

Our local fire department and others came to show respect and pay special tribute to this incredible hero.

There are thousands of stories like Sergeant Ferris'. As we approach Memorial Day, let us honor our fallen soldiers, POWs, MIAs, and those killed in action.

BIDEN BORDER CRISIS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Biden border crisis rages on, and American families are affected, including in their pocketbooks.

At the start of 2023, the cost of illegal aliens crossing with Biden was over \$150 billion. The burden of illegal aliens costs each American taxpayer nearly \$1,200 annually.

Corrupt Judge Merchan continues promoting the reelection of Donald Trump by relentlessly being bigoted and objectionable, earning an invitation as my guest to the Trump inauguration. The invitation was hand-delivered to New York to Merchan's office Monday by South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson.

The shameful bias and bigotry of Judge Merchan has been exposed this week by esteemed Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz as "unethical, unlawful, and petty."

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism moves from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new border laws. We need to enforce the existing laws. Biden shamefully opens borders for dictators, as more 9/11 attacks across America are imminent, as repeatedly warned by the FBI.

NEW HAVEN PIZZA

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a specially crafted food that draws people from across the country to my hometown of New Haven, Connecticut. It is called apizza—after the original way "la pizza" was pronounced in southern Italy.

For more than a century, New Haven has been home to some of the most famous pizzerias in the country, known for everything from a plain sauce to white clam to mashed potato. I proudly rise today to claim New Haven as the pizza capital of the United States.

While there are other States that have their own pizza traditions, Connecticut has the most pizzerias of any State per capita and the most family-owned pizzerias of any State in the country.

There is something special about New Haven apizza. Some say it is coal

fire, some say brick ovens, some say it is char, some say it is the water used to make the dough. Personally, I believe it is the generation after generation of dedication to the craft.

Historic pizzerias in the New Haven area that continue this legacy include: Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana, Modern Apizza, Zuppardi's Apizza, Sally's Apizza, Ernie's Apizza, Yorkside, BAR, Grand Apizza, and Zeneli Pizza, and Abate's Apizza just to name a few. They have helped to establish a uniquely American culinary and cultural experience, making New Haven one of the most respected and recognized pizza destinations in the country.

New Haven apizza is more than just a delicious meal—it is a part of who we are as New Haveners and Nutmeggers. Earlier today, I joined Connecticut pizza makers, legislators, veterans, and community leaders to celebrate New Haven and recognize it as the pizza capital of the United States.

RECOGNIZING FREDERICA ACADEMY GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievement of the girls soccer team at Frederica Academy with their back-to-back State title wins.

The team defended their State title with a final score of 1-0 against the Westminster Schools of Augusta. The goal was scored by freshman Sophia Gregg who outmaneuvered her defenders in the first half of the game. Gregg's goal was made possible by an assist from Mary Ford Fitzjurls.

Frederica's strong defense was also able to hold off every shot attempt made at their goal. This allowed them to go undefeated in the Georgia Independent Athletic Association AAA District 2 Region, making them the number one ranked team in the region.

Congratulations to the young women of the Frederica Academy soccer team. I know I speak for the whole First District when I say we are very proud of you.

PROJECT DIAMOND

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

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight an extraordinary initiative in the heart of Michigan's 11th district, Project DIAMOND, a groundbreaking program spearheaded by Troy's Automation Alley and the Oakland County Economic Development Office.

This project encapsulates not just the spirit of innovation but also the determination of our local communities and our industrious small to midsize manufacturers.

Project DIAMOND is revolutionizing additive manufacturing with 3D printing, positioning Michigan as a global leader and delivering 250 3D printers to empower manufacturers in the automotive, aerospace, and defense sectors.

This technology allows rapid prototyping, reduces lead times, and integrates seamlessly into existing supply chains, advancing our national manufacturing agenda.

Mr. Speaker, as we look to future-proof our industries, let us support and expand initiatives like Project DIAMOND.

CONGRATULATING ST. XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM

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

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the incredible success of the St. Xavier High School swimming and diving team and to congratulate them on winning their 44th State championship. The dedication and hard work of these talented athletes is second to none, as they have claimed 24 of the last 26 State championships, 4 of the last 5, and 44 out of the last 54.

The St. Xavier High School swimming and diving team, the Bombers, or Aqua Bombers as they are also known, won their most recent championship with a score of 302 points, beating out the runners-up by 73 points.

The Bombers were led by Ohio Second District native Max Ward, who brought home first place finishes in the 100-meter butterfly and the 200-meter freestyle.

As a member of the St. Xavier "Long Blue Line" and a swimmer alum, I want to congratulate the talented swimmers, divers, and coaches on this incredible feat.

If they made it look easy, it was because it wasn't. Go Bombers.

THE INSPIRING STORY OF ANTRONE WILLIAMS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share the inspiring story of Antrone "Juice" Williams, a remarkable individual from Lucas County, Ohio.

I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Williams 2 years ago, and since then, his journey has been nothing short of extraordinary.

Antrone is not just a dedicated athlete with the Special Olympics Lucas County Lightning, but also a relentless advocate for his community.

As the former president of the Central Resident Advisory Board, he tirelessly represented over 11,000 residents in Lucas Metropolitan Housing.

His entrepreneurial spirit led him to Ivy Entrepreneurs business school where he rose to new heights, becoming the CEO and founder of the H.O.W. Inc. Foundation, Helping Others Win.

Antrone's achievements are vast, but perhaps most notable is his pioneering accomplishment as the first physically challenged man to become an independent provider.

Antrone's story is a beacon of hope for those living with physical challenges. His story is a powerful reminder that our circumstances do not define us, our spirit and determination do. To Antrone I say: Onward. We are so proud of you.

REMEMBERING MARK WOODS

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of a true American hero, Mark Woods, who dedicated his life to public service in the military, in law enforcement, and in his local community.

A two-term U.S. Army combat veteran and a retired NYPD detective who served on the Joint Terrorism Task Force, Mark lived a life of service from the start.

His passion for supporting fellow veterans through his role as director of the Joseph P. Dwyer peer-to-peer veteran service program at BRIDGES and as a veteran service officer in Rockland County was revered by all in our region.

Mark was rightly recognized as Rockland County's 2024 Veteran of the Year thanks to his unparalleled efforts advocating for veterans and getting them the support and services they need and deserve.

Beyond his work for the veteran community, Mark was a councilman in the town of Clarkstown and a dedicated family man. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family, especially his wife, Jeanne, his son and daughter, who should know that Mark's legacy will continue to inspire and guide all of us.

On a more personal note, Mark was great friend, who I was honored to swear in as councilman in January, and I will miss him dearly. He was a humble and decent man whose work was rooted in service to the people of Rockland County.

May God rest his soul on behalf of a grateful Nation.

PAY THEM BACK

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

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the daughter of a Vietnam veteran and the Representative for Oregon's Sixth District, home to nearly 40,000 veterans.

These brave Oregonians served our country, and now I have the great honor of serving them in Congress. They are hardworking people, some of whom carry with them scars both visible and invisible of their service.

Returning to civilian life can be challenging. Mental health problems are all too common, and many veterans struggle to find stable jobs in housing. They put country first and their own comfort second.

As Members of Congress, the least we can do is to show them we care.

That is why I was shocked to see House Republicans proposing \$30 billion in cuts to SNAP in their farm bill proposal.

Cutting SNAP was never on the table for Democrats, yet my Republican colleagues have chosen to move forward with this reckless plan and take away up to 2 days' worth of food every month from hungry veterans, kids, and seniors.

Why must my Republican colleagues deprive veterans of food when they fall on hard times? Why the unnecessary cruelty?

Instead, we need to protect SNAP and ensure that those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom will have healthy, nutritious food on the table. It is our job—no, our duty and responsibility to pay them back.

RECOGNIZING ROY SPRINGFIELD

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

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Roy Springfield of Anderson, Indiana, who served in the U.S. Army for 3 years as a member of the elite Special Forces. Roy enlisted in the Army in 1961, where he completed his tour of duty in Vietnam and Laos.

While evacuating a Special Forces base in Laos under intense enemy attack, Sergeant Springfield managed to grab an American flag and keep it from falling into enemy hands. He has retained and treasured this flag for more than six decades.

After his time in the Army, Roy went on to serve his community for 27 years as a police officer with the Anderson Police Department. In 1973, he also started the Police Athletic League in Anderson for disadvantaged youth.

In recognition of his brave service to our Nation, it was my honor to present Sergeant Roy Springfield with a National Defense Service Medal and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal on January 26, 2024. I am extremely grateful for Roy's bravery and am humbled to express our appreciation on behalf of the American people in Indiana's Fifth Congressional District.

□ 1800

SNAP BENEFITS ARE NEEDED BY 42 MILLION AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Mrs. HAYES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to submit extraneous material in the RECORD on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

Mrs. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues who have joined me for this extremely special SNAP Special Order hour.

Hunger continues to be a pervasive issue in America. According to the USDA, in 2023, over 42 million people rely on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as SNAP, and 41 percent of those households have children.

SNAP benefits are modest, averaging only about \$6.20 per person per day or about \$2 per person per meal.

The benefits of SNAP are highly targeted to focus on those with the greatest needs. Ninety-two percent of SNAP benefits go to households with income below the poverty line and 54 percent go to households at or below half of the poverty line.

Additionally, every dollar spent on SNAP benefits generates as much as \$1.54 to the local economy. House Republicans are putting forward a farm bill which would end the USDA's authority to increase the Thrifty Food Plan. The Thrifty Food Plan is used to determine the amount of benefits a SNAP recipient receives.

USDA calculates the Thrifty Food Plan using a mathematical model based on the cost of food, the nutrients in the food, nutrition guidance, and what Americans are actually eating. The Thrifty Food Plan goes further than a simple adjustment for inflation to better ensure that people have access to food.

The 2018 bipartisan farm bill directed USDA to regularly reevaluate the Thrifty Food Plan and SNAP benefit adjustments as food prices, dietary guidance, and other scientific standards shifted over time. The farm bill put forth by House Republicans will result in roughly \$30 billion in benefit cuts, according to the Congressional Budget Office. That would impact every SNAP household in future years, including children, older adults, and people with disabilities.

It would mean that the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan would be frozen no matter what the science says about the cost of a healthy, normal diet.