

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

that is unmatched, and who demanded excellence from himself and others.

Brandon has been an accomplished manager, first of my campaign and for the last 4 years, of my entire congressional staff.

When you are elected as a freshman, you are often advised to not hire your campaign manager as your chief, but I did not listen, thankfully.

I knew I needed someone who knew Nevada's Third Congressional District, who always had my back, who knew me, and knew how to get things done. My office was better for it, but most importantly, my constituents were better for it.

Brandon, it has been a good run. Wishing you all the best.

106TH ANNIVERSARY OF PUERTO RICO'S U.S. CITIZENSHIP

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

Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the 106th anniversary of the people of Puerto Rico being granted their U.S. citizenship.

Puerto Rico became a U.S. territory in 1898. In 1906, President Roosevelt called on Congress to confer U.S. citizenship to Puerto Ricans. On March 2, 1917, the Jones Act was signed into law.

We are proud American citizens, and we are proud of the contributions we have made to this great Nation. More than 235,000 Puerto Rican servicemembers have served and have fought in every military conflict that our Nation has had since World War I.

However, although we are U.S. citizens, the Federal Government often treats us unequally. I live on the island, and I can tell you that we no longer want to be treated differently.

We want the same rights and responsibilities as our fellow citizens in the States, which can only be achieved with statehood.

Like Congress acted 106 years ago to grant us our cherished American citizenship, Congress has an obligation to act again and make us a permanent part of the Union as the 51st State.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor women in America and abroad by commemorating Women's History Month.

Today and always, we honor the brave, courageous, and fearless women who have made this Nation so great; to name a few: Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Dolores Huerta, Celia Cruz, the hidden figures such as Mary Jackson and Katherine Johnson, and most recently, Madam Speaker Emerita NANCY

PELOSI, who was the first woman to serve as Speaker of this House.

From the women in leadership roles on my staff who help respond every single day to the needs of my constituents, to the women who tirelessly uplift our families and our communities, we cannot imagine a world without the leadership of women.

It fills me with great pride to represent a district that is over 52 percent female. Women get things done—period, and they do it better than us men.

Happy Women's History Month, Madam Speaker.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the month of March as Women's History Month. This is a time dedicated to recognizing and honoring the women throughout American history who have helped shape our Nation.

Let me be clear: I do mean Women's History Month. Women have been fighting for over a century for our right to vote, our right to be heard, and our right to have a seat at the table.

Now, the woke left is claiming that instead of celebrating women this month, we should be celebrating birthing people.

Well, last I checked, the only person who could actually give birth was a woman, but let's not let the facts get in the way of a good story.

They claim the phrase "woman" is offensive to trans women, and because of that, we should choose a more inclusive phrase.

Well, let me just say: I will be celebrating Women's History Month. I will not celebrate the woke left forcing the rest of America to call a man a woman, especially when these men are actively threatening women's rights by demanding to be allowed to compete in sports against biological women like Riley Gaines.

So congratulations to all the women.

RAIL SAFETY REGULATIONS

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

Mr. LANDSMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the folks in East Palestine, Ohio, and for bipartisan congressional action on 21st century rail safety regulations.

On February 3, 38 train cars derailed in East Palestine, Ohio; 11 of them carrying highly explosive material. There was a massive explosion, and the community has been reeling ever since.

Congressman BILL JOHNSON pulled the entire Ohio delegation together, Republicans and Democrats, to ask FEMA for additional action.

FEMA's response: Full aid will be provided, and teams are on the ground to help now.

While Norfolk Southern will be responsible for making East Palestine whole, we must now act to ensure this never happens again.

Congress, all of us, Republicans and Democrats, need to pass a bipartisan package that ensures safety from the wheel bearings to the brakes, from the detectors to the placards, for more frequent and comprehensive inspections to clearer communications with our communities.

We must do this for the folks in East Palestine, for Cincinnati and southwest Ohio, and for every community in this great country of ours.

HONORING STEWART McNALLY

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

Mr. MILLS. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to honor Stewart McNally, a United States Army veteran who sadly passed away last summer.

Before he began his honorable service in the United States Army in the late 1960s, Stewart was the captain of the Arthur Hill Tech football team and went on to work at GM shortly after graduating.

He served honorably, and after his service in uniform, he came to Florida in my district to begin another kind of service, his family.

He moved to Florida's Seventh to take care of his elderly father, another civil servant, who served in the United States Army during World War II.

His friends and family remember him as a loyal friend with a great sense of humor. He loved to cycle, fish, and run in his free time.

Stewart is survived by his son, Jacob, and I am honored to help celebrate his life and incredible service to the United States of America.

WORKERS FEEL LEFT BEHIND

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

Mr. SORENSEN. Madam Speaker, I have heard from so many working families across central and northwestern Illinois who feel like they are left behind.

Big corporations report record profits while workers struggle to make ends meet. Let's remember that it was the American worker who built this country, and it was the workers coming together to bargain collectively who built a strong middle class.

The PRO Act is the most significant update to workers' rights in 80 years, and it couldn't come soon enough.

When workers have the power to stand together and form a union, they get higher wages, better benefits, and safer working conditions.