

behind their friends. They leave behind their brothers and sisters in the New-ark Fire Department.

We must carry Augie and Wayne with us, carry on their legacies, carry on their memories, and that is what we will do. On behalf of every resident made safer by people like Augie and Wayne, we extend our deepest condolences to their family, friends, and fellow firefighters.

We commit ourselves to protecting our firefighters and ensuring they have everything they need to safely return home to their families. Today, we mourn the loss of these two incredible individuals.

EQUINOR IS NOT WELCOME

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

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with thousands of my neighbors in New York's Fourth Congressional District who are united in opposition to a proposed large-scale offshore energy project that, if completed, would drastically alter the landscape of several Nassau County communities.

The development being advanced by the Norwegian energy company, Equinor, would see nearly 150 massive offshore wind turbines constructed within view of land off the coast of Long Beach in my congressional district.

This project would include a landing site in the city of Long Beach where high-voltage cables would make land-fall from the turbines and wind through residential areas to connect with a substation in my hometown, the village of Island Park.

Residents of these communities could play host to an environmental disaster. New York officials are keen to see this project progress, even in the face of local concern. In fact, Governor Hochul even went so far as to enlist the assistance of Brooklyn lawmakers to ram through State legislation to support the project, even as local neighbors raised concerns.

My neighbors rightfully have questions related to the impacts. I will stand with my neighbors and fight for the hardworking south shore communities. We will stand tall in the face of this hostile takeover by Equinor.

Mr. Speaker, Equinor is not welcome in our south shore communities.

HONORING ROBB LALLY

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

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Robb Lally, a dedicated public servant and volunteer for more than 35 years.

Robb Lally entered the seminary at a young age, and as a deacon, served in a

Catholic parish and later for the Salvation Army.

In 1988, Robb Lally headed to San Diego to work with the Alpha Project, a nonprofit human services organization that serves over 4,000 men, women, and children daily.

Robb carried out Alpha Project's mission to empower individuals, families, and communities by providing work, recovery, and support services to people who are motivated to change their lives and achieve self-sufficiency.

Mr. Lally's years of service were instrumental to the organization's mission and growth by working on and contributing to many critical housing projects.

On June 7, 2023, Robb's life and legacy were honored at a celebration of life in San Diego, California.

On behalf of the residents of California's 52nd Congressional District, I will express my deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Robb Lally. His legacy is felt and his presence will be greatly missed. He was a great man.

WORSENING IMPACTS OF EXTREME WEATHER

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

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of our collective experience of seeing in real time the impacts of climate change unfold. This past month we have seen temperatures rise and air quality worsen.

The smoke from the recent Canadian wildfires led Michigan to issue their first-ever statewide air quality advisory. Instead of being outside enjoying the Great Lakes, my constituents were filling up emergency rooms in Beaumont of Farmington Hills, struggling to breathe.

These impacts are not just hitting us locally in Michigan. July 3 and 4 saw some of the highest global average temperatures in recorded human history.

This is why last year I worked so hard with my Democratic colleagues to pass the Inflation Reduction Act. The IRA is the single largest investment in combating climate change.

We are already starting to see the benefits coming from these Federal actions. Michigan's clean energy jobs grew by 3.8 percent in 2022 alone.

Mr. Speaker, we can turn this challenge into an opportunity, our 21st century moon shot: create jobs, renovate, address, and be resilient.

SAN ANTONIO'S LEGACY OF LABOR STRIKES

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

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 110th anniversary of the Alamo Iron Works strike in

San Antonio, Texas. Back then, those organizers were fighting for better wages and working conditions, like workers are today. They started a tradition of labor strikes in the summer in the city of San Antonio.

Mr. Speaker, 20 years later in 1933, the Finck Cigar strike began when 400 young Mexican-American women went on strike for better working conditions and won.

In 1936, garment workers at the Dorothy Frocks Company in San Antonio began striking for higher wages. They went to jail that August of 1936, and still won.

The next summer, in 1937, 80 workers at the San Antonio Laundry Company walked off the job. They demanded a 9-hour workday instead of 14 hours and won.

Remember, when rightwing extremists pass antiworker bills, they are arguing that their bills are trying to take us to the good old days of Texas past. We know the truth: The history of San Antonio and the history of Texas is a history of workers organizing and winning.

NDAA REMARKS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was disappointed in the recent debate we had here dealing with the National Defense Authorization Act. It was a culture war instead of national security. The biggest failure was the inability to address our nuclear weapons policy.

We couldn't even eliminate one outmoded bomb. We couldn't allow the re-evaluation of our land-based intercontinental ballistic missile system, even though they have been plagued by rampant corruption, cheating, and drug use.

Sadly, Congress continued to avoid the issue of nuclear deterrence. How many times do we have to destroy a country before they are discouraged in attacking us?

How many billion dollars need to be wasted in piling on additional nuclear weapons that pose threats in and of themselves?

This is a question that the American people deserve Congress to address. Sadly, this legislation continues to ignore the issue.

SPOTLIGHTING LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES BOND

(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 to spotlight James Bond, a native of Halifax County and the first African American from the North Carolina Army National Guard Aviation Branch to become a lieutenant colonel.

Lieutenant Colonel Bond has held many assignments in aviation, including two company commands, and was selected as the battalion commander of the 130th Attack Battalion.

Lieutenant Colonel Bond is a graduate of Halifax County Community College and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was commissioned through the Reserves Officers Training Corps and Branched Aviation.

He understands the next generation of eastern North Carolinians must get involved to achieve the American Dream, particularly through public service.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Bond's service to our country and dedication to the next generation does not go unnoticed. We salute him for his continued loyalty and commitment to the American people.

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AND STILL I RISE: CONSCIENCE AGENDA

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. And still I rise, Mr. Speaker.

Still I rise. Borrowing the words of Maya Angelou, "Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave," and still I rise.

I rise as a scion of the enslaved Africans who were sacrificed to make America great, sacrificed for some 200-plus years, 240-plus years, to make America great.

I rise because I understand that as a scion and as a descendant, I have a duty, a responsibility, and an obligation to those enslaved people.

I think my colleague, John Lewis, put it best, to just have a responsibility to "get in good trouble." "Good trouble" was his term. I added the verbiage.

We have this duty and responsibility to get into good trouble, to do that which is appropriate to honor the enslaved people who are the foundational mothers and fathers, the economic foundational mothers and fathers, of this country. The foundation upon which this economy resides to this day was put in place with sacrificed lives, millions of sacrificed lives, millions, literally, over centuries, literally, to make America the great country it is.

Unfortunately, America—the country I love, the country where I sing the national anthem, salute the flag, and say the Pledge of Allegiance. I stand for the national anthem. The country I love has not shown respect for the people who gave it its economic foundation.

As a matter of fact, we have shown disrespect for them, disrespect. They

have not been honored. They have been pushed aside and left behind. As a matter of fact, there has been an effort to cause people to literally be ashamed of talking about these foundational mothers and fathers.

We revere the enslavers, and we revile the enslaved who were sacrificed, whose lives were sacrificed, many of whom were born into slavery, lived their lives as slaves, and died as slaves. We don't honor them appropriately.

Some of that is changing because of what the Honorable John Lewis called to our attention about good trouble. Some of that is changing because, last year, this Congress passed legislation for Slavery Remembrance Day. We did so on July 27 of last year.

Mr. Speaker, Slavery Remembrance Day was a historic and monumental accomplishment for Congress, but you didn't read about it in the newspapers. You didn't see it on television. You didn't hear anything about it on radio. It wasn't celebrated on social media.

This country does not respect the enslaved people, the country I love, the country where I salute the flag, say the Pledge of Allegiance, and stand for the national anthem.

None of that was broadcast because there is a desire among many to have those who are the scions, the descendants, forget slavery, to forgive and forget.

It is obvious that the scions have forgotten.

Yes, we forgive, but God gave us memory for a reason. We don't forget. We don't forget Pearl Harbor, and we have a Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. We don't forget 9/11, and we have a 9/11 Remembrance Day. We are not going to forget and should never forget the Holocaust, and we have a Holocaust Remembrance Day.

We don't forgive and forget. We should forgive and remember. Forgive and remember is what we do for 9/11 and the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7. That is what we do for the Holocaust. We remember, and we should.

I stand here a scion, a proud person who commemorates Slavery Remembrance Day. It is not a day for celebration. It is a day for commemoration. As we are approaching the next Slavery Remembrance Day, I thought it would be appropriate to do several things.

The first is to acknowledge Mr. STENY HOYER. Mr. STENY HOYER gave me his word, and he kept his word. He gave me his word. He indicated that we would pass Slavery Remembrance Day legislation in this House, and we did. We did it, as I indicated, on July 27, 2022.

I am eternally grateful to Mr. HOYER for what he committed to do, for what he followed through on, and, in fact, what he did. So, I thank Mr. HOYER. I will forever appreciate him for this and many other things that he did as the majority leader. I respect greatly the many things that he has done, but I

don't respect any of them more than what he did to help us inculcate Slavery Remembrance Day into the national fiber and fabric of this country.

I greatly appreciate it, and I will be thanking the gentleman not only today but also in Houston, Texas, on August 19, when we will have our second annual Slavery Remembrance Day event.

The second event will be on August 19 in Houston, Texas. Our speaker will be the Honorable Bishop Barber, who is well known for his oratory and his intellect. He is a preacher par excellence, a pulpiteer par excellence, and a person who, without question, is making a difference in the lives of poor people. He is engaged in a campaign to help poor people.

It is August 19 in Houston, Texas. It will be open to the public, I might add, the first 1,000 people. Last year, we had 1,000 people in attendance. We expect to have 1,000 people this year.

We expect to continue with the Slavery Remembrance Day event not only in Houston but across the length and breadth of this country.

There are other scions who understand that they are bringing the gifts our ancestors gave, that they are the dream and hope of the slaves. Some of them will pick this up, and they, too, will have Slavery Remembrance Day events.

The actual day for Slavery Remembrance Day to have the most commemoration is going to be August 20 because it was on August 20, 1619, that the ship White Lion docked at a place called Point Comfort near what we now call Norfolk, Virginia. When the White Lion docked, it had 20 or so—I am not sure of the exact number—persons of African ancestry who were traded for goods. They became the first Africans to become enslaved in the Colonies.

I understand that there are other circumstances that predate August 20, 1619, but this happened with the Colonies, and it was the Colonies that, in a sense—they probably don't like to say it, but it is true—popularized slavery. They popularized it, legitimized it, made it comfortable, made it acceptable, made it part of the vernacular, and made it a part of everyday life. It was the American Colonies that gave us slavery as an institution in this country for hundreds of years.

On August 20, we will be commemorating Slavery Remembrance Day. We have this breakfast and ceremony on the 19th, but on the 20th, we will take it to houses of worship. In these places of worship, we will have commemoration ceremonies.

Last year, we were at Bishop Dixon's Community of Faith Church, to be called the cathedral now, the Cathedral of Faith in Houston, Texas. We will have another commemoration ceremony there.

We will have commemoration ceremonies in other churches. We want to have them across the length and breadth of the country. We will get there. It is not going to be easy, but we will do it.