

Transformation Partners was hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, but once again, thanks to the assistance of the SBA, the firm remained operational and weathered the storm. Now their efforts have earned them national recognition as SBA's 2024 National Small Business Persons of the Year for Alabama.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the outstanding entrepreneurship in Alabama's Seventh Congressional District. Congratulations to all of our winners. I wish them much success in the years ahead.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF REBECCA DAWN FOSTER

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the incredible life of Rebecca Dawn Foster.

Rebecca was many things to many people: a beloved daughter, sister, wife, mother, and, most recently, grandmother. Above all else, Rebecca was an amazing human being and devoted Christian who did everything to serve others and leave this world better than she found it.

Rebecca was my friend. Rebecca was born on September 30, 1968, to Wesley and Faye Neil. A native of Fentress County, Tennessee, she graduated from Clarkrange High School, where she competed on the 1983, 1984, and 1985 girls' basketball State championship teams. If she were here, she would tell you that they came that close to winning again in 1986. Memories of those wins sparked joy throughout her entire life.

Rebecca earned a bachelor of science in nursing and later a master of science in nursing informatics from Tennessee Technological University. She had a distinguished 29-year career in healthcare, most recently in the role of chief nursing officer for Cumberland Medical Center in Crossville. In 2019, she graciously agreed to take on a new occupation focused on constituent care rather than patient care as my district director for Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

Her dedication to service lives on through her family. Rebecca took enormous pride in her husband, Allen, who serves as mayor of Cumberland County, Tennessee; her daughter, Brooke, who followed in her footsteps in nursing; and her son, Shade, who is a sworn police officer for the city of Crossville. She is also survived by her beloved granddaughter, Asa Wright, and boy let me tell you, Rebecca took such joy from being with Asa. She is also survived by parents, Wesley and Faye Neil; sister, Sharon Reagan; mother-in-law, Edna Foster; daughter-in-law, Haley Foster; and son-in-law, Trevor Wright.

Rebecca had a lifelong passion for singing. She served as music director at Oak Hill Baptist Church for nearly

15 years. In fact, the Sunday before her passing, Rebecca was on stage with her daughter, singing her heart out and worshipping the Lord with the help of the pulpit to keep her balance.

There are simply few among us as special as Rebecca Dawn Foster. She was first diagnosed with cancer in 2023. During the difficult period that followed, many around her were fearful, but she chose to be faithful. Despite the intense treatments she underwent and sometimes-painful side effects that she endured, she continued to work as she was able and did so with a smile on her face. In fact, if you had talked to Rebecca anytime since last July, you were much more likely to find her smiling and showing pictures of her precious little granddaughter, Asa, than talking about her health battle. Her optimism lulled many of us into believing that there were many years ahead that we would get to enjoy our relationships with Rebecca.

The day before her passing, Rebecca shared a page from her prayer devotional on social media. It was titled "Unafraid," and based on the book of Hebrews, chapter 13, verses 5 and 6, which reads in part: "I will never leave you; I will always be by your side." Rebecca never questioned the presence of the Lord. She lived a life as a result. She knew God's plan for her was not to live in fear but to live in faith and to love others while she was here.

Rebecca knew each day and the good things in it are blessings from the Lord above. She kept cheerful faith throughout her painful health struggle. Last week, she went home to Heaven and received her eternal reward. Glory be to God for Rebecca Foster, who came into our lives, and with her talents and vivacious spirit left us forever changed for the better.

#### CHINESE ELECTRIC VEHICLES ARE A NATIONAL SECURITY THREAT

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

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to do what I hope is part of the responsibility of a Member of Congress, which is to flag and alert for future threats that are just around the corner. For me, that threat is the potential for thousands of Chinese electric vehicles and connected vehicles coming into the U.S. marketplace.

I am a former CIA officer and a Pentagon official, and I want to flag that the prospect of thousands of Chinese-made connected vehicles coming into the country would give them a huge amount of data, high-fidelity data on things like U.S. military bases, key infrastructure facilities, like bridges and electric grid nodes, secretive locations, individual leaders even, all while China refuses to give reciprocity on that same exact data for American companies operating in China. They know exactly how sensitive the data is that can be collected off of electric and connected vehicles.

Here is the story if you think this is fantasy: In 2021, for the first time, a Chinese-connected vehicle was sold in the European Union; not that long ago, post-COVID. Already, they have nearly 25 percent of the market share in the European Union. These vehicles are much nicer than they used to be. They are underselling every single vehicle on the market there because they are subsidized by the Chinese Government.

I had the opportunity to raise this issue as a national security threat with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Army in the past couple of weeks. I wanted to ask them specifically if they think, in their national security capacity, that mapping, radar, cameras, light detection, and Bluetooth-connected software would be a threat on our facilities here and having those kinds of volumes of data.

The Secretary of Defense could not have made it more clear that this would give a potential adversary extremely detailed information for targeting, for counteracting some of our infrastructure, for going after even individual leaders.

Now, we are an open-market society. What is happening right now is these Chinese companies are getting very interested in opening facilities in Mexico and using the USMCA, or what people commonly refer to as NAFTA, to just easily come over our border. We don't have a process in place right now to vet with a national security lens these imports that are coming in, and I have a real problem with that.

I think we need to get better at understanding that the future of threats is not necessarily just tanks and fixed-wing airplanes and all those traditional things. It is data and who controls it. For me, this is an issue that I want to alert not just because I am a Michigander, and, of course, we make American vehicles in Michigan, but as a national security professional.

#### CONGRATULATING SCOTTSBURG WARRIORS BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM, CLASS 2A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the Scottsburg Warriors boys' basketball team for their remarkable achievement in winning their first-ever Class 2A State championship this year in Indiana.

I am so proud of my hometown team. Having watched the Warriorettes achieve the State championship trophy growing up in Scottsburg in 1989, this victory was extra special.

Their hard work has paid off. Through every practice and game, these young athletes demonstrated the true spirit of teamwork and excellence. Their victory not only brings pride to the Scottsburg community, but the academic achievement and leadership

of these talented young men serves as an inspiration to aspiring athletes across the State.

I commend the coaches, staff, and supporters who have cheered on the players throughout their journey to success. Congratulations, again, to my hometown team.

CONGRATULATING LANESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL-GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM ON SECOND CONSECUTIVE CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend congratulations to the Lanesville High School girls' basketball team on their incredible achievement of winning the State championship for a second consecutive year.

Their dedication, teamwork, and determination have propelled them to the pinnacle of success, making their community and school both very proud. This team's journey is a testament to the power of hard work and perseverance.

As they celebrate this historic victory, let us recognize the countless hours of practice, the sacrifices made, and the resilience shown by each member of the team. Their win not only brings honor to Lanesville High School, but their hometown.

On behalf of the entire Ninth District, I congratulate the Lanesville girls' basketball team for their outstanding achievement and wish them continued success in all their future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING BROWNSTOWN BRAVES BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING STATE 3A CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Brownstown Braves boys' basketball team for their outstanding victory in winning the Class 3A State championship this year.

Their successful season is a testament to their hard work and exceptional talents. The Brownstown community is undoubtedly beaming with pride for this achievement. What an exciting time to be part of Indiana basketball, especially southern Indiana basketball.

I commend the coaches, staff, and supporters who provided guidance and unwavering support to these young men. I congratulate the Braves basketball team once more. This is a victory they will never forget. May they continue to strive for greatness in all their future endeavors.

## REPRESSION OF FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the escalating repression of First Amendment protected speech and assembly on college campuses across our country.

To all the elected university boards and appointed presidents, it needs to be very clear: Your students' constitutional rights don't end when they enter your campus grounds.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD statements from the ACLU and from Bend the Arc.

[April 26, 2024]

ACLU URGES COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LEADERS TO PROTECT FREE SPEECH AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM

NEW YORK.—In response to the anti-war protests happening at colleges across the country, and the disturbing arrests that have followed, the American Civil Liberties Union sent a letter to leaders at both public and private universities. The letter states:

"As you fashion responses to the activism of your students (and faculty and staff), it is essential that you not sacrifice principles of academic freedom and free speech that are core to the educational mission of your respected Institution."

Authored by ACLU Executive Director Anthony D. Romero and National Legal Director David Cole, the letter offers university leaders five basic guardrails to ensure freedom of speech and academic freedom are protected on campus:

1. They must not single out particular viewpoints for censorship, discipline, or disproportionate punishment.
2. They must protect students from targeted discriminatory harassment and violence, but may not penalize people for taking sides on the war in Gaza, even if expressed in deeply offensive terms.
3. They can announce and enforce reasonable content-neutral time, place, or manner policies on protesting activity, but they must leave ample room for students to express themselves. These rules must be applied consistently and without regard to viewpoint.
4. They must recognize that armed police on campus can endanger students and are a measure of last resort.
5. They must resist the pressures placed on them by politicians seeking to exploit campus tensions.

The letter also informs university leaders of relevant Supreme Court precedent: "The Supreme Court has forcefully rejected the premise that, 'because of the acknowledged need for order, First Amendment protections should apply with less force on college campuses than in the community at large.'"

The letter strongly advises university leaders to be "cognizant of the history of law enforcement using inappropriate and excessive force in responding to protests, particularly against communities of color," and that—as events of the past week have made abundantly clear—arresting peaceful protestors is likely to escalate, not calm, tensions on campus.

The letter also reiterates that violence is never an acceptable protest tactic and that "physically intimidating students by blocking their movements or pursuing them aggressively is unprotected conduct, not protected speech."

[April 25, 2024]

BEND THE ARC STATEMENT ON CAMPUS PROTESTS

As we celebrate Passover this week, we are seeing Jewish students and faculty showing up Jewishly, joining and helping to lead protests on college campuses across the nation. And we have been watching with increasing concern. Concern for Jewish safety, but also concern for our democracy. [Protest is essential to our movement work and must be protected, and we firmly stand against anti-Semitism being used as an excuse to threaten free speech and criticism of university and U.S. policy. To be clear, criticism of American policy towards Israel is not inherently antisemitic.]

When protests become popular movements, they bring everyone from everywhere, with all their experiences and talents. They can also bring what afflicts our society, such as antisemitism, anti-Black racism, sexism, and homophobia. These oppressions are not reflective of the movements themselves, though critics would have you believe that they define them. Many have used accusations of antisemitism, real and perceived, to attempt to discredit these protests.

The ability of Jewish students to express their Judaism, their values, and their beliefs across a full range of political views is essential and must be protected. We must not erase them from this story. They are hosting Shabbat services in tents, holding Seder, and are showing up not just for Jewish safety, but for the safety of all people.

Jewish people have long played a role in practicing free speech and protest on campus. These protests are part of our democracy. We proudly remember the movements for Civil Rights, against the Vietnam and Iraq Wars, Occupy, Black Lives Matter, and fights against sexual violence on campus. Unfortunately, these moments also recall the unconstitutional, dangerous, and unnecessary policing of these protests. We recall the images from Kent State in 1970, when the National Guard killed four peaceful, anti-war student protesters (three of whom were Jewish). Today, college administrations are bowing to McCarthy-esque congressional hearings; evicting, suspending, and arresting Jewish and other students; and barring access to places of worship and freedom to partake in Jewish ceremony—all in an obvious attempt to appease the Right.

Many Jews, on campus and otherwise, are experiencing Passover feeling a heightened fear about antisemitism. And we see how student organizers, Jewish and non-Jewish, have powerfully shown up against occurrences of antisemitism, creating safety for Jewish students. Their values and discipline in opposing antisemitism remain in stark contrast to those who claim to fight antisemitism but instead use it to sow division between Jews and our communities, undermine democracy, and fulfill the goals of white nationalism.

And in this critical dialogue about the safety of Jews and everyone in our nation, we must not allow political interests to obscure the meaning we take away from these protests: that U.S. policy must support safety and self-determination for all Palestinians and Israelis, and that next year, we make Seder in peace.

Chag Sameach.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, the ACLU statement says: "As you fashion responses to the activism of your students (and faculty and staff), it is essential that you not sacrifice principles of academic freedom and free speech that are core to the educational mission of your respected institution."

From Bend the Arc's statement: "Protest is essential to our movement work and must be protected, and we firmly stand against anti-Semitism being used as an excuse to threaten free speech and criticism of university and U.S. policy. To be clear, criticism of American policy towards Israel is not inherently anti-Semitic."

Mr. Speaker, dissent is a fundamental American value, from the civil rights movement to antiwar protests to the movement for Black lives, immigrant rights, our country has a long history of students leading movements for change and challenging the status