

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in keeping Don's beloved wife, Carolyn, and his children, Dawn and Jonathan, in our thoughts and prayers.

May they find solace in knowing Don's legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of those who had the honor of knowing him.

BLIZZARD OF REGULATION

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of discussion going on this week about regulation. As we go home for this 3-day weekend, I encourage my colleagues, as they get around their district, whether they run into people who are in farming, in manufacturing, in banking—particularly in the nursing home field—to ask those folks about the difference between regulatory rules that they live under today and 30 years ago. How many more man-hours are they spending every week filling out government forms that does nothing to make their bank or farm or manufacturing facility run better.

I think you will find them saying that they never would have gone into business in the first place if they knew about this blizzard of regulation, that they could not have swallowed it all at once but had to take a drip, drip, drip over 20 years.

In any event, I encourage my colleagues to get out to a different group that they normally don't deal with, the businessmen and -women—the farmer, manufacturer, nursing home, banker—and they will find out that our country is unquestionably poor because of the sea of people we have filling out paperwork every week.

ILWU/PMA TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

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

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend both the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, the ILWU, and the Pacific Maritime Association, the PMA, for reaching a new 6-year contract just last night for 22,000 workers across 29 West Coast ports.

This agreement is critical for our economy and recognizes the heroic work of all frontline dock workers, who worked tirelessly throughout our entire supply chain crisis to move our economy forward.

As mayor of Long Beach, I oversaw our port, which supports 2.6 million jobs across the country. As co-chair of the Ports Caucus, I am proud to have worked with both sides throughout the entire bargaining process. This deal would not have been possible without the work of President Biden and Acting Labor Secretary Julie Su.

Julie's engagement was key and proved why she should be confirmed swiftly by the Senate.

This news builds upon Tuesday's report that showed inflation has fallen for 11 months in a row.

Our ports will continue to fight inflation and bring back jobs.

HONORING OUR COURAGEOUS SERVICEMEMBERS WITH THE FLAG ACT

(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, on behalf of the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country, I introduce the bipartisan Honor and Remember Flag Recognition Act of 2023 with Representative JEN KIGGANS of Virginia.

Currently, 27 States, including North Carolina, have adopted this symbol in honor of those killed in action. By supporting the Honor and Remember Flag Recognition Act, we can help the families of these fallen servicemembers find closure.

On behalf of these families, I ask all Members of Congress to support this vital legislation. Together, let us affirm our unwavering commitment to honoring and remembering our courageous and brave heroes who have given their lives for our freedom and democracy.

HONORING SANDY TORRES FOR HER WORK AND SERVICE

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and the work of Sandy Torres for a lifetime of commitment and service to Santa Ana Unified School District.

Sandy was born and raised in Orange County, and Sandy attended local Santa Ana schools. She started working at Madison Elementary School when she graduated from college in 1982.

Mr. Speaker, 40 years later, she is still there, working and helping children learn to become good citizens.

She has been a three-time recipient of the Madison School Employee of the Year Award and was recognized last year as a classified employee of Santa Ana Unified.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to nominate her as my Congressional Woman of the Year.

We thank Sandy for a lifetime of service, and we honor her commitment.

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COMMEMORATING THE LEGACY OF JESSE TAFALLA, JR.

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the legacy of Jesse Tafalla, Jr., a pillar in the north Texas community who was a steadfast champion for equality, justice, and inclusion.

Jesse lived to serve his community. After high school, Jesse worked for IBM and, for the past 10 years, DART. He was an active member in many organizations in Dallas, including Rainbow LULAC, Stonewall Democrats, Dallas County Democratic Party, and the MLK Jr. Community Center board.

He was a champion of so many different social causes and issues, and he worked tirelessly to try to bridge the gaps and create understanding between communities. He was a very special person.

He greeted everyone with the line, "Hey, don't I owe you a drink?" This was his way of saying that he cared. After that, he would listen to people, and he advocated for communities and people who he felt were genuinely left behind.

Jesse was an embodiment of service and kindness, and his legacy will be carried on through the countless lives he touched. His love for family, friends, and strangers was unconditional.

I extend my deepest condolences to all of his family, his friends, and everyone in the community who loved him and called him a friend.

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF SERVICE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GRANGE

(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 honor the dedication and determination of the Pennsylvania Grange as they celebrate 150 years of service.

Their story began in 1871 with the organization of the Eagle Grange No. 1 near Williamsport in Lycoming County. It eventually became statewide in 1873. The PA Grange was founded with the intent to heal a wounded Nation following the Civil War.

Today, the PA Grange has members of all ages and represents more than 5,440 Pennsylvanians.

The PA Grange is honoring their 150 years with 150 acts of service. Each chapter is tasked with completing a service project, and as of Wednesday, June 13, they have completed 194 projects.

It is with full confidence I stand here honored to represent a State with people dedicated to helping members grow as individuals, unifying their communities, and fostering opportunities through legislation and community service.

Mr. Speaker, every year I have the privilege of attending the Grange Fair in Centre County, my home county. While attending the fair, I am able to witness their mission firsthand. The

mission of this organization continues to withstand the test of time.

I congratulate the Pennsylvania Grange on 150 years of service, education, legislation, and fellowship.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TARAS G. SZMAGALA

(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, last week, America and we in Ohio lost a true patriot, family man, successful business leader, and community champion, Taras G. Szmagala, who passed away at 90 years of age.

To his wife, Katherine, of 64 years; son, Taras; grandson, Gregory; and a vast network of extended family and friends, I know this is a difficult time. Yet, I also know that you carry forward in all you do the living memory of your beloved husband, father, and grandfather. Please know many others feel the sharp pain of your loss.

Taras inspired us all with his gentlemanly manner, easy smile, and dedicated passion on matters that mean the most. There was no stronger advocate on behalf of liberty for Ukraine than Taras. He knew the stakes.

His life was a classic, committed to family, profession, Nation, and liberty, and he was resolute. He made and kept his promises. He maintained resolve in all pursuits. He was jovial, loving, dependable, and visionary, and he made our world a better place.

May he rest in peace as he takes his place at a high altar of praise, as his spirit helps guide our world, including freedom for Ukraine. May he help usher her into the birth of liberty to which he dedicated so much of his life.

Sending deepest sympathy and abiding gratitude of friendship.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF GRANT GAUTSCHE

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the director of Riverside County Department of Veterans' Services, Mr. Grant Gautsche, on the eve of his retirement from public service.

Grant, a United States Navy veteran himself, has selflessly attended to veterans throughout California's 39th Congressional District, as well as the entire County of Riverside and beyond for the past 25 years with esteemed honor.

Since beginning with the County of Riverside in 2014, Grant has served local veterans, their dependents, and their loved ones in obtaining the resources, guidance, and benefits entitled to them. He has worked closely with my district office, ensuring those who have bravely put their lives on the line receive the recognition and care they deserve.

Grant's hard work and devotion are a testament to the way we should all express gratitude to our Nation's veterans, and his retirement is well deserved.

OUR ECONOMIC FUTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EZELL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I want to do a couple of things, and what I am going to sort of walk through is what we are seeing in the numbers.

There is a sense of theater around here that I am trying to break through, so let's see if we can have some fun with some math.

For those who were complaining about the caps, the spending reductions in the recent debt ceiling, for those who wanted more over here, for some of our brothers and sisters around this place who didn't think any of it was necessary, I need to break through and help this place get its head around the fact that we actually were allowed to negotiate on 11 percent of the spending.

Remember, your government is functionally an insurance company with an army. The vast majority of our spending is on autopilot. It is earned benefits. You earned your Medicare. You earned your Social Security. You worked your 40 quarters. Veterans earned benefits. You get certain things if you fall under a certain income. That is called Medicaid. You get certain things because of treaty agreements, the Tribal populations.

Those aren't formula. We don't vote for them. As a matter of fact, it is almost radioactive around here if we tell the truth, that it is the vast majority of spending. So, I am going to do some of this backward.

A week ago Friday, two of the lead economists at Bloomberg—they call it Bloomberg Intelligence. You have to sort of go to the Bloomberg Terminal to get this. I subscribe to a couple of things, so I got the top line.

Have you ever started to read something and go, oh my God, what are they talking about? That number can't be real. Then you bother someone who has an actual Bloomberg Terminal, and they pull the full printout on it.

Here is the reality, and I don't know how to get folks to actually understand the math. Bloomberg Intelligence, the two economists said their model—Bloomberg has this fairly fancy model, just like we do at the Joint Committee on Taxation, the CBO, the Tax Foundation. Everyone has their models. Theirs is fairly impressive. Their model said, in 10 years, we are at 130 percent of debt to GDP.

Now, understand that the cuts we just did, the rebalancing, the flattening, the slowing down, the debt growth that we just fought through in the debt ceiling, we sort of took our-

selves from 119 percent of the size of the economy at the end of the decade, or 10 years from now, to around 114 percent. That is a big deal.

You figure, 10 years from now, you have a \$39 trillion economy, so a percent is real money. We pulled it down from 119 to 114 percent. I think I have a board on it.

Then, to read through the analytics from these economists saying: Here is your problem. Interest is dramatically higher than we have been modeling.

They see inflation and, therefore, interest running longer. They also see healthcare costs growing faster and larger.

If you actually think about the reading you have done this last week, because I know all of us around here read the technical aspects of, you know, whether—I am sorry. I was going to get sarcastic, and I am trying to dial that back.

You start to see we are seeing this huge, very substantial spike in Medicare spending. It turns out a lot of our seniors actually had postponed lots and lots of procedures.

You just saw, for one of the major health companies that caters to part D, their stock just cratered yesterday because of utilization.

They had some other interesting things in there. Interest is up. Healthcare costs are up fairly dramatically. The thing I have tried to explain here that no one gets their head around, before the agreement—and I am going to use rough numbers. The nondefense discretionary spending is \$700 billion. We, functionally, just removed \$100 billion. So, now it is \$600 billion.

Just that reduction of that \$100 billion over those 10 years, they actually calculated that, next year, the GDP growth will be down a whole half a percent.

That is huge because we were already starting to see, because of our demographics, we have gotten very old in society and are getting older very fast.

You all know what has happened to fertility since the early nineties. Last year, we were down to 1.67, so in 18 years, the United States has more deaths than births. Half the States today already has more deaths than births.

You start to say, okay, we are going to be at 1.8. There were a couple of projections for next year. We are a little higher than that if we just shaved off another half a percent.

Then, I have folks running around here saying: Look at our pretend budget. We can balance in 10 years.

Absurd.

The borrowing this year, have you seen the numbers? Realize that you don't do budgeting this way. We have a fiscal year. Year to date, so if you do a 12-month cycle, we have now borrowed \$2.1 trillion this year. That does not have the backfill of all the extraordinary measures that are getting done right now, as now the debt ceiling has been raised.