

Corporate Storage recently completed a \$15 million expansion to improve service for manufacturing, healthcare, and food processing customers throughout north Georgia. Congratulations, Corporate Storage, for this well-deserved recognition.

Last but not least, I would like to honor the Top Small Employer, pdblowers, Incorporated, which employs 28 Georgians at its headquarters in Gainesville.

Founded in 1990, pdblowers is a custom manufacturer of positive displacement blower systems, including fabrication, design, and systems integration. The business has built an outstanding reputation as a leading distributor in its field due to years of exceptional customer service, innovative solutions, and on-time delivery. Congratulations, pdblowers, Incorporated.

Additional companies honored by the Greater Hall County Chamber of Commerce include: Carroll Daniel Construction for workforce development, Performance Foodservice for workforce excellence, Marel for safety performance, ZF for corporate responsibility, and Harris Products Group for environmental responsibility.

Congratulations to Hall County's 2023 top industry winners. I thank each of the recognized companies for investing in our community, driving innovation, and fostering economic growth in Hall County.

□ 1045

#### END HUNGER NOW

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, this holiday season, I am thankful for the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts for once again organizing a 43-mile march through Western Massachusetts to raise awareness about hunger and fundraise for families in need.

I am proud to announce that this year's march, the 14th annual, raised \$500,000. I couldn't be more grateful to all the marchers, fundraisers, and community organizers who made this happen.

I was so proud to join them on November 20 and 21 as we walked sunup to sundown, traveling from Springfield to Greenfield. We stopped at crucial community centers that work hard to feed anyone who is hungry.

A huge thank you to our fearless leader, radio personality Monte Belmonte, who has been the inspiration for the march for the past 14 years. He pushed an empty shopping cart all 43 miles and stopped to pose with roaring crowds every chance he could. He is a true local icon and hero.

We were joined by dozens of hunger advocates who marched on against freezing Massachusetts winds but kept their heads up the whole way. We were fed by the brand-new Holyoke Culinary

Arts food truck, Wake the Dead Donuts, Berkshire Brewing, Richardson's Candy, and, finally, a hot meal from pay-what-you-can Stone Soup Cafe. Of course, there were countless volunteers who made sure we had plenty of Dunkin'.

We peeked into community action centers like Lorraine's Soup Kitchen in Chicopee, Kate's Kitchen of Holyoke, and Amherst Survival Center.

I also thank the rest stops set up by the MLK Family Services Center, Fame of Holyoke, the WRSI and NEPM radio stations, Adventure East, Hawks and Reed, and Home Depot.

I thank Congressman Richie Neal for joining us at the kickoff. I thank Congressman JOE KENNEDY for keeping me company for several hours on Route 116, and Governor Maura Healey for being the first-ever Governor to join this incredible event.

I was proud of the many State legislators who joined the march, including State senators, Jo Comerford and Jake Olivera; and representatives Natalie Blais, Mindy Domb, Dan Carey, and Lindsay Sabadosa.

Special thanks to Andrew Morehouse, the executive director of the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts; Tim Garvin with the United Way; the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Dave; Jamie Hoag, and the amazing staff at Attorney General Andrea Campbell's office, who marched with us; as well as District Attorney Dave Sullivan, and so many more.

Although the march was hard, we all know being hungry is harder. Across the country, 44 million people are food insecure. In Massachusetts, one in five families don't have reliable access to affordable, nutritious food. That is a disgrace.

As I say every week on this floor, hunger is a political condition.

In this Congress, we have seen House Republicans attack antihunger programs every chance they get, from advocating for onerous—and let me just say, ineffective—work requirements, to slashing programs that feed hungry moms, infants, and children. It appears this extreme MAGA majority will stop at nothing to turn the clock back on the progress we have made to fight hunger.

That is why the March for the Food Bank in Western Massachusetts is so critical. It is a display of care and generosity, in spite of the fact that some here in Washington are hell-bent on taking food from people who need it most.

With the half a million dollars that these volunteers raise, the food bank will serve 1.5 million meals, but charity alone will not address the root causes that plunge people into hunger.

Food banks are a Band-Aid, but we in Congress should be pressing for deeper, enduring solutions. People shouldn't have to turn to a food bank every month. They should just have enough money to be able to buy groceries.

Programs like SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program,

keep hardworking families from having to choose between buying food and paying rent. SNAP gives participants the dignity of shopping for their own food.

We ought to fund, not cut, these programs. By the way, even if you don't agree with me that ending hunger is a moral imperative, you ought to still get on board because it saves us money in the long run.

SNAP lifted 2.8 million Americans out of poverty in 2021 and can generate almost double the economic output for each dollar invested in it.

Why do so many on the other side insist on cutting it every chance they get?

Let us instead choose to invest in SNAP, in WIC, and in our whole antihunger safety net. Instead of cutting services for those in need, we need to invest in our people, in our communities, and in our country.

We can end hunger now. What we need is the political will, and the people who marched with me on November 20 and 21 have the political will. They are counting on us here in Congress to live up to the promise of our country and make sure that nobody, absolutely nobody goes hungry.

If we do that, we can end hunger now.

#### PROTECT OUR COUNTRY BY SECURING OUR BORDERS

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

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government's primary role is to protect the country by securing our borders.

The Biden administration has allowed, even facilitated, an invasion of more than 8 million foreign nationals led by drug cartels, terrorists, and human traffickers.

Joe Biden has created a fentanyl crisis, a national security crisis, and a child trafficking disaster, making the U.S. vulnerable in every way. In addition, this invasion costs taxpayers billions of dollars every year.

Cartels are bringing unaccompanied minors across the border, and these taxpayer dollars are being used to fly unaccompanied children across the country on secret flights.

Secretary Mayorkas has lost track of 85,000 children, and he must be held accountable through impeachment.

Americans miss President Trump. He made border security his top priority. In Congress, I will always defend children and fight for strong borders.

#### GUN HOMICIDES

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, while gun deaths in the United States far outpace those of other countries and now are the leading cause of death among children under 18, recent CDC

data shows a glimmer of hope: Gun homicides are down slightly from 2021.

We have seen this reduction in places like Philadelphia and Chester as a host of community violence prevention programs, funded by the American Rescue Plan and the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, take hold.

Tragically, the data also shows gun suicides reached a record high last year with nearly 27,000 people across the United States dying from gun suicide. More than half of gun deaths in Pennsylvania alone were from suicides last year.

We have ways to reduce gun suicide in this country, red flag laws, safe storage, and waiting periods, all of which have been proven to reduce gun suicide, but the NRA and extremist Republicans continue to block these commonsense constitutional measures which can save lives.

When we speak about gun violence, we often say there are solutions, research-based solutions. We don't have to live this way. Today, I will add that in the case of gun suicide, we should also be mindful that people don't have to die this way.

By creating legal space between a person in crisis and access to a firearm, more people will live and more families will be spared the immeasurable pain of losing a loved one. We need Congressional action now.

#### ELECTION MISINFORMATION CONTINUES

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, election misinformation continues to plague our country as leaders who know better repeat or fail to contradict baseless conspiracy theories and lies about the integrity of our elections. Not only do these lies and conspiracy theories undermine public faith in our democracy and elections, they cost taxpayer dollars.

Since the 2020 election, in the county where I live, we have seen multiple baseless lawsuits filed seeking to overturn or audit election results. None of them have produced evidence of misconduct or inaccurate results. What they have done is cost taxpayer dollars in legal fees, court resources, and time and effort by county employees and election officials that have to be diverted to defending these groundless suits.

I am proud of the professional administrators and volunteers who work so diligently every election to safeguard our democracy and make it work, but it is also important that leaders from across the political spectrum step up and stand up for our democratic processes and call out those who are trying to undermine them, as well as call out those who are wasting taxpayer dollars.

#### SABINO HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sabino High

School football team, who recently won the Arizona's 3A Division State Championship defeating their opponent 68-46.

This win holds special significance in my district because this is the first time in 8 years that a Tucson-area high school clinched the football State title.

I also recognize Head Coach Ryan McBrayer and his staff. Coach McBrayer has a record of 57 wins and only 19 losses throughout his coaching career. This title is a testament to the dedication of the players and the coaches, an incredible accomplishment they won't soon forget.

I am confident that the lessons of determination, teamwork, and perseverance will stay with these young players for a lifetime.

Congratulations again to the Sabino Sabercats for their successful 2023 season. This victory is a true reflection that hard work does pay off.

#### HONORING DEBI AND MARK HALL FOR ADVOCATING AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the remarkable efforts of Debi and Mark Hall for their activism and their fight against Alzheimer's disease.

Earlier this year, I had the privilege of sitting down and speaking with the Halls, as well as participating in this year's Walk to End Alzheimer's.

Debi, who spent 40 years as a nurse, was diagnosed with this devastating disease at the age of 65 in 2020. Her diagnosis spurred the couple's mission to raise money and support efforts to find a cure for Alzheimer's.

Now, they are known as tireless advocates in the fight to raise awareness, find a cure, and support those who suffer from Alzheimer's and their loved ones.

I have to tell you, I have been around Debi and Mark a few times, and their love and support for each other is unmatched. It is lovely to see the way they look at each other, support each other, and, yes, even dance with each other. It is something amazing to see.

Our community and the fight against Alzheimer's are stronger because of the work of the Halls in Southern Arizona.

As we conclude Alzheimer's Awareness Month, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to them for the dedication and compassion that they bring to Arizona's Sixth Congressional District.

#### REMEMBERING AND HONORING THE LIFE OF FREDDY ORTIZ

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of Freddy Ortiz, a devoted CBP agent who tragically lost his life in the line of duty.

On November 13, Agent Ortiz was responding to reports of illegal border activity when he was involved in a fatal ATV crash in Douglas, Arizona.

Agent Ortiz dedicated his life to service to our country, serving in the U.S. Navy before spending the last 13 years in CBP.

The loss of Freddy Ortiz underscores a harsh reality: Our law enforcement and Border Patrol put their lives on the line every day when they wake up and put on their uniforms.

As we gather with family and friends this holiday season, I encourage you all to remember families like the Ortizes who will be missing a loved one at their table because he made the ultimate sacrifice.

Freddy's service, sacrifice, and legacy will never be forgotten. It will never be forgotten.

□ 1100

#### REMEMBERING SAUNDRA GRAHAM

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

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember three generational leaders who have earned the honor of being eulogized in this great Chamber and in perpetuity in our CONGRESSIONAL RECORD: Saundra Graham, Pearline James, and Mukiya Baker-Gomez, three incredible Black women whose love for community was manifest in their historic achievements and legacy they invite us all to aspire to.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the passing of Ms. Saundra Graham. Saundra Graham's contributions to Cambridge and the Commonwealth far outpace her impressive and well-earned list of titles: first woman of color elected to the Cambridge City Council, the first woman of color to be the vice mayor, six-term State representative, secretary to the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, founder of the Massachusetts Childcare Coalition, co-founder of the Riverside Cambridgeport Community Development Corporation, among others.

Saundra Graham truly was a trailblazer on a mission to do good along the way, and she wasn't afraid to make good trouble in the name of justice both inside and outside of politics.

She was a tenacious truth-teller, and I count myself amongst those who will miss her righteous reprimands. Her impact is an indelible one which will endure throughout our Commonwealth and in her loving family, which I know was her greatest legacy as she was a proud mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother.

May she rest in peace and power.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO PEARLINE JAMES

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an incredible woman of faith, Pearline James. In church, I grew up singing a song, "They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love." Indeed, Mrs. James was God's love in action.

Pastor Pearline James served God and her community as an associate pastor at Full Life Gospel Center in Dorchester. She did this with love, dedication, and compassion for all God's children.