

these mass murders do not happen; these families do not grieve; and this country does not live in fear.

Without easy access to unregulated firearms, we save lives. It is just that simple. It is truly that simple.

This type of bloodshed doesn't happen in other developed nations around the world, only here in the United States of America. Other nations don't allow unfettered access to unregulated firearms.

This is not who we are supposed to be as America. We should feel safe in our communities.

#### THE SITUATION IN IRAN

(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, FOX News and Iran International report that the Special Envoy for Iran for Biden, Robert Malley, has met with the Iranian Ambassador to the United States three times recently. During this period, the Iranian regime was murdering its own people in the streets. The Biden administration must explain to the American people what was discussed.

General Jack Keane has correctly warned that Iran can develop a nuclear capability in just 4 more months. Biden refuses to close the door and stop the talks over reentering the Iran nuclear deal. An absurd Iran nuclear agreement will give the regime billions of dollars, threatening Israel and underwriting drones to Putin against Ukraine.

I have appreciated the bipartisan opposition to the deal by Senator Joe Lieberman and Chairman Eliot Engel.

The House Republican majority is committed to providing oversight of the weak foreign policy of Biden.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues, moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

#### HONORING LARRY ROGERS, SR.

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

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Larry Rogers, Sr.

Larry was a loving father and grandfather and a devoted Chicago sports fan, but he was known to many for changing their lives in the courtroom.

Larry was a native of the Roseland community in Chicago and came to the practice of law while he was working three jobs to support his family. There were very few other Black attorneys at the time, and Larry Rogers, Sr., helped pave the way for more lawyers who looked like him.

As a lawyer, Larry fought for the little guy. He won hundreds of millions of dollars for victims of corporate malfeasance and medical malpractice. One of

his most notable accomplishments was winning an eight-figure verdict for victims of chloride-deficient baby formula even after the Department of Justice declined to press charges.

He lived a life devoted to giving the powerless a chance to take on the most powerful. Larry Rogers, Sr., leaves behind a legacy that all of Illinois can be proud of. It was an honor to know him.

#### HONORING MAJOR KATIE LUNNING

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

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Major Katie Lunning, a Critical Care Air Transport Team nurse in the U.S. Air Force Air National Guard.

The wings of angels come in many forms. On August 26, 2021, those wings came in the form of Flight Nurse Lunning. Her medical evacuation team boarded a C-17 Globemaster, a massive flying ambulance, to evacuate critically injured Americans and allies in the evacuation of Afghanistan.

Major Katie Lunning, an intensive critical care unit nurse manager in her civilian career, is no stranger to hard work and the harrowing missions with the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs in Des Moines, Iowa.

Recently, Major Lunning became the first flight nurse in the Air National Guard to be awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, our Nation's highest award for extraordinary aerial achievement.

As Afghanistan fell and Taliban forces converged on the capital, Major Lunning was one of the first to respond to a mass casualty suicide bombing at Kabul airport. The tragic death toll claimed the lives of nearly 200, including 13 American servicemembers, among them Iowa's very own Corporal Daegan Page.

Major Lunning was on the scene within hours of the bombing and immediately worked to triage and prepare patients for evacuation while taking enemy fire.

With few resources, Major Lunning provided medical care to patients, including five who were critically injured and a 2-year-old with a traumatic brain injury, during the 8-hour flight to safety. All 22 patients survived.

She is the epitome of a winged angel: heroic, selfless, and providing rescue to those in times of critical need.

With all of Iowa, I join in saluting Major Lunning as we could not be prouder. Moreover, her dauntless courage is an inspiration to the future women and men who will don the flight nurse's uniform and serve our State and country in the missions ahead.

#### ABORTION IS HEALTHCARE

(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 today for my first floor speech to stand with women across the country to commemorate what should have been the 50th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* this past weekend.

This decision had guaranteed every woman and girl in our country the freedom to make decisions about their own bodies. Yet, 7 months ago, our radical Supreme Court ripped that freedom away.

In today's America, there are millions of women who won't be able to have a say in their own futures. This came as a direct result of extremist Republicans and their decades-long war on reproductive healthcare.

Instead of focusing and delivering for Americans, Republicans have proposed and prioritized a national abortion ban. Let's be clear: Abortion is healthcare, and abortion should be accessible to every woman in our country.

For this reason, I rise today strongly in support of the Women's Health Protection Act to make *Roe v. Wade* the law of the land.

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#### CONGRATULATING EVELYN HOLMES-SMITH FROM ENTERPRISE HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Evelyn Holmes-Smith from Enterprise High School's wrestling team for winning the Alabama State Championship, making her a three-time State champion. Only a sophomore, Evelyn posted a 36-0 record on the season.

Evelyn's perfect season helped the Wildcat girl's wrestling team finish fourth out of 59 teams across the State of Alabama. She hopes to continue wrestling in college and represent the United States in the Olympic Games one day.

Evelyn is known for her quick take-downs on the mat. When she came to my office last year, she demonstrated a few of her signature wrestling moves, as you can see here in the photo.

On behalf of Alabama's Second District, I congratulate Evelyn Holmes-Smith and the Enterprise High School wrestling team on an impressive year. Go Wildcats.

#### A STRONG MIDDLE CLASS IS ESSENTIAL TO A STRONG ECONOMY, DEMOCRACY, AND AMERICA

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

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, how are House Republicans working for America's working families struggling to make ends meet?

By pursuing an economic scheme that raises their taxes and increases their everyday costs.

The very first bill that House Republicans passed was a break for tax cheats that also benefited large corporations and billionaires while adding \$114 billion to the deficit.

Last time Republicans controlled the House, they enacted a \$2 trillion tax cut for the 1 percent and big corporations. All the while, House Democrats continue to work to hold large corporations accountable and ensure they are paying their fair share.

We are working to strengthen the middle class by creating good-paying jobs, lowering middle-class taxes, and protecting Social Security and Medicare because we understand that a strong middle class is essential to a strong economy, to a strong democracy, and to a strong America.

#### HONORING CHIEF LOU DEKMAR ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Chief Lou Dekmar, from LaGrange, Georgia, on his well-deserved retirement.

For 50 years, Chief Dekmar has protected and defended our communities as a law enforcement officer. He has long been a hero in the community, protecting the lives of citizens as well as fellow officers.

Serving nearly 30 years as police chief in LaGrange, Georgia, Chief Dekmar's unwavering dedication to ensuring that the folks of Troup County stayed safe and secure was second to none.

Chief Dekmar embodies the true heart of a leader and his work to heal the community and establish racial reconciliation in the city were just a few of the many accomplishments he had throughout his decorated career.

Mr. Speaker, I thank him for his unbelievable devotion to serving the people of Georgia and congratulate him on a well-earned retirement.

#### KILLING IN MEMPHIS

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I am the Congressman who represents the great city of Memphis.

Right now much of the national media is looking at Memphis, as there was an awful killing of a 29-year-old African-American man by five police officers within the last few weeks. The five police officers have been fired by the police department for violating their oath. The DA will announce charges in a few hours.

It could be a situation where people want to exercise their First Amendment rights to protest the actions of the police department, and people should, but they should be peaceful and calm.

We have a new DA, we have a new U.S. Attorney, and we have a new police director. They are the right people at the right time to bring about reform and to deal with this case to see that justice is rendered.

I grieve for the life of Tyre Nichols whose life should not have been extinguished. He was an outstanding young man, and it is extremely sad that he was killed.

I pray for my city.

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate National School Choice Week.

School choice is about giving families the freedom to choose the best education possible for their children, regardless of their learning style or home address or financial situation.

Every parent in America wants to give their child the best education possible, and Nebraska has great options: public, private, homeschools. Not everyone has the means to access their option of choice.

I believe we should fund the students, not the systems. When funding for education follows students to the school of their choice, families win. Nebraska is one of only two States in the Nation that has not passed a school choice program.

I am excited about these opportunities and look forward to giving parents the choice.

#### CENSORSHIP OF CONSERVATIVE VOICES

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my concerns with the ongoing censorship of conservative voices.

We are all aware of the leftist bias and discrimination on social media. The recent Twitter files tell a sinister tale of censorship and discrimination against conservatives and Republicans across the country. But the campaign of censorship and discrimination by the left also extends to satellite and cable TV.

The Nation's largest satellite TV provider, DIRECTV, has threatened another conservative-leaning cable news network. First, it was OAN a year ago, and now DIRECTV has threatened to deplatform Newsmax, the fourth largest cable news network.

Competition is the heart of the American economy, but the mainstream media is an anti-American institution that has no regard for the First Amendment rights of conservatives or protecting a platform for all viewpoints.

DIRECTV'S actions are a clear effort to discriminate against conservative voices.

DIRECTV pays leftist outlets to carry their content on their satellite network, but conservative outlets are not treated the same.

Many liberal channels, with a fraction of Newsmax's audience, receive payment from DIRECTV. This bias is blatant and egregious, and Congress should look into this censorship and address the discrimination against conservative voices.

#### RECOGNIZING ALAN LOVING

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and to encourage my longtime friend, Alan Loving. Alan serves as pastor for students and families at First Baptist Church of Madison.

Alan has dedicated his life as a minister of the Gospel and has impacted countless lives for eternity during his many years of service as a youth minister.

Recently, Alan suffered a life-changing accident that has left him paralyzed from the waist down. We praise God for Alan's continued recovery and rehabilitation.

God's word tells us in Proverbs, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

Throughout this journey, Alan and his family have been an inspiration to me and so many others throughout our community. We have been sharpened by his strength and his faithfulness.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to let Alan know that Mississippi loves him and his family. We are praying for him; his wife, Courtney; his daughters, Mary Addison and Anna Claire. We are inspired by his determination and faith.

#### CONCERNS AT OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration continues to fail the American people.

Just last month, Customs and Border Protection had 251,487 migrant encounters along the southern border, the highest number of encounters ever recorded in a single month. Despite our constant calls to get this crisis under control, it has only gotten worse. Either President Biden is trying and utterly failing, or worse, not trying at all.

Since President Biden has taken office, there have been more than 4.5 million migrant encounters at our southern border, and December marked the tenth straight month with more than 200,000 encounters, a trend that has never been recorded before. None of these statistics include the over 1.2 million known got-aways who have