

freedoms and defend the cause of liberty, both at home and abroad.

Each one had a duty to serve, but our duty, Mr. Speaker, is to remember.

On September 15, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we remember the more than 500,000 prisoners of war who endured the horrors of enemy captivity and faithfully served through severe suffering and incomprehensible trauma.

We remember the tens of thousands of brave patriots who are still missing in action and have yet to return home safely to the warm embrace of their families and loved ones.

This week, from sea to shining sea, thousands of ceremonies will take place in an expression of solidarity. Balloons will be released, and moments of silence will be held.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans will gather to honor the lives and deeds of our greatest American heroes in church yards, national cemeteries, and town squares, and a black and white flag will fly proudly.

All of this is good and fitting, but our patriots deserve a special place of honor because of their selfless dedication, unmatched valor, and unsurpassed devotion to our Nation's values.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I have introduced legislation which will designate the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum at Cecil Field in my Congressional District in Florida as a national landmark to honor, connect, inspire, and educate the American people about prisoners of war and those missing in action.

This memorial will give Americans a unique opportunity to honor the immense sacrifice made by our POWs and serve as a powerful reminder of the servicemembers whose fates are still unknown.

Mr. Speaker, we will never be able to repay our debt to those who have given their last measure of devotion for the spirit of America, but we can continue to do our duty: To remember.

On POW/MIA Recognition Day and every day, we, the people of the United States, with a grateful heart salute those who endured great dangers in the hands of the enemy and those lost in service to our Nation.

THE POWER OF PEOPLE AND POSSIBILITIES

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, think about the following motto: "The power of people and possibilities." It embodies a belief that everyone has something to contribute to our society and that meaningful employment helps people achieve the American Dream.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to recognize the people that are committed to this goal, Challenge Enterprises of North Florida, and the AbilityOne program.

Challenge Enterprises is an organization established in 1972 in Clay County, Florida, that presently employs—get this—more than 305 constituents in my district.

They employ over 100 people with disabilities as a result of the AbilityOne

program, the largest employment program for persons with disabilities.

I have been there, Mr. Speaker. I've seen firsthand how AbilityOne enhances the quality of lives. Work changes lives. That is what everybody should have; a reason to get out of bed, a reason to go to work.

The program teaches hardworking individuals to load our Navy ships with provisions, to staff the IRS mailroom, to stock shelves, to pull grocery orders for our military personnel, to clean Federal buildings, and to maintain over 70 acres of grounds.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I thank the staff, employees, and volunteers of Challenge Enterprises and the AbilityOne program for helping my constituents in northeast Florida become productive, self-reliant citizens of their community and seeing the worth and value of every individual.

RECOGNIZING JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, OAKLAND COUNTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the Jack and Jill of America, Oakland County, Michigan chapter. For 45 years, they have brought leadership and mentorship programming for our African-American young people across Oakland County.

Founded in 1978, the Oakland County chapter of Jack and Jill of America was the realization of a dream of two mothers, Robbie Johnson and Bobbye Wilhite, who were looking for more opportunities for their young children.

The 39 charter members were united in seeking a better quality of life and opportunities for success for young African Americans in our community.

The Oakland County chapter is currently one of 262 chapters nationwide whose programs are centered on education, public service, health, cultural awareness, and recreation.

Please join me, Mr. Speaker, in recognizing the Jack and Jill of America, Oakland County Chapter as they celebrate 45 years of service, education, and excellence in our community.

SUPPORTING UAW

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I am the proud daughter of the UAW. My family knew the power of being part of a union family.

My dad, who came to the United States with only a fourth grade education, felt human dignity for the first time when he worked at the Ford Motor Company in Flat Rock on the assembly line and became a member of the UAW.

We know this week hundreds of thousands of workers are fighting for a fair contract to support their families. Their current contract, Mr. Speaker, expires at midnight on September 14.

The right to strike in our country is the single most powerful tool to fight corporate greed. In the first 6 months

of this year alone, the Big Three: Ford, Stellantis, and GM made a combined \$20 billion in profits.

The Big Three CEOs received a whopping 40 percent increase in pay while the majority of workers today are living check to check.

Did you know that since 1948, every single UAW contract had a cost-of-living adjustment, a COLA. In 2009, something spectacular happened, workers came together and helped the Big Three stay afloat. They decided to put COLA aside, allowing the companies to create tier systems.

In 2023, the contract doesn't have the cost-of-living adjustment. These are the same workers, Mr. Speaker, that sacrificed so much, and now the Big Three are refusing to have their backs when they are struggling.

Two workers doing the same job side by side should not be receiving drastically different wages and benefits due to tiers that were put in place during the Great Recession. Tier systems have no place on an assembly line.

These companies should not be able to find loopholes to hire supplemental workers just so they can get away with paying them lower hourly wages and no retirement benefits.

Mr. Speaker, my dad in the 1980s was vested in health benefits within 90 days. There was no five, six, seven, eight—I even met a young girl who said it took her dad 10 years to get on top of that tier.

Folks don't realize the majority of the UAW workers in our country do not have a pension today. It is 2023. Auto-workers should be able to retire with dignity. Every worker deserves a guaranteed pension and healthcare when they retire.

The Big Three need to value their workers more than they value profits and their own CEO pay increases. They need to do what is right. They have record profits, and that should result in a record contract.

FUNDING FOR CHILDCARE

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I am, as you know, a proud mother and a proud founder of the Congressional Mamas' Caucus.

When we passed the American Rescue Plan, I was proud to have included a Federal investment for childcare; keeping childcare providers open and ensuring working parents could access childcare when they needed to go back to work.

The American Rescue Plan included \$24 billion in funding for childcare stabilization, \$15 billion alone for childcare programs for low-income families, and so much more.

This Federal funding was critical in enabling providers to pay personnel costs and keep programs afloat.

These critical funds are already running out in many States and are set to expire at the end of this month. Without immediate action here in Congress to invest in childcare, there will be dire consequences for working families.

It is estimated, Mr. Speaker, that we will lose 3.2 million slots. That is 3.2

million less children that will be able to have childcare nationwide, and it also includes 56 children in Michigan alone.

As the founder of the Congressional Mamas' Caucus, we are fighting, many of us Members, for fair and equitable access to childcare, paid leave, benefits for our care workers, and so much more. We must come together, Mr. Speaker, to find solutions to address this childcare crisis.

To all my colleagues, please realize that childcare isn't a luxury. It is a necessity for working families. Childcare is essential, and the Federal Government must renew this critical funding.

REMEMBERING JAMES "JIMMY" SHAW

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of James "Jimmy" Shaw who passed away on May 6, 2023, at the age of 66.

Jimmy was a resident of Brunswick where he spent his entire life. He was a hardworking man who, at the age of 22, started the process of acquiring his father's business, Central Hardware, that celebrated its 75th anniversary in July. Jimmy was an advocate for the Norwich Street Corridor and a respected business leader in downtown Brunswick.

Mr. Shaw's legacy will live on through his family, who Jimmy passed Central Hardware down to, just as his father did to him.

I know his children will do him proud by keeping Central Hardware a successful business serving the Brunswick community.

Jimmy was a great person. He will be remembered by his family but also the community that he had such a positive impact on.

REMEMBERING JOHNNY GREGORY PICKREN

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Johnny Gregory Pickren who passed away on July 8, 2023, at the age of 71.

Johnny, also known as "Greg," was a resident of Georgia his whole life. He was born in Douglas but moved around to other parts of Georgia such as Darien and Atlanta.

Greg's strong passion for music led him to pursue higher education in broadcast journalism, which he worked in for many years before changing paths to become an emergency medical technician in south Georgia.

Later, Greg joined the Glynn County Fire Department as a firefighter and EMT where he served the citizens of Glynn County for 28 years before retiring as deputy chief.

Greg served his community well. He dedicated his life to saving the lives of others, and his life of service should serve as an example for all of us to follow.

RECOGNIZING COACH CARL CARTER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Coach Carl

Carter for 40 years of teaching and giving back to his alma mater, Savannah Christian Preparatory School.

Carl graduated from Savannah Christian in 1974 and then went on to play football and baseball at Newberry College in South Carolina.

In 1983, he began coaching the Raiders baseball team and took over the helm in the 1989 season. Over his 35-year plus career coaching the Raiders, Carl won over 600 games, including the 2017 Georgia State championship.

In 2017, he was also inducted into the Greater Savannah Athletic Hall of Fame and the Georgia Dugout Club Hall of Fame.

He retired from coaching but did not stop impacting the students of Savannah Christian as a teacher. After his retirement from coaching, Savannah Christian renamed their baseball field the Carl Carter Field.

Carl's favorite Bible verse is John 3:16, and he tries his best to inspire his students to live a good and Godly life.

I am proud to recognize Coach Carter for his 40 years of service to the families in Savannah and continue to wish him the best for the next 40 years.

REMEMBERING JERRY WILLIS KEITH

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Jerry Willis Keith. Jerry was born on March 28, 1937, in Waycross to Warren Lott Keith and Mary Emma Corbett Keith.

He was a lifelong member of the First Baptist Church of Jesup and a member of the Golden Rulers Sunday school class.

He spent his adult life managing and operating retail grocery stores for several national food chains. There, he was always praised by many loyal employees as the best boss they ever had.

He was a very active member of many community organizations including the Elks Club, the Pine Forest Men's Golf Association, a Jaycee Member, and an elite member of the Pond House crew.

He was a loving husband, a caring father of 7, a doting grandfather of 15, and a great-grandfather of 6.

Mr. Keith's legacy will live on in the positive impact that he had on his community, and I extend my deepest sympathies to his family.

□ 1030

MIGRANT CRISIS IN NEW YORK CITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with an urgent call as we face the inaction of this House to address our budgeting needs and to potentially throw us into disarray through a government shutdown. I rise with an urgent call of action to address the influx of migrants, asylum seekers in New York City.

Since the spring of 2022, New York City has welcomed over 110,000 migrants. It has opened 200 emergency shelters and has seen the influx of 20,000 children, 15,000 of which registered in the New York City Public School System last year, and the rest, 5,000, this year.

This Friday, Mr. Speaker, I will be co-leading a New York delegation and other Members to visit New York City so they can see for themselves the challenges that are facing this city. The purpose of this trip is to show how New York City has addressed this crisis and the programs that they put in place to address the needs of these new arrivals.

Many would like to say that this is unprecedented. Many would even resort to hateful language to say that this should not happen. The fact of the matter is that this has been around in America for a very long time. In fact, Mr. Speaker, in 1907, the busiest year ever for immigration in our country, Ellis Island saw 1.25 million immigrants processed.

The busiest day was April 17 of that very same year, with a record of 11,747 immigrants processed relatively quickly, Mr. Speaker. They also faced great challenges. They also faced discrimination. There was a literacy test enacted so they would not come in. The Chinese Exclusion Act was put forward so that Chinese immigrants would not come in. There were patterns of hateful language and discrimination all over America during that year, and yet only 2 percent of them were rejected. On that island called Ellis Island, which some call the island of tears, only 2 percent were sent back.

Mr. Speaker, 1.2 million of them were let into New York City, and they rebuilt the city of New York. I propose to you that the immigrants that are coming to New York City will also rebuild this city, this great city of New York.

After the COVID-19 pandemic, we need their energy. We need their hunger, their hunger to succeed. We need their innovativeness. That is exactly what America needs; not hateful language, not literacy acts, not complicated obstacles to prevent them from moving forward.

Mr. Speaker, there are three basic solutions to this impasse. The first one is TPS for Venezuelans. They already have the temporary protective status. Let's just extend it until yesterday so they have the right to work; and everybody, including those across the aisle, understand that the work permit is the solution. Let them work so they are not a load on government. That is the first one.

The second one is through the CBP One app, many of them have already applied as asylum seekers, but yet they have not applied for the work permit. Let's make sure they do that. The law allows that right now. A work permit is not statutory. It is regulatory.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, in a supplemental, we must do much better for