

FAREWELL TO MICHAELA TODD

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

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a great Kansan, Michaela Todd. Michaela is a hardworking staffer, former volunteer, someone who is deeply committed to the conservative cause, a person of deep faith, and a friend.

Michaela has been a part of my team since my very first day serving in the House, beginning as a staff assistant, and most recently as press secretary. Although it is bittersweet, the time has come for her to spread her wings and begin a new journey.

Michaela has faithfully served Kansas and the Big First, and I am incredibly grateful for her service to our team and the district.

On behalf of Kansas and the Big First and my team here in D.C., Michaela, thank you for your hard work and service over the past 3½ years. We have served better because of your contribution to the team, and we are grateful for your time in the office. We wish you the best of luck in your new endeavor and are praying for your success as you transition into your new role.

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, June is Gun Violence Awareness Month, a time to recognize the scourge of gun violence and work toward solutions to prevent gun violence in our communities.

On June 2, the people of Ohio's 13th Congressional District woke up to the news that every community dreads. We as a community were victims of a mass shooting. After a neighborhood block party, the joy of celebration quickly ended with 25 people shot and one of those people dying.

The shock of such a mass shooting barely penetrated the minds of the Nation because it has become so commonplace that we collectively didn't blink an eye.

People should not live in fear that a party turns into a mass-shooting event. This is a choice, and I choose, along with my constituents and my colleagues in the Democratic Caucus, to say: No more. Let's end gun violence in our communities. Let's finally put people over politics and fight the gun lobby and ensure that every person in Ohio's 13th Congressional District and across this Nation feel safe and secure no matter where they are.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SHELTON LAWRENCE "CRICKET" MOBLEY

(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 honor and remember the life of Shelton Lawrence "Cricket" Mobley, who passed away on May 30 at the age 65.

Born and raised in Waycross, Georgia, Cricket Mobley distinguished himself as a four-sport letterman at Ware County High School, where he graduated from in 1977.

Cricket devoted a majority of his time to activities such as shrimping, fishing, hunting, and showcasing his passion for the outdoors. In addition to being an avid outdoorsman, he was a successful businessman, founding his own company twice and serving as a business proprietor for nearly 40 years.

He had a passion for sports, especially baseball, which he stayed involved in until his passing.

Cricket coached baseball to many young men, many of whom went on to play in college and professionally. Cricket was eventually inducted into the Ware County Sports Hall of Fame in 2022.

Cricket will be missed, but his positive impact on those he coached will be felt for generations to come.

COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

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

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day and remember the thousands of lives lost on the beaches of Normandy.

D-Day will forever live on in our history, and we will never forget the brave servicemen we lost that day.

I also want to take a moment to highlight the service of my husband's grandfather, Douglas Brown, a World War II marine and Navy veteran who served in the Pacific Islands; Harold W. Mynett, a World War II Navy veteran; as well as my father-in-law, Tom Mynett, a Navy veteran; and his older brother, Harold J. Mynett, Naval Academy graduate and someone who served as a lieutenant commander during the Vietnam War.

The stories they passed down have been incredibly harrowing. We honor the veterans who returned with visible and invisible scars for their service to our country.

I will keep fighting to ensure survivors of D-Day, World War II, and all of our veterans are given the resources they rightfully deserve. As we reflect on the past 80 years since D-Day, may we always remember their bravery, courage, and dedication to our country.

FRIVOLOUS CASE

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, what we saw in New York City this past few weeks was an abuse of our justice system against an individual who happened to be the former President of the United States and perhaps the next President. It was a frivolous case, and it was a clear attempt to undermine democracy.

Between the lack of evidence, the inability to clearly define a crime, the questionable players involved, and the timing, the American people saw it for what it was. Prosecuting political opponents like this happens in Third World countries, not in America.

I look forward to the players involved, the district attorney, having to answer for their actions before the Judiciary Committee's Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government in near time.

Make no mistake that this verdict will be appealed and the outcome overturned.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RICHARD NELLER

(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 honor the remarkable life and legacy of Richard Neller, affectionately known as Rico, who passed away recently.

Rico's life was a living testament to dedication, passion, and community service. After choosing Toledo, Ohio, as his home, his commitment to education shown through.

He began his career as a high school teacher in Toledo Public Schools, but his journey didn't stop there. He then pursued a law degree from the University of Toledo and became a highly respected criminal defense attorney, but his true passion was journalism, pursuing truth.

That passion led him to found LaPrensa Newspaper in 1989, and he became the vital voice for Toledo, Ohio's Latino community. He also established numerous scholarship funds and awards, enriching our cultural landscape and providing opportunities for so many. His contributions extended far beyond his professional life.

Richard's love for his family was paramount, and he is survived by his children and numerous grandchildren, who carry forward his legacy of learning, seeking truth, and generous philanthropy.

Today, we celebrate Richard's life as a true beacon of America's creative spirit and generosity. Rico's life inspires us all.

LATEST BOONDOGGLE IN FOREIGN POLICY

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

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to alert the House and the country to the latest boondoggle in foreign policy executed by President Biden, and this time it is the decision we have made to become the port authority of Gaza.

This pier has been a debacle, at a cost of \$320 million. In 2 weeks, we have not even distributed 1,000 metric tons of food aid. Also, in 3 months, the entire pier has to be dismantled because of rising seas and impermissible weather conditions. At most, we are going to be able to deliver about 7,000 metric tons of food at a cost of \$320 million.

Now, I don't know much about what a metric ton is, but I know what the price per pound is. This is \$20,730 per pound for food. If my colleagues are in preparations for their summer barbecue and Members think your grocery bills are too high, know that the American taxpayers are incurring debt to send food to Gaza at a cost of \$20,730 per pound.

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HONORING VALLEY INDUSTRY & COMMERCE ASSOCIATION

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Valley Industry & Commerce Association, known as VICA, on the momentous occasion of their 75th anniversary.

Since its founding in 1949, VICA has been a cornerstone of the greater San Fernando Valley, tirelessly advocating for the business community and playing an instrumental role in shaping the region's economic landscape.

VICA has served more than 1.8 million residents and 245,000 businesses, making it an important voice in the prosperity of southern California.

As VICA celebrates this significant milestone, we acknowledge their outstanding contributions and unwavering dedication to the economic growth of the San Fernando Valley, making the valley a vibrant and prosperous place to live and work for decades.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate my good friend Stuart Waldman and the entire VICA board of directors and staff. May VICA continue to thrive and lead with the same passion and commitment for many years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HERB ELFRING

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate the 80th anniversary of the heroic Normandy invasion, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Herb Elfring of Jackson, Michigan, who passed on May 25 at the age of 102.

From 1940 to 1945, Herb served in the U.S. Army National Guard as a mem-

ber of the 251st Coast Artillery. He was stationed in Hawaii during Pearl Harbor and is one of the last known survivors.

By 1944, Herb had completed Officers Candidate School and was promoted to the rank of captain. Herb was awarded medals for his heroism, including a World War II Medal, American Defense Medal, and the American Campaign Medal.

Following his military service, Herb earned a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan and went on to have a successful career at Consumers Energy. Herb and his late wife, Ruth, were married for 57 years and had five children, eight grandchildren, and their family continues to grow.

Herb was a giant in the Jackson community and was known to enjoy square dancing, playing euchre, and spending time with his loved ones. He was also an advocate for his fellow veterans, helping start the One Stop Veterans Resources. Herb also helped mentor young veterans, including those from recent conflicts.

I was honored to know Herb and spend time with him. He will be sorely missed. We honor Herb for his service to our country, his commitment to our community, and his life well lived.

WE WERE NOT BETTER OFF

(Mr. JEFFRIES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a so-called leader has made the factually inaccurate statement that Black folks were better off during Jim Crow. That is an outlandish, outrageous, and out-of-pocket observation.

We were not better off when a young boy named Emmett Till could be brutally murdered without consequence because of Jim Crow. We were not better off when Black women could be sexually assaulted without consequence because of Jim Crow. We were not better off when people could be systematically lynched without consequence because of Jim Crow. We were not better off when children could be denied a high-quality education without consequence because of Jim Crow. We were not better off when people could be denied the right to vote without consequence because of Jim Crow.

How dare you make such an ignorant observation. You better check yourself before you wreck yourself.

EXTENDING THE RADIATION EXPOSURE COMPENSATION PROGRAM

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of the Radiation Exposure Compensation program, which is set to stop accepting new claims on June 10.

RECA is an essential program for those who are exposed to radiation connected to aboveground nuclear weapons tests conducted here in the United States from 1945 to 1962. Many of those tests took place in Nevada.

While these tests helped the United States keep the peace during the Cold War, they also caused long-term health problems for on-site participants, uranium miners and transporters, individuals, veterans, and all who lived downwind from the Nevada test site. RECA provides compensation to those individuals who have developed various kinds of cancer.

To date, the program has paid out \$2.6 billion to over 40,000 individuals, including 2,500 Nevadans, but these residents are in every State and territory. It is imperative that we not let this program expire.

I urge the Speaker to bring forward legislation that extends RECA so that our government can compensate these Cold War warriors who sacrificed so much for our national security.

WE MUST PROTECT OUR PRECIOUS WATERS

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, in New Mexico, we say water is life.

Yet, 1 year ago this week, the United States Supreme Court handed down a 5-4 Sackett decision that gutted the Clean Water Act.

This decision shocked the Nation, defied science, hydrology, and even common sense, upending years of precedent and going even farther than the last administration in undermining the Clean Water Act.

In the process, it left over 90 percent of New Mexico's waters vulnerable, but as New Mexicans, we always rise to the occasion, which is why I am proud of our State's efforts to create a new surface water program and the funding that I helped to secure through the process. To get it done, we are going to need the support of our communities, of the State legislature, and our Federal agencies. Here in Congress, we have to continue to fight to protect the Clean Water Act because our precious waters can't wait. The time to act is now.

DECOLONIZE PUERTO RICO

(Mr. KHANNA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, it is time to finally decolonize Puerto Rico. We have kept Puerto Rico as a territory since 1898, more than 125 years. Over 3 million people have been denied full political rights.

My grandfather, Amaranath Vidyalankar, was in jail with Gandhi for over 4 years as part of India's independence movement.