

Chancellor's advisory board at the University of Washington Tacoma.

There are not enough words to express my gratitude to Rick for everything he has done for our community and the tremendous help he has been to me during my time in this office.

Rick is a fair, considerate, compassionate, and kind person who really cares about the community he lives and serves in. Rick has been instrumental in working with the community to find pathways for employment at the shipyard. He has been a fierce advocate for the shipyard, making sure elected officials, educational institutions, and the greater community understand the opportunities for employment within its workforce.

With the Federal Government being the largest employer in my district, I appreciate his efforts as we are all invested in making sure we have the next generation of workers and future leaders at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and IMF.

Those efforts really can't be understated. He has been a staunch advocate for infrastructure and needed improvements to the shipyard inside and outside of its gates, helping to bring elected officials at every level and Navy leadership together to find ways to make needed improvements.

That is only the tip of the iceberg as far as the positive impact Rick has made with his time.

You will never find a more dedicated, loyal, considerate man than Rick, and it has been an absolute pleasure to work with him.

Mr. Speaker, he will be dearly missed, and I wish him all the best in his next chapter as he moves off into retirement. We wish him well, and thank him for his friendship and partnership.

CONGRATULATING DR. LALIT VERMA ON HIS RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Lalit Verma on his retirement from the University of Arkansas Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department.

As a proud alumnus of this department myself, it is my pleasure today to honor Dr. Verma for his distinguished career at the University of Arkansas and everywhere he has studied and taught.

He started in India and continued his academic career at Montana State University and the University of Nebraska. He spent time teaching in Bangkok, in South Dakota, and even made his way down to Louisiana where he spent time at LSU. Thankfully, he made it to Arkansas, where for 23 years, he has left his most significant mark on academia.

Dr. Verma has done an incredible job leading the department and has served

in various other organizations, such as ASABE.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dr. Verma for his distinguished career and wish Dr. Verma and his wife Aruna well in their future endeavors and as they spend more time with their two grandchildren.

FOOD ANIMAL VETERINARIAN SHORTAGE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, as a top-ranking State in livestock production, Arkansas is in need of food animal veterinarians like many other places around the country.

In 2022, 25 counties within my district applied for designated shortage area status. Of the 25 counties that applied, only 13 were awarded the status. Food animal veterinarians who practice in these areas are eligible to apply for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program, or VMLRP.

Food animal veterinarians are on the decline, and this program is essential to encourage young Americans to consider practicing food animal veterinary.

With the 2018 Farm Bill set to expire in September of this year, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to consider the importance of the VMLRP Program in addressing the food animal veterinarian shortage that poses a concern to my constituents and many of my colleagues' constituents, and also it is critical to the food supply for our Nation.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF BILL REYNOLDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. MAGAZINER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of the great Providence Journal columnist, Bill Reynolds.

Ask any Rhode Islander and they will tell you that Bill Reynolds was an institution of Rhode Island sports and journalism whose column was read by thousands across the State.

It was a tradition, a must-read, and families across Rhode Island, including mine, started their Saturday by reading his column, "For What It's Worth," which included his latest not only on sports, but also pop culture, politics, movies, and more.

He was a columnist at the Journal for almost 40 years, a New York Times best-selling author, and a Hall of Fame Brown University basketball player, who still played pickup games well into his 60s, and was known for his jump shot, which earned him the nickname "Shooter."

Bill was one of the best sportswriters in Rhode Island history, who mentored an entire generation of aspiring writers and athletes. There will never be another like him. May he rest in peace.

CELEBRATING RHODE ISLAND SPECIAL OLYMPIC ATHLETE, BRIAN JOHNSON

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of

Rhode Island's Special Olympic athlete, Brian Johnson of East Greenwich.

Brian made Rhode Island proud by bringing home the gold for bocce at the Special Olympics World Games in Berlin last month.

He and his teammate, David Young, defeated the team from Paraguay 10-3 to win the unified doubles gold. To top it off, Brian also won the silver medal in the singles division.

Brian has competed in the Special Olympics for 14 years, participating in track and field, basketball, bocce, bowling, cycling, flag football, and volleyball. He has been an advocate for inclusion and has shared the impact of his Special Olympics experiences with students at his school.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Brian for his incredible accomplishment. He has done himself and all of Rhode Island proud.

CELEBRATING JONATHAN STONE ON HIS RETIREMENT

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Jonathan Stone, who recently retired as executive director of Save the Bay Rhode Island after 14 years of service.

Founded in 1970, Save the Bay is Rhode Island's leading organization for advocacy, education, and policy to safeguard the Narragansett Bay and its tributaries.

Jonathan led vital work to restore Rhode Island's coastlines and waterways, protect marine life, help our State adapt to climate change, and delivered major legislative victories for environmental conservation.

He championed the Cesspool Phase-out law of 2015 to remove sewage from public waterways and the creation of the Ocean State Climate Adaptation and Resilience fund to protect vulnerable infrastructure and coastal areas from sea level rise in extreme weather.

At the same time, Jonathan strengthened Save the Bay's environmental education programs, which have introduced hundreds of thousands of students to the bay, and launched construction of a new exploration center and aquarium, which will open this fall.

Rhode Islanders are indebted to Jonathan for his commitment to our State and the waterways that make it so special, but we must remember, as Jonathan Stone reminded us when he announced his retirement, that the saving of Narragansett Bay is not complete.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to doing my part in Congress and using Jon Stone's leadership as an example.

RECOGNIZING NORTH CAROLINA'S SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, as we continue to stress STEM education in our country, I would like to recognize the North Carolina School of Science and Math.

This new campus for the School of Science and Math is located in the city of Morganton in the Tenth District in western North Carolina.

Students recently finished their first academic year on this new campus. This is the second campus of the North Carolina School of Science and Math, the original having opened in Durham in 1980.

Thanks to the hard work of local officials, citizens, and industry leaders in our region, funding was secured for the western campus in Morganton, and the first residential class of some 300 students started last fall.

A special thanks to my friend, State Representative Hugh Blackwell, whose vision for the western campus made the project a reality and his great work in the legislature made it possible.

This public high school will fill our workforce with the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs and will help these dedicated students reach their full potential. I salute the graduating seniors and send best wishes as you continue your educational journey in the years ahead.

AMERICAN LEGION WORLD SERIES

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, The American Legion World Series is being held on Monday in my district in the beautiful city of Shelby, North Carolina, which has been the permanent home of the tournament since 2011.

Beginning August 10, more than 100,000 fans will fill Shelby's Keeter Stadium over the 6 days of the tournament. They will cheer on eight teams from around the country as they vie to be crowned the 2023 American Legion World Series champions in the tournament which was first contested in 1926.

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Many former American Legion players had successful careers in the big leagues, including all stars such as Johnny Bench, George Brett, Dusty Baker, and the pride of Caldwell County, Madison Bumgarner.

To local leaders in Cleveland County, American Legion Post 82, and the hundreds of volunteers who will work countless hours to welcome fans to Shelby, I extend my thanks, and a special thanks for all that The American Legion does for youth around this country.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S FAILURE AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. STEEL) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Biden administration's failure to secure our border and create an immigration system that works for the American people.

Let's be clear: The crisis at our southern border is still out of control. Since President Biden took office, more than 5.5 million illegal crossings have occurred at the southern border,

yet he continues to pursue policies that make the situation worse.

As a proud immigrant to this country representing thousands of first-generation Americans, I support policies to protect our communities and uphold the rule of law.

House Republicans are taking action to secure our border and restore order to our immigration system. I welcome the President and Congressional Democrats to join us in the effort. The American people deserve nothing less.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS HEILMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary athleticism and achievement of Albemarle County swimmer Thomas Heilman.

On June 26, the 16-year-old Heilman claimed his spot in the world swimming championships after earning the silver medal in both the men's 100-meter butterfly and the 200-meter butterfly races.

Heilman broke a longstanding record for his age group when he finished the 200-meter butterfly just 22 milliseconds behind the winner of the race, a swimmer 5 years older than him.

By finishing the race in 1 minute, 54 seconds, and 54 milliseconds, Thomas Heilman broke the 15-16 National Age Group 200-meter butterfly record which Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps had held for 22 years.

Heilman's coach, Gary Taylor, of Cavalier Aquatics in Charlottesville, said Thomas is very coachable, has a tremendous work ethic, strives to be his best self, and is the consummate teammate.

Thomas has certainly made Albemarle County and the rest of Virginia's Fifth District proud of his accomplishments. I am honored to represent this extraordinary young man in Congress, and I wish him success in his already outstanding athletics career.

DEMOCRATS MADE THE NDAA A CULTURAL ISSUE

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Republican leadership and the House majority for passing what was an outstanding NDAA, our National Defense Authorization Act, last week, that focuses on the priorities of force readiness, effectiveness in lethality, and ensuring that America has the strongest military machine on the planet. It focuses on Republican priorities that the American people voted us, the majority, to implement.

The strong NDAA is reversing the policies of the previous majority and the Biden administration that were so harmful to our military. I am going to remind everyone that it was the Democrats, the former majority, that made the NDAA, the defense bill, a cultural issue, an ideological issue, with their policies. It was the Democrats who put abortion funding into the military bill. It was Democrats wanting to pay for

transgender surgery and the Democrats who focused on DEI and CRT ideology in our military. It was the Democrats who said the purpose of the military was to fight the climate war and put a climate focus on our military funding. It was the Democrats who were discharging members of the military for not getting a vaccine they didn't want and didn't need.

This new NDAA that was passed last week with the Republican majority and sent on to the Senate simply reverses the harmful policies that have been hurting recruitment and reducing the effectiveness of our military. This now goes on to the Senate, and I hope the Senate will pass this Republican House bill to make our military stronger and make our Nation safer.

CURRENT U.S. MUNITIONS SHORTAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. STEEL). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, until recently, we weren't supposed to discuss that indeed the United States does have an ammunition shortage for our military here and around the world. But it is so widely reported in the press, I guess we really shouldn't ignore it anymore and pretend it isn't a problem.

Recently, with the controversy around cluster bombs, the President has defended his decision to send them to Ukraine by announcing the U.S. Army ammunition stockpiles are depleted. In other words, basically, this is all we have to give them at this point.

The primary reasons are lack of funds, little focus on production, and truly a lack of will to truly ramp up and build our ammunition stocks to what they should be.

The U.S. military's goal decades ago was that we could fight a two-front war. The United States used to have that might and capability. We saw that in World War II with many other allies, of course, around the world that we fought side by side with.

As we know, modern, western military hardware is indeed incredibly complex, costly, and difficult to produce at scale. It requires a large infrastructure, a well-protected supply chain, and a large workforce of skilled labor. These are things that we are capable of as a country. Look at all the gadgetry we can build in order to satisfy a market of people desiring entertainment.

Artillery round expenditures we point to in Ukraine really paint a dark picture. Ukrainians burn through a year's worth of U.S. artillery round production in 1 month. In 1 month, they can burn through a year's worth of our production. That is just Ukraine. What does that make our own stocks look like?

We must ramp up production tremendously. If we are going to continue in