

School District. Ms. Klotz has been an educator in the Nazareth Area School District in Northampton County for 23 years.

In addition to making each and every one of her students feel valued and supported in their learning journey, she is an adviser for the Kindness Squad, working with students to spread kindness not just throughout their school but across our community and even globally.

This year alone, she facilitated the collection of more than 2,000 books for the Cops 'n' Kids program and organized a toy drive for students in the Dominican Republic. Ms. Klotz also spends time mentoring aspiring educators from East Stroudsburg University.

She always goes the extra mile to make school a place where everyone—teachers, students, and families alike—can thrive.

I thank Ms. Klotz and all of our wonderful teachers for their dedication to bettering our community.

This teacher appreciation week, I am proud to recognize Morgan Polony, a third-grade teacher at Steckel Elementary School in Lehigh County.

As a Whitehall High School graduate herself, Morgan is deeply connected to her community, both inside and outside the classroom.

She has served as a high school softball coach, teacher leader, mentor, and active participant in various district committees.

Her students and colleagues know that they can always count on her for encouragement, leadership, and a positive attitude.

Morgan's impact in Whitehall goes beyond teaching. She actively participates in community events and fundraising for organizations like Big Brothers, Big Sisters and the Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital.

Her presence is felt at her students' sporting events and spirit days where her colleagues said her school spirit is truly unmatched.

We thank Morgan, and all of our wonderful teachers, for her unwavering dedication to our shared community.

CONGRATULATING ADMIRAL JOHN AQUILINO

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, the people of Guam would like to congratulate and recognize Admiral John Aquilino, call sign "LUNG."

Admiral Aquilino began his career as a midshipman at the U.S. Navy Academy. Upon graduating in 1984, he would go on to receive his aviator wings.

Over his four decades of service in the U.S. Navy, he performed his duties with distinction. From his first fighter squadron assignment to commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, he has stood a most commendable watch.

As the admiral stood his last watch as commander of the U.S. Indo-Pacific

Command, he ensured 375,000 service-members and civilian personnel maintained a bias toward action and excellence. This was especially the case in his service to the land of America's first sunrise, Guam.

During his tenure as INDOPACOM commander, he led the establishment of the Joint Task Force Micronesia and continually advocated for the Guam Missile Defense System.

His efforts ensured the people of Guam know that the Defense Department is committed to defending the homeland and our allies globally.

As the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command welcomes Admiral Paparo, we would like to take time to thank Admiral Aquilino and his family for their support, advocacy, and commitment to the Navy and our Nation.

Today, we take pause to witness this shipmate go ashore for the final time. May God bless Admiral Aquilino. We wish him fair winds and following seas. Hooyah.

□ 1045

CELEBRATING ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, as the Nation celebrates Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I proudly rise to recognize my community, the island of Guam.

Over 7,000 miles away from the U.S. mainland resides a proud community of Chamorros, Filipino Americans, Korean Americans, Micronesians, and an array of other ethnicities. We are a melting pot of different cultures and backgrounds united by our shared values and beliefs.

At the core of it all lies "inafa maolek," which means "restore harmony" or "make good." The concept of inafa maolek plays a significant role within our Asian-American and Pacific Islander community on Guam. This cultural value encourages community members to uplift one another, take care of each other, and work toward a common goal of unity and harmony.

As Guam's Representative in Congress, I am committed to ensuring that the voices and perspectives of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are heard on the national stage.

During this month, may we continue to pay tribute to the achievements and invaluable contributions of over 50 ethnic groups speaking more than 100 languages and dialects. Let us honor the rich diversity of cultures, traditions, and contributions that the AAPI community has woven into American history.

To my community back home and fellow islanders on the mainland, I extend my warmest wishes during Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VAN ORDEN). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the body to discuss the Nation's number one antipoverty program for the elderly and the Nation's number one anti-poverty program for children. That is Social Security.

Mr. Speaker, I know you know this, but can you imagine that Congress hasn't made an adjustment to Social Security in more than 53 years? Richard Nixon was President of the United States the last time that Congress enhanced benefits for the country. Imagine that, Mr. Speaker, as 10,000 baby boomers a day become eligible for Social Security.

The fund is about to be cut by 20 percent in two ways. If Congress does nothing, by 2034, according to the latest report, it will be cut 20 percent. Basically, the Nation's number one anti-poverty program for the elderly will be cut by 20 percent if Congress does nothing, and it hasn't done anything in more than 50 years.

There are some proposals, including Social Security 2100, that would extend and pay for this. There are others, like the Republican Study Committee, that say what they want to do is raise the age. The idea is that people are living longer. Well, that is true. That is a good thing.

If people are living longer, they should be working longer and should be getting less. I don't know how that makes sense, that if you are living longer, when you retire, you should be receiving less.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, for every year you raise the age, that is a 7 percent cut in benefits. Raising the age to 70 is a 21 percent cut. If that were to be enacted, that would cut Social Security 21 percent before 2033—again, leaving our most vulnerable behind.

It is not only, Mr. Speaker, seniors. Social Security is also the number one antipoverty program for children. It is also the disability program that more veterans rely on than they do the VA.

This body, this Congress, is the only body capable of doing this. The President can't do it through executive order. The Supreme Court isn't going to rule on it. The only body that can act is the United States Congress, and it hasn't done a thing.

The American people, especially with 10,000 baby boomers a day becoming eligible for Social Security, are demanding that Congress act.

We have a proposal to enhance benefits. We have a proposal to lift up the more than 5 million Americans who get below-poverty-level checks from their government after having paid into Social Security throughout a lifetime. That simply isn't fair. We have a proposal to give a tax cut to 23 million Americans who currently continue to work because they have to and whose Social Security ends up being taxed.

The Republican Study Committee lays out tax cuts for the extraordinarily wealthy in the trillions. How about we do something for the average

American citizen, the guy who gets up and works every day?

President Biden has suggested what we need to do. Because these programs are all paid for and don't impact the debt or the deficit and are an earned benefit, he has suggested that we have people making over \$400,000 pay their fair share. Currently, billionaires pay next to nothing. Millionaires are done paying Social Security on February 2. Everybody else has to pay in.

Mr. Speaker, it is about time we own up to our responsibility.

HONORING IRA SULLIVAN

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, just 1 week after his heavenly birthday, to honor one of the legends and icons of jazz music, the great Ira Sullivan.

Ira was many things: a jazz great, an educator, a mentor, a father, a husband, and a friend of mine. I remember first meeting Ira as a jazz student at the University of Miami's Young Musicians Camp Honors Jazz Program.

I remember walking in when I was very young. I think I was in the eighth or ninth grade. He asked me to play vibraphone on a jazz song. I had auditioned as a drummer, so to me that was a very foreign thing. I wasn't hip to the history of jazz vibraphone, so I felt almost like he was asking me to play timpani and play timpani on a jazz song.

Either way, the next day, he came in and gave me a pair of Gary Burton mallets and told me to try playing the vibraphone to jazz. Believe it or not, I was still very confused.

Either way, that decision changed my entire life. From then on, I started practicing jazz vibraphone and became very obsessed with it.

Years passed, and he would always invite me to come back to perform with him in the new class he was teaching, all young people that Ira had inspired and whose lives he changed.

Ira Sullivan also achieved technical skills not achieved by many, a multi-instrumentalist in the truest sense of the word, fluidly being able to play the trumpet, the saxophone, the flute, the drum set, the piano, and many other instruments.

He was born in Chicago but moved to Miami in the sixties to perform and teach. Ira had the ability to be both a jazz great in the history books but also remain an accessible educator for artists of many different levels and calibers.

Ira mentored jazz greats like Jaco Pastorius and Pat Metheny. He also taught high schoolers at the Young Musicians Camp at the University of Miami, where I met him.

Today, I want to honor Ira Sullivan for inspiring so many people.

I stopped playing jazz a few years ago, and I have been telling myself I

would get back into it. Just a few days ago, I joined a high school jazz combo from central Florida, Freedom High School, and played drums on a standard tune. I am going to start practicing again in honor of Ira.

May Ira rest in peace, a jazz legend and great teacher.

CELEBRATING ROSEN COLLEGE OF HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Rosen College of Hospitality Management at the University of Central Florida.

Established through a transformational \$18 million donation from Mr. Harris Rosen, the college advances educational and community development initiatives that bolster Florida's leading industry, tourism and hospitality.

UCF Rosen College is consistently ranked as the top hospitality college in the Nation and among the top five globally, a testament to its educational excellence and leadership in hospitality research.

Committed to advancing knowledge, embracing innovation, and serving humanity through hospitality, the college stands out not only for its top rankings but also for its extensive range of programs that provide a 99 percent job placement rate for their graduates.

It is an honor to be able to represent the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management here in the Halls of Congress as they propel Florida's primary economic sector forward and enrich our State and the global hospitality landscape.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONOREES

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor four extraordinary women for their impact on central Florida and beyond. Their tireless efforts, unwavering determination, and profound achievements have shaped our local history and continue to inspire generations to come. We honor them for their strength of character, unwavering spirit, and profound influence they have on our community.

They are Onchantho Am, associate general counsel at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine; Graciela Noriega Jacoby, chief operating officer for Heart of Florida United Way; Dr. Marie-Jose Francois, founder of the Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention; and Pastor Sharon Y. Riley, founder and pastor of Agape Perfecting Praise and Worship Center.

I celebrate these women for all that they are: trailblazers, visionaries, scientists, educators, and leaders. Among countless others, they have left behind a legacy of compassion, innovation, and empowerment in a State that needs that now more than ever.

GOP ATTACKS ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

California (Ms. BARRAGÁN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the name of freedom, the freedom that women should have to make decisions about their own bodies and have that ability, a sacred freedom that House Republicans are fighting to take away from your mother, your sister, your daughters, and every woman in America.

This week, Republicans are holding votes to say the government should not be involved in households having more efficient appliances, yet they have no problem saying government should tell women what to do with their bodies and limit their access to women's healthcare.

While House Democrats will continue to fight to restore Roe v. Wade so women have the freedom over their bodies, we must call out the extreme Republican agenda that is focused on a nationwide ban to access women's reproductive healthcare.

This assault on women and our freedoms is already underway in many Republican-led States where women are now subject to cruel abortion bans which have brought fear and danger, but also have brought heartbreaking experiences that will have lasting impacts.

For example, in Mississippi, a 12-year-old rape victim was forced to carry a baby to term.

In Ohio, a woman was criminally charged for having a miscarriage after she went to the hospital to seek care when her doctor said that the fetus was not viable.

Republican-controlled States throughout the South and Midwest have passed extreme laws that leave no options for women to access reproductive healthcare. These women have no choice but to travel hundreds of miles to a State where access to care is still available.

A Missouri woman had to travel to Illinois to save her own life after both the States of Missouri and Kansas health systems refused to provide care when her water broke at just 4 months and doctors said she was at risk of losing her uterus.

Mothers who cannot afford to travel out of State for reproductive care have been forced to endure painful pregnancies and risk their own lives when advised of serious consequences.

□ 1100

Bans make access to reproductive care unobtainable for low-income women, many of whom are Latinas and other women of color. Over 6.7 million Latina women live in States that have banned, or are likely to ban, abortions. More than 3 million of these women come from families that earn below 200 percent of the poverty line.

Access to reproductive healthcare is a women's rights issue, and it is a racial justice issue.

Republicans in Congress also want to strip women of their fundamental right