

CATHY GERAGHTY

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my dear friend and champion of biodiversity, Cathy Geraghty.

I am pleased to announce that Cathy is the 2023 recipient of the Dr. George B. Rabb Force of Nature Award. During her two-decade-long career with the Forest Preserves of Cook County, Cathy has pushed the organization forward in tackling conservation issues, particularly with her drafting of the Next Century Conservation Plan.

With an implementation strategy that includes volunteer outreach, tying the preserves to the economic future of Chicago, restoring 30,000 acres to full health, and leading with transparency, this plan will continue to improve our forest preserves and increase the community that supports them.

When she isn't working with the Forest Preserves of Cook County, she spends her free time serving as a proud member of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance Steering Committee, who has awarded her this honor. Cathy is a true force of nature, and I could not be more proud of my friend and the work she has done to support our environment.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to recognize the upcoming celebrations for National School Choice Week. Partnering with over 27,000 schools around the country, the focus is to inform parents of the education options available, meeting the needs for each family.

This year, there will be over 390 bipartisan events in South Carolina bringing attention to the education options available. Districts are beginning to provide open enrollment practices, such as Richland County School District One.

Open enrollment allows choosing the right school for unique learning and childcare needs. Educators are also appreciated, beginning with my wife, Roxanne, a dedicated educator and teacher.

I am also grateful for South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster and Superintendent of Education Ellen Weaver for their promoting leadership.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America with Biden open borders for terrorists. It is sadly clear there will be more 9/11 attacks across America imminent, as has been warned by the FBI.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the voters of Iowa for supporting Donald Trump.

PROPOSED FDA MENTHOL BAN

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as the President is heading to North Carolina to talk about jobs, there is contemplation of finalizing a rule to ban menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars.

I want to make clear: I came to Congress to be a champion for jobs, not get rid of them. If finalized, this rule would rip jobs away from eastern North Carolina and our State. We must be concerned about health and economic wellness. It is about the 27,000 jobs in North Carolina that hang in the balance.

Menthol cigarettes support over 6,000 jobs, with 2,000 in manufacturing alone. These jobs aren't just numbers; they represent people, families, homes, and the American Dream. It is about how we put food on the table and send our kids to school.

Wiping out these jobs is unacceptable. I will stay in this fight today, tomorrow, and into the future for eastern North Carolina.

PAUL KERCHUM

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the legacy of Paul Kerchum. At the time of his death, Mr. Kerchum was one of the last survivors of the Bataan Death March.

Paul enlisted in the military in 1938, beginning a 29-year military career. In 1942, Paul was taken as a POW in the Philippines and forced to march for 65 miles in what is now known as the Bataan Death March.

Following his retirement in 1966, he and his wife, Gloria, made Arizona their home. For Paul, civilian life included hours of community service and impactful public speaking, sharing his story of bravery and courage.

Later this month, the Benson Municipal Airport will be renamed in Paul's honor.

Mr. Speaker, while we will never be able to fully express our gratitude for Paul's service, we hope this serves as a small token of appreciation.

TRUMP EMOLUMENT CLAUSE

(Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I recently joined colleagues on the House Oversight Committee in releasing a report confirming what we have known all along, that Donald Trump and his family, especially the Kushners, participated in the largest Presidential grift in history.

We have records of 20 foreign governments funneling millions through Trump properties and into Donald Trump's pockets while he was President, all in violation of the U.S. Constitution.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. We have only been able to access payments and illegal gifts from four Trump properties. Trump owns hundreds of properties and businesses.

Despite the different cover-ups, we can still prove that Trump and Jared Kushner were making national security decisions while he and his family were getting bribes and paid by the same foreign powers. Millions were being spent by countries like China and Saudi Arabia, and we need immediate answers on why Jared Kushner got a \$2 billion Saudi investment fund just months after leaving the White House.

We have been raising the alarm on this issue over and over. The corruption is unacceptable, and we must hold the Trump crime family accountable.

NO TAX DOLLARS TOWARD ABORTION

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade case, which prevented States from protecting unborn children from the mass murder we now call abortion.

Thankfully, last year, that case was overturned by Dobbs v. Jackson. That case was celebrated across the country by everyone who wants to protect these sweet little babies.

The day that case was decided, I went out to the front of the Supreme Court, and I saw crowds of young people celebrating the victory. They were playing music, blowing bubbles, and just having a great time.

I also saw crowds of angry pro-abortion activists chanting, holding obscene signs, and even crying. They were mourning the fact that abortion couldn't be forced on States that didn't want it anymore. Unfortunately, some of these people were Members of Congress.

Every step of the way, my pro-abortion colleagues have blocked our efforts to protect babies from abortion. They have pushed for taxpayers to fund it. My constituents don't want their tax dollars paying for doctors to kill babies. They call it healthcare, to make it seem less evil than it is, but, Mr. Speaker, it is like putting lipstick on a pig. It just doesn't work.

When faced with the true horrors of abortion, most Americans don't want to see this happen, and they certainly don't want to be forced to pay for it. It is sad that I even need to say this, but we will fight to protect babies from being killed as long as I am in Congress.

STATUE OF LIBERTY

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I issued a challenge yesterday to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to stop lying and be honest about what they actually mean when they are talking about changes to our immigration system and at the border, and it looks like they are taking my advice.

Let's look at this board. We have a fellow Floridian on the record saying she wants family separation. Seems like a nice sentiment coming from someone who is a new mother.

We have our infamous colleague from Georgia saying that she can't wait for mass deportations to start on day one of the Trump administration.

Then we also have the criminally indicted former President himself saying that he wants to scrap birthright U.S. citizenship.

I want to remind everybody that the promise of this country, the promise written on the Statue of Liberty, is one that welcomes all folks who are most vulnerable with open arms; like my mother did when she came here from Cuba as a refugee and asylum seeker.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans in the House need to stop lying to the American people. If you don't believe in the promise of this country or in our values, you don't believe in the beacon of hope that is the Statue of Liberty.

SUPPORTING ORPHAN WELL GRANTS

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bipartisan bill, the Orphan Well Grant Flexibility Act.

We all know that abandoned wells, either unplugged or improperly plugged, can pose serious environmental and health risks to surrounding communities. In Pennsylvania alone, there are more than 27,000 documented abandoned and orphaned oil and gas wells across the State.

It is not just a Pennsylvania issue, however, as abandoned wells are found across the country. The Orphan Well Grant Flexibility Act, which I introduced alongside my colleague Congressman DELUZIO from Pennsylvania, will empower States to maximize their flexibility when plugging abandoned oil wells and cut red tape to accelerate environmental rehabilitation.

We have many of the resources we need to plug these wells, and now it is our job to ensure that they are able to be used for their intended purpose.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman DELUZIO for joining me in leading this critical effort, and I encourage all of

my colleagues to support this legislation.

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CONGRATULATING DETROIT LIONS AND QB JARED GOFF

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as a proud southern Californian, I rise to congratulate my good friend, Representative KILDEE from Michigan, on the hard-fought victory last Sunday by his beloved Detroit Lions against the Los Angeles Rams, 24-23.

Before the game, I had agreed with Representative KILDEE that should the Lions beat the Rams, I would be happy to publicly congratulate the good people of Michigan, who have been waiting more than three decades for a Lions playoff win, as well as Lions starting quarterback Jared Goff, who is a product, I might add, of the University of California, where he played from 2013 to 2015.

After his college career, Goff was then drafted by the Rams with the first overall pick in 2016, after which he took us to the Super Bowl in 2018.

While it pains me that Representative KILDEE is not here praising Rams quarterback and 2021 Super Bowl champion Matthew Stafford right now, I genuinely wish Goff, the Lions, and all of my friends in Michigan great success in the weeks ahead.

KFIR'S FIRST BIRTHDAY SPENT AS HAMAS' HOSTAGE

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

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share the story of Kfir Bibas, whose first birthday is today. Instead of spending it in the embrace of his family, Kfir is at the mercy of some of the world's most vile terrorists.

Along with his 4-year-old brother and parents, the sweet redheaded boy became the youngest of more than 240 hostages who were brutally kidnapped by evil Hamas militants on October 7.

In such desperate times, I am reminded of the promises of our Almighty God, particularly those which set apart our children as the apple of His eye.

Mark 9:42 tells us: "If anyone causes one of these little ones . . . to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea."

So sayeth Mark.

Today, I demand that these reprehensible animals release Kfir immediately, along with all the remaining hostages.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues and fellow Americans to stand with Kfir and Israel and to pray for peace.

ASSAULT ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONTINUES

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, in the last 1½ years, we have seen the horrific impact of overturning the right to an abortion, and the assault continues.

The Supreme Court just announced that it would be hearing a challenge to the Biden administration's policy that abortion remains a form of emergency treatment for women whose lives are at risk.

This was done to ensure that even in States that have draconian abortion bans, doctors are able to provide needed emergency medical care.

It is unconscionable that doctors are calling their lawyers while patients are dying on the operating table.

Too often the so-called pregnancy crisis centers are a sham that peddle misinformation, and they certainly shouldn't be eligible for Federal dollars meant to help people in need.

Why are we wasting our time on culture wars instead of policies that actually help American families?

This is a disservice to the American people, and I urge my colleagues to reject this legislation.

SUPPORTING PREGNANT AND PARENTING WOMEN AND FAMILIES ACT

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 969, I call up the bill (H.R. 6918) to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from restricting funding for pregnancy centers, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). Pursuant to House Resolution 969, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-20 is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 6918

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PREGNANCY CENTERS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may not finalize, implement, or enforce, with respect to expenditures for any pregnancy center, the modification to section 263.11 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, as described in the proposed regulation set forth beginning on page 67697 of volume 88 of the Federal Register, or any substantially similar regulatory action.

(b) *DEFINITION OF PREGNANCY CENTER.*—In subsection (a), the term "pregnancy center" means any organization, such as a pregnancy resource center, pregnancy help center or organization, or pregnancy medical center, that—