

RECOGNIZING ROXANNE WATSON

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

Mr. LAWLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Roxanne Watson, a resident of the 17th Congressional District who is here in the gallery today.

Roxanne has dedicated herself to raising awareness about organ donation, serving as a patient advocate and as a transplant ambassador for Donate Life, WomenHeart, and the American Heart Association.

As the recipient of an organ donation herself, which saved her life, Roxanne has taken this issue head-on.

She has served as an advocate and volunteer with LiveOnNY for over a decade and as a volunteer with the New York Organ Donor Network, where she has used her platform to help increase the number of organ donors in Rockland County by over 15 percent in the past 20 years.

For these efforts, she has recently been recognized as a Guinness world-record holder having signed up over 13,000 individuals to become organ donors.

Roxanne Watson is a leader within our community and a role model for others, and I am honored to recognize her today on the House floor for her lifesaving efforts.

HONORING IMPACTFUL BLACK LEADERS IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

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

Mr. FROST. Madam Speaker, I rise today as Black History Month has come to a close in order to honor some of the most impactful Black leaders Central Florida has ever seen.

They blaze trails in my home State, making history by being the first Black Floridians to graduate from local schools, to serve on local city councils, run for city commissioner posts, and pass constitutional amendments.

Camille Evans, Sonya Hill, Dr. LaVon Bracy, Dr. Reverend Randolph Bracy, Commissioner Mable Butler, Dr. Alzo Reddick, Byron Brooks, Dr. Bridget Williams, Chester Glover, Denise Diaz, Representative Kamia Brown, and Barbara Chandler.

Each one of them has dedicated their lives to service in one way, shape, or form. Because of that, our State, community, and Nation are a better place.

Today and always, we celebrate their achievements and continue to honor Black excellence.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LATE STATE REPRESENTATIVE KRIS JORDAN

(Mr. BALDERSON asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to the late State representative, Kris Jordan of Delaware County, who passed away unexpectedly this weekend.

Kris and I both entered the Ohio House of Representatives—in the minority—on the same day in 2009. Kris and I both moved over to the Ohio Senate in 2011, where he would eventually serve as my vice chairman on the Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee.

Kris will be remembered as a public servant of strong convictions. He was also a relentless campaigner, going door-to-door year-round, even when he was uncontested. This earned him the respect and admiration of a loyal following in Delaware County, a community he served faithfully in various roles for virtually all of his adult life.

Our prayers continue to be with the many loved ones that Kris leaves behind, including his three young children, Macy, David, and Everly.

RECOGNIZING EUGENE HARMOND

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

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate a monumental milestone in the career of Mr. Eugene Harmond as part of our Black History Month celebrations. Mr. Harmond will soon celebrate 50 years of flight service with Delta Airlines.

Eugene Harmond was the first African-American male flight attendant hired by Delta Airlines in 1973 at a time when there were very few male flight attendants and even fewer men of color in the industry.

I served as a flight attendant for Delta Airlines for 30 years, and I would convey my profound gratitude and respect to Mr. Harmond as he marks 50 years of flight service this year.

Our commitment to kindness, caring, and safety instilled towards all those we serve always stays with you. I am honored to have Mr. Harmond, his wife, Loreine, and their daughter, Lokie in the House Gallery today.

From a former flight attendant and on behalf of the thousands of Americans you have served, congratulations and thank you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded not to refer to occupants in the gallery.

SPEAK SOFTLY AND CARRY A BIG STICK

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

Mr. JAMES. Madam Speaker, South Africa's Government has recently adopted a worrying path highlighted by its refusal to clearly oppose Putin's

war of aggression in Ukraine and its shameful decision to host Russia and China for naval exercises on the war's anniversary.

I am a combat veteran. I have participated in both war games and war. Make no mistake, one is intended to prepare for the other.

In hard times it is easy to be seduced by the siren song of isolationism. Allowing vacuums of American influence around the world to be filled with Chinese yuan and Russian lies is a threat to our American economy and security at home.

We must speak softly and carry a big stick. And with our big stick, we must eliminate safe havens for terror organizations in Africa that would metastasize into direct threats to America in the Western Hemisphere; ensure that American-made goods both catalyze economic growth at home and help reduce long-term aid dependence in Africa; and eliminate slave labor in our battery supply chains starting with minerals stripped from Africa on the backs of Black children.

In a world where America is no longer the only choice, we must return to being the most desirable choice. It is in our vital national interest to ensure that when nations like South Africa have a choice between China or the United States of America, they will always choose America first.

HONORING THE RADIANT RAYS PROGRAM

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of eastern North Carolina.

Today begins the start of Women's History Month. And I would take this time to acknowledge a group of young women who represent the best of eastern North Carolina.

During my Live the Dream Down East tour, I had the pleasure of visiting the Radiant Rays program at the Center for Energy Education in Roanoke Rapids.

The program allows students to visit colleges and corporate renewable industries while working with teachers and industry professionals to extend knowledge beyond classroom walls.

I was honored to spend time with the students of this program who emphasized why representation matters.

Madam Speaker, we must do all that we can to empower young women and girls to pursue STEM-related career paths. I will continue fighting to ensure the next generation of women, like our Radiant Rays, have the tools they need to thrive in the East.

FAIRFIELD FALCONS GIRLS BASKETBALL 3A CHAMPIONS

(Mr. YAKYM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YAKYM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight and celebrate a very special group of Hoosiers.

Over the weekend, the Fairfield Falcons girls basketball team out of Goshen, Indiana, captured the 3A State title for the first time in school history.

The Falcons 49-42 win over Corydon Central in Indianapolis was exhilarating and extra special as it marked Fairfield's first State trophy in any sport.

We have all heard the maxim, "defense wins championships," and for the Falcons it turned out to be true.

All season long the Falcons' defense was downright stingy, allowing the fewest points per game out of any team in Indiana. But it wasn't only because of their defense that the Falcons are celebrating. In particular, Head Coach Brodie Garber credits four senior girls he is graduating for consistently providing leadership and mentorship needed for his team to take on the title.

Congratulations to Coach Garber and all the Falcons—both players and staff—on bringing home the hardware.

Thank you for making Hoosiers in Goshen and beyond so incredibly proud.

God bless you, and God bless America.

TRAIN DERAILMENTS ACROSS NORTHERN OHIO'S CORRIDOR

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, the latest disastrous Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, traveled through my district before its crash.

Unfortunately, this follows another dangerous derailment last October in Sandusky, Ohio—in my district—at the busy Columbus bridge overpass.

One half year later, it is clear that Norfolk Southern repairs have seriously lagged at this main artery into Sandusky, Ohio. Rail companies have failed to restore this vital main artery into the city of Sandusky, Ohio.

In a year where Norfolk Southern's rail barons brought in—get ready—\$3.27 billion in profits, the companies ought to invest in the necessary safety protocols and immediate repairs to prevent such disasters from happening again across northern Ohio's busiest corridor.

The current and long-term health and safety for rail workers, for residents of communities in East Palestine and Sandusky must be America's top priority. America cannot allow rail chieftains to exploit communities and working people's safety while in turn padding their own pocketbook with billions of dollars of money.

The time to change course in rail safety is now.

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HONORING MORRIS BUTLER

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Darien Councilman Morris Butler who passed away last month.

Mr. Butler served on the Darien City Council for 3 years where he will be remembered as a kind man and as a man who would always fight for what he thought was right.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Debra, his five daughters, and his 10 grandchildren.

Mayor "Bubba" Hodge remembered Councilman Butler for his warm smile, his love for his family, and his love for people in general.

The mayor said that he always felt warmth when he was around Councilman Butler and now feels a void without his presence.

This is a trying time for the people of Darien as this is the second councilmember that they have lost due to death in the last month, but I know that the memory and the legacy of both of these councilmembers, especially of Morris Butler, will not be forgotten.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Butler and his family.

DENOUNCING ABHORRENT REMARKS

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

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, last week, one of our colleagues from across the aisle made very ignorant comments and questioned Representative JUDY CHU's loyalty and service to this country.

These claims were baseless, discriminatory, and flat-out wrong. As one of his own Republican colleagues said, these types of troubling comments are out of bounds and, yes, beyond the pale.

Questioning Congresswoman JUDY CHU's loyalty to the United States purely based on her Chinese heritage is not only racist and xenophobic, it is very dangerous, and it is not new.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was subject to baseless accusations of being a communist by J. Edgar Hoover. These same harmful bouts of hateful misinformation have been cast on myself, Congresswoman ILHAN OMAR, and other women of color in Congress. It is despicable.

Madam Speaker, hate speech leads to hate violence. We must clearly and strongly denounce this kind of rhetoric, especially during a time when our AAPI community continues to be a target of hateful aggression against the country.

Congresswoman CHU has been a steadfast warrior for constituents in

her district, the AAPI community, and for all marginalized communities she has worked for across our country. She is a great patriot.

To question her service and loyalty to the United States is shameful and unacceptable.

RECOGNIZING INDIANA HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

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

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, this Saturday was a big day for basketball in Indiana. Let's be honest: Every day is a big day for basketball in Indiana.

Nonetheless, this weekend, the girls' basketball teams throughout the State went head-to-head to compete for the Indiana High School Athletic Association State championship.

I am proud to share that not just one but two southern Indiana high schools brought home State titles for the Ninth District.

First to play was the Lanesville Eagles girls' basketball team. They walked away from the game with the school's first-ever IHSA Class 1A State championship title.

The Eagles continued their firsts as senior Linzie Wernert was named the first athlete in Lanesville history to win the 2023 Patricia L. Roy Mental Attitude Award.

Next up on the basketball court was the Bedford North Lawrence Lady Stars basketball team. They won the game with the IHSA class 4A State championship title for the fifth time.

Again, only adding to their success, senior Karsyn Norman was named the 2023 recipient of the Patricia L. Roy Mental Attitude Award.

Both teams left their hearts on the basketball court and represented their hometowns well. I join all Hoosiers across the district in saying congratulations. Their dedication to the sport helps make Indiana the best basketball State in the country.

HONORING BRANDON COX

(Mrs. LEE of Nevada asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I think all of us Members of Congress can agree on one thing; that one of the greatest joys of being a Member is knowing the great men and women who work for us day in and day out. These men and women also dedicate their lives to serving others and serving our country.

Today, I honor one such man, my former chief of staff, Brandon Cox, who as of Friday will be moving on to bigger and better challenges.

I first met Brandon 8 years ago as a staffer for my campaign, and I saw a confident young man who knew politics better than anyone, worked harder than anyone, had a memory for details