

should also look to the future, a future in which the rights and dignity of all people are upheld and respected. Let's stand together in advocating for a peaceful, democratic solution that respects the Tamil people's right to decide their own future.

This resolution is not just symbolic. It is a crucial step toward healing, justice, and a lasting peace.

We are seeing recognition and support grow slowly but surely for this issue. Thanks to the Tamil community's continued advocacy and partnership, Members of Congress are now discussing this issue.

We have a caucus called the Ethnic and Religious Freedom in Sri Lanka Caucus, specifically to address the Federal Government's role in righting this wrong. We are making real progress, and I am proud to co-chair this caucus.

We started with advocacy and legislation when I was a State senator in North Carolina, and now we are continuing the fight in the United States Congress by introducing a resolution that affirms the right of Tamils to pursue an independence referendum.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues in the House to support this important legislation. It is an opportunity for us to lead by example, to champion the values of democracy and human rights, and to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the Tamil people.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMBERS IN SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women serving as first responders in our communities across southwest Michigan.

These brave individuals put on their uniforms every morning with no guarantee that they will make it back home. We must remember there is no such thing as a routine traffic stop these days. The tragic reality is that our police and law enforcement officers are being targeted and killed at an alarming rate.

Yesterday, here at the Capitol and in Michigan, we honored those who have fallen in the line of duty while serving our communities, including Berrien County Deputy Sheriff Elton C. Stover, Officer Scot A. Beyerstedt with the Mattawan Police Department, and, more recently, Ryan Joseph Proxmire with the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office.

Over the last several years, increased support for the defund the police movement and antipolice legislation has led to a complete lack of appreciation for the work officers do every day.

I support these men and women serving our communities, as do the vast majority of us here in Congress, and I thank them for their efforts to make

southwest Michigan a safer place and an even better place to call home.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S IMMIGRATION POLICIES WREAKING HAVOC

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, President Biden's immigration policies continue to wreak havoc on our borders.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, over 9 million individuals have illegally entered the United States over the last 3 years.

That alone is unacceptable, but just this week, it was revealed that there have been more individuals who have evaded Border Patrol and illegally crossed into the United States since President Biden took office than in the previous decade combined under Presidents Obama and Trump.

Madam Speaker, it is clear that President Biden's open-border policies are the problem. The Biden administration must implement the border reforms that I voted for and the House passed, which include restarting construction on the border wall, ending catch and release, and making sure our men and women serving on the border have the manpower and resources they need to secure our border.

Border security is national security, and I will continue to fight for border security and make west Michigan a safer place.

ABUSES DOCUMENTED AT FDIC

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, yesterday, in our House Financial Services Committee, we had a big day. It was, frankly, a sad and tragic day because it was a day to explore what had happened at the FDIC, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

There was an independent report, the Cleary Gottlieb report, as it is known, which had heard from 541 individual whistleblowers who were outlining the hostile work environment that exists at the FDIC. Sexual harassment, racial discrimination, general temper tantrums, and bad behavior abound.

Some say that this has been happening for a long time. That is true, but there is one person, one man, who has been in charge of the FDIC for 10 of the last 13 years. He is now on his third tour of becoming the Chair, and these complaints stretch back to each time that he has been chairman.

In fact, the other two intervening chairs, Sheila Bair from President Obama and Jelena McWilliams from President Trump, have spent their time cleaning up the mess that Martin Gruenberg has created at the FDIC.

The bottom line is, Madam Speaker, if you created the environment, you can't fix the environment, and you are not the right person for the job. If you say everyone will be held to a higher standard from now on, yet will not hold yourself to that same standard, you are not the right person for the job.

Madam Speaker, the time has arrived for the FDIC Chairman Martin Gruenberg to resign or be fired.

HONORING MARLA BRAMBLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Madam Speaker, in recognition of Jewish American Heritage Month, I rise today to honor my constituent, a longtime defendant of our multicultural, multiracial democracy, Marla Bramble.

Marla has dedicated her entire life to organizing multicultural, interfaith coalitions for economic and racial justice. For the last 10 years, Marla has been a passionate voice for our Jewish neighbors, leading the community-organizing team at the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs.

Through these efforts, she has helped achieve significant victories for our community, city, and State, ending cash bail in Illinois, protecting affordable housing units across the city of Chicago, expanding Medicaid coverage for undocumented immigrants, and making sure that our communities understand the importance of affordable housing.

Marla has lived in the beautiful Humboldt Park community for over 20 years. I have had an opportunity to see her work, how she organizes from a place of love, from a place of justice, and from a place of peace.

Marla has devoted herself to mentoring young Jewish leaders and people of all backgrounds, like me, demonstrating how, through solidarity, we can unite across faith communities in our fight for justice and peace.

On behalf of the Illinois' Third Congressional District, it is the greatest honor of my life to commend Marla Bramble for being a guiding light for the Jewish community and for all of us in Illinois-03.

Madam Speaker, I thank and congratulate Marla.

COMMENDING HANA CENTER AND AFIRE

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Madam Speaker, in recognition of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I rise today to commend two essential Asian-American organizations serving families in Illinois-03.

Albany Park in Illinois-03 is home to the HANA Center and the Alliance of Filipinos for Immigrant Rights and Empowerment, or, as we call it, AFIRE.

Both organizations are central to serving families of Korean, Filipino, and Asian heritage through social services, education, culture, and community organizing.

By hosting citizenship workshops, health fairs, and other events to engage the community in culturally competent ways, HANA Center and AFIRE demonstrate the strength and cultural richness of the Asian diaspora and the immigrant community overall.

I am grateful for their presence in Illinois-03 and for their work building the power of Asian-American and immigrant communities to organize around their needs.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, I am honored to commend the HANA Center and AFIRE for their unwavering work to uplift our Asian-American, Native American, and Pacific Islander families.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate AFIRE and the HANA Center.

HONORING DR. TOM JOBE

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and the legacy of Dr. Tom Jobe, a trailblazer in the field of mental health.

As we observe Mental Health Awareness Month, it is fitting to honor the contributions of a man who expanded our understanding of psychiatry.

Dr. Jobe's multidisciplinary approach challenged established norms. His innovative research shed light on alternative treatment approaches that brought hope, humanity, and possibilities to patients across Illinois and across the Nation. He provided care for people, constituents, on the West Side and South Side of Chicago when very few others were doing it.

Beyond his professional achievements, Dr. Jobe's warmth, empathy, and generosity touched all who knew him. His passing was deeply mourned.

He was a brilliant man with interests that ranged from medicine to philosophy that enriched not only his work but the lives of all people who ever met him and surrounded him. His commitment to mental health care for everyone touched many lives.

He is deeply, deeply missed by his partner, Anna Weaver, his loved ones, and the entire community of the State of Illinois. We know that his legacy lives on.

Today, let us remember Tom Jobe's many contributions as we continue the vital work of advocating for mental health awareness, support, and resources.

In his memory, we honor Tom Jobe today.

PREVENTING YOUTH POISONINGS

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

Mr. CAREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge Senate action on a bill that will prevent deadly chemicals from falling into the hands of our children.

Our Youth Poisoning Protection Act passed the House last night with overwhelmingly bipartisan support, Democrats and Republicans working together on what we need to be doing. This must become law.

It is a parent's worst nightmare, this faceless stranger over the internet teaching your children how to take their own lives, and your child, in a moment of vulnerability, listens to them.

That is exactly what happened to Kristine Jonsson, a very vibrant 16-year-old from Hilliard, Ohio, in my district. She was very open with her parents as it related to her mental health

struggles, but it was behind closed doors on some ridiculous internet forum that she found sodium nitrate.

With the coaching of these online predators, Kristine was able to purchase sodium nitrate through an online service and actually have it shipped to her front door without the knowledge of her parents.

Sodium nitrate is a chemical that is used in the preservation of meat and fish, but it is, in fact, a chemical, when it is highly concentrated, that can be over 100 times more powerful—one spoonful—more powerful and deadly than any chemical.

Thanks to these online forums like the one that Kristine saw, the number of suicide deaths using sodium nitrate is steadily increasing. In recent years, the share of sodium nitrite usage as a method of self-poisoning has grown nine times over.

By passing this bill, what we did bipartisanly with the Democrats and the Republicans in the House, we need to have it passed in the Senate. The Youth Poisoning Prevention Act would prevent commercial sales of highly concentrated sodium nitrite so it can never fall into the hands of these vulnerable youth.

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I want to thank my colleagues, Representative TRAHAN of Massachusetts, as well as my Senator from Ohio, J.D. VANCE, and TAMMY DUCKWORTH from Illinois for partnering in this important effort.

Again, this is the stuff that we as Members of Congress need to be doing. With their support and all of yours we are one step closer to preventing these senseless tragedies.

HONORING TOMMY COWAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a great American, a dear friend of the western New York community, the city of Buffalo, and my family, Tommy Cowan.

Tommy passed away unexpectedly last Monday, May 6, at the age of 44, leaving an irreplaceable hole in our hearts. Tommy was a one-of-a-kind soul, friendly, charitable, hardworking, caring, with a vivacious personality and a beaming smile.

His love for life and his community was constantly on display through his generosity to others. He always looked out for the little guy and would lift up anyone who needed a helping hand.

Buffalo is known as the City of Good Neighbors, and Tommy served as a shining example of that.

In 2022, Buffalo was struck by one of the worst blizzards in our history, paralyzing the city and costing the lives of dozens of Buffalonians.

During this terrible storm, Tommy strapped on his skis, made his way to one of his restaurants, and got cooking

for the first responders. Food was delivered to firehouses, police stations, and hospitals, keeping those heroes fed as they fought desperately to save lives in the middle of an emergency. He didn't have to do that. He put his own safety at risk for the betterment of others. For Tommy, that was just something that you do for the community.

His service to the community and dedication to others earned him recognition from the Buffalo Police in 2019 when they presented him with the William Rieman Citizen of the Year Award.

Tommy was a leader in the western New York community with countless friends, but to me, he was my neighbor and part of my family. Growing up with my younger brother Patrick, he was like a little brother to me. We watched each other grow up and our careers take off, supporting each other and cheering one another on along the way.

He thrived in the hospitality industry, opening restaurants across Buffalo: Forty Thieves in Elmwood Village, Patrick's Rooftop in downtown Buffalo, and in our beloved neighborhood of south Buffalo, the legendary Doc Sullivan's, home of the famous Smitty wings.

He personified south Buffalo, and he proudly invested in our community, creating jobs and developing spaces that brought neighbors together over a pint and a few wings.

It didn't matter if you were from south Buffalo, when you walked into Doc's, Tommy made you feel like you were from the neighborhood. He knew how to create more than a restaurant. He created an experience. Each place had its own signature feel, but Tommy's character was woven throughout it.

Last Friday, there was a standing-room-only crowd that turned out for Tommy's funeral at our Lady of Victory Basilica, a true testament to a man who made an impact on countless people.

My sincere condolences and sympathies go out to his parents, Tom and Libby Cowan; his siblings, Erin and Brian McElroy and Kristen and Pat Lalley; and his nieces, nephews, and extended family. We are all better for knowing Tommy Cowan. May he rest in peace.

POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, it is Police Week, the week when law enforcement officers who keep us safe all over the country come to Washington to remind us how important they are and when Members of Congress introduce resolutions and bills and give speeches in this Chamber letting them know how grateful we are for their service.