto; and grandchildren, Victor and Katherine.

Rest easy, my friend.

#### REMEMBERING CONEN MORGAN

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

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and stand in solidarity with my fellow North Carolina delegation members to honor and remember the life and legacy of Conen Morgan.

Conen was a friend and a giant in the world of North Carolina political advocacy and public policy. He had an uncanny ability to connect with people from all walks of life, bridging divides and fostering a sense of unity.

He wanted everyone to have access to the American Dream. His passion in life was to work for fairness and equity.

Conen left this world a brighter place for current and future generations of North Carolinians. May we find strength in each other as we remember the profound impact Conen Morgan made in our lives, and may we strive to carry forward his legacy of compassion, dedication, and tireless advocacy.

#### RESTORING FISCAL SANITY

(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, today on behalf of all Americans, the House will be voting on the Fiscal Responsibility Act to restore fiscal sanity and hold Washington accountable.

Yesterday, a New York Post editorial acknowledged that the debt limit deal from Speaker KEVIN McCARTHY is a win for the Nation.

It advances the GOP's control-spending agenda significantly, on multiple fronts. Most crucially, it starts reducing Federal outlays immediately and it