

the EPA coordinator for Cahokia Heights, Beth Murphy.

Back in October, I asked EPA Administrator Michael Regan to appoint a member of his team to assist our response to the environmental, health, and safety crisis in Cahokia Heights. He delivered.

As the area's first dedicated Federal coordinator, Beth has helped bring new urgency to alleviating the flooding and sewage crisis in Cahokia Heights and surrounding communities. Her efforts to streamline collaboration between stakeholders across Metro East will help ensure that Federal, State, and local government resources can finally be used collaboratively.

Beth's hard work has helped us to put a spotlight on the needs of a community that has been overlooked for far too long.

I extend my deepest gratitude and appreciation for everything she has done for our community.

As Beth moves to her next assignment, we are excited to welcome our new coordinator, Betsy Nightingale. I look forward to working together with Betsy to build on the progress we have made and to finally solve these problems once and for all.

CONGRESS OUGHT TO ASSERT ITS EQUITIES TO STOP ELECTION INTERFERENCE

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

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to alert this House of election interference that is going on in a Manhattan courtroom right now, and we ought to assert our equities to ensure that Federal elections aren't subject to this type of devious behavior.

This entire case in New York is based on Michael Cohen. He is one of the few people walking around the planet Earth today who has lied to all three branches of government. He lied to the investigators. He lied to his own sentencing judge. He lied to this very Congress.

As if that wasn't enough, Michael Cohen lied to this very jury Tuesday. Tuesday, he said that the principal correspondence that he had was directly with President Trump and only about the completion of this payoff to Stormy Daniels. In reality, text messages prove that Michael Cohen was complaining to Keith Schiller about harassing phone calls from a 14-year-old and threatening to send him to Secret Service.

Michael Cohen lies about matters large and small. There is a reason he was held to the end of this case. They were hoping to corroborate him. They couldn't. It has failed, and it should be dismissed. Otherwise, the Congress should certainly assert our equities to stop election interference.

SUPPORTING LGBTQIA+ NEW MEXICANS

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Madam Speaker, I rise on this date of awareness to stand on the floor of the House of Representatives, the people's House, to show support for each and every LGBTQ person in the great State of New Mexico and across the country.

It is shocking and unconscionable that there are still Members of this Chamber who act with hate instead of love—in fact, we just saw it moments ago—who want to attack and criminalize who you are, who you love, and how you live.

I want the LGBTQ/queer community to hear me. I see them. I love them. I support them. They are not alone, not today, not tomorrow, not ever in this House, the people's House.

HONORING JACKSONVILLE SPORTS MEDICINE PROGRAM

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is all fun and games until somebody gets hurt, especially when it comes to youth sports, but that is where JSMP comes in.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jacksonville Sports Medicine Program, which allows local youth to slam dunk and swing for the fences without fearing for their safety.

It was always a joy to watch my kids play ball, but what if they get hurt? In northeast Florida, we know the answer. We turn to the Jacksonville Sports Medicine Program. Established in 1984, they have been a guiding light for countless families, coaches, and doctors in sports safety. Sudden cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death for kids in sports, but thanks to JSMP, over 50,000 student athletes have received free screenings. That is a stadium full of lives.

We commend the leadership of Bob Sefcik, Dr. Jennifer Maynard, Jeff Ferguson, and Allegra Jaros for their unwavering commitment to this cause. I congratulate the Jacksonville Sports Medicine Program for 40 years.

JSMP, play ball.

RESTORE ORDER AT THE BORDER

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remind this Chamber and our Nation that it has been over 100 days since congressional Republicans blocked a bipartisan bill to restore order at the border and fix our immigration system.

Week after week, only toothless, do-nothing resolutions attacking the President have been brought forward. When my colleagues across the aisle were presented with a bipartisan bill to actually tackle the chaos at our southern border, crack down on fentanyl trafficking, and begin to fix our broken immigration system, they said that is not their problem to solve.

This is a bill that would have hired nearly 2,000 new border personnel and immigration judges and streamlined our asylum system, making the process faster and fairer. It would have funded new inspection machines that could have been screening for deadly fentanyl for the past 100 days if only my Republican colleagues would have brought this bill up for a vote.

Madam Speaker, actions speak louder than words. One hundred days is already too long to wait. Let's vote on this bill today.

HONORING ROBERT MERRIMAN

(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 remember and honor the life of Robert "Bob" Merriman, who passed away on May 11 at the age of 69.

Bob began his law enforcement career in Athens, Georgia, in 1975 and then moved to the Chatham County Police Department in 1977, where he became a detective. He moved to the Chatham-Savannah Police force in 2004 and retired as captain in 2007.

Bob came out of retirement in 2013 to serve as the chief of police in Thunderbolt and retired 5 years later.

Officer Merriman's skills as a detective led him to solve some of the toughest cases in his department. He was truly one of our finest. He was known for treating his victims and their families with great dignity and respect.

Bob will continue to serve as a hero to many and will always be remembered for his compassion, selflessness, and bravery.

IMPROVING WELLNESS SERVICES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, our men and women wearing the badge experience life-threatening risks every day.

As an emergency medicine physician, the increasing access to both physical and mental health resources have been a priority of mine, which is why I have successfully advocated to increase funding to the law enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act Program five-fold to \$10 million and am advocating to increase it to \$12 million. This funding will improve the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for law enforcement.

In closing, I want to take a moment to recognize the names of the officers from my district who have made the ultimate sacrifice: Deputy Sheriff Brett Harris, Deputy Sheriff Anthony Joel Redondo, Police Officer Efren Coronel, Police Officer Jose Gilbert Vega, Police Officer Lesley Marie Zerebny, and K9 Sultan of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department. I also recognize their families for their immense service and sacrifice.

As we close National Police Week, I urge my colleagues to follow words with action that will improve the lives of fallen first responders' families.

MENTAL HEALTH CARE IS HEALTHCARE

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

Ms. SALINAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share a simple truth: Mental health care is healthcare. We have to start treating it as such because these challenges are more common than people may think.

Several members of my own family have struggled with mental health challenges, so I know from personal experience how hard it is to watch the people you love suffer and not be able to help them.

It is why I have introduced several bills that would put an end to the stigma, bring down costs, and expand access through peer support programs and telehealth to ensure more Oregonians and Americans get the care they need.

May is also Mental Health Awareness Month, but raising awareness alone doesn't go far enough. We need bipartisan action on this issue. It is the only way we can put an end to the mental health and substance use crisis in America.

As co-chair of the Mental Health Caucus, I am working across the aisle to find consensus and get more policies passed that will actually help people who are struggling, people like my family members and probably yours, too.

I invite every single one of my colleagues, regardless of party affiliation, to join me in this fight. My door is always open, and I am open to forging solutions together.

CELEBRATING DR. RACHAEL MAHMOOD

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

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate Dr. Rachael Mahmood, a fifth grade teacher at Georgetown Elementary School in Aurora, Illinois, and the 2024 Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Mahmood's dedication to service, education, and equity has allowed her to make a lasting impact on the lives

of her students, whether it be helping them succeed in their studies or achieve their extracurricular goals. She has also become an indispensable leader beyond the classroom, pioneering various cultural and social initiatives to create an inclusive environment where students can connect with their peers.

As one administrator notes, she "embodies the qualities of an exceptional educator and inspiring leader."

At the end of the 2023–2024 school year, Dr. Mahmood will go on sabbatical, touring schools around the State of Illinois and sharing her valuable insights with fellow educators.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Rachael Mahmood on being named Illinois Teacher of the Year and thank her for her commitment to improving education for young people in the Aurora community.

MARKING GIANT DIPPER CENTENNIAL

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

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, today is the 100th anniversary of the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk's iconic roller coaster, the Giant Dipper.

This amazing roller coaster opened on this day in 1924 and took only 47 days to construct, making it the fourth oldest roller coaster in the United States and one of the 10 oldest roller coasters in the world.

Despite its age, it still packs a punch. Starting off by racing through a pitch-black mine shaft of a tunnel, then popping outside and clinking and clacking up a steep incline. After reaching its peak point, the coaster plunges straight down and provides a ride that races up and down its wooden brace tracks, lifting you up and down out of your seats.

Just like any good roller coaster, it is a ride that can turn your stomach. No matter how you feel, the Giant Dipper is exhilarating. It is exciting, and it is just plain fun.

It is no wonder that more than 68 million people have taken this thrill ride. It is no wonder that the Giant Dipper is recognized as a National Historic Landmark.

Happy 100th birthday to this famed roller coaster, and congratulations to the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. I honor the Giant Dipper for providing a fun and exciting ride that has provided generations of families with fun and fulfilling memories.

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CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF MICHAEL A. ALFULTIS

(Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rear Admiral and SUNY Maritime College President Michael A. Alfultis for his years of service and to celebrate his retirement.

Presidential Alfultis has served for 28 years in the U.S. Coast Guard, eventually rising from captain to rear admiral. After retiring from service, Admiral Alfultis began teaching at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and then went on to become the director and chief administrative officer at the University of Connecticut.

His consecutive years of academic and professional leadership culminated in his tenure as the 11th president of SUNY Maritime College.

President Alfultis' leadership has transformed SUNY Maritime and shaped the future of the maritime workforce. His tenure has been marked by significant achievements, including a \$100 million investment in institutional organizations such as the Institute for Community Resiliency and Climate Adaptation and the establishment of the Center of Excellence for Offshore Energy.

I was proud to have supported the Center of Excellence for Offshore Energy with an \$800,000 appropriation to support its curriculum development for New Yorkers.

As his time as president of SUNY Maritime College ends later this month, I would like to thank President Alfultis personally and on behalf of our community for his years of service to our country, academic institutions, and the people of New York.

We wish President Alfultis fair winds and following seas.

CONGRESS MUST PUT POLITICS ASIDE

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, when insults, chaos, and name calling become the norm, it takes courage to come together and work through our differences.

America is facing significant challenges right here at home and around the world.

I believe that the people of eastern North Carolina sent me here to get things done. I work daily to be a champion for a part of my State that is often forgotten and left behind.

My grandmother raised me to look for the best in others because everyone is somebody. We must extend respect. We must extend dignity. We must extend civility to each other.

It is better to cross bridges together as opposed to sending one of the greatest institutions on Earth over a cliff.

We must put politics aside to achieve meaningful results for the people of eastern North Carolina and our country. May God bless us.