

cultural norms, and reformulating public perceptions of modern Black creative practice through the breadth and depth of his works.

I congratulate Mr. Sorey on this prestigious and well-deserved recognition.

□ 1215

CELEBRATING LEN NOVARA

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the remarkable career of Len Novara, who retired on May 21 after 35 years in education, including serving as athletic director at Murphysboro High School since 2001.

Born and raised in Murphysboro, Len was a three-sport athlete in Murphysboro High, earning eight varsity letters and the record for yards passed in southern Illinois.

He graduated in 1984 and continued his athletic career at Millikin University in Decatur, playing football and baseball. After earning his bachelor's degree in 1988, Len returned to his hometown and pursued a master's degree at Southern Illinois University, which is where he developed his love for coaching.

Len's dedication to coaching and education took him to several schools, including Unity Point and Edwards County High School.

Over two decades ago, he returned to Murphysboro High School as athletic director, a role he excelled in. Under Len's leadership, Murphysboro's Red Devils amassed 77 Southern Illinois River to River Conference Championships, 39 regional championships, and several State final appearances, but Len's commitment went beyond titles and trophies. He was a fixture at community events, supporting local athletes and ensuring every game was a memorable experience.

His planning and passion for sports created an electric atmosphere, making every event special for players and fans alike.

Beyond his professional life, Len is a devoted family man. He and his wife, Cindy, his high school sweetheart, raised two children, Drew and Emily. Len's pride in watching them compete as Red Devils is a testament to his love for both family and community.

Len left an undeniable mark on Murphysboro High and our community. I am proud to call him my friend. Though Len is retiring, his legacy will live on.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Len Novara on his retirement and a job well done. As Len always said: "Once a Red Devil, always a Red Devil."

TIME TO ENHANCE SOCIAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise this early afternoon to talk about the Nation's number one antipoverty program for the elderly, the number one antipoverty program for children, and the program that provides more disability benefits to our veterans than the VA. I am talking about Social Security, Mr. Speaker.

This might be news to some of the viewers in our audience and at home, but Congress has not acted to enhance Social Security in more than 53 years. Richard Nixon was the President of the United States the last time Congress acted on this much-needed benefit, the number one antipoverty program for the elderly and the number one antipoverty program for children.

Instead, what we find is our colleagues on the other side, the Republican Study Committee, have said that what we need to do is cut Social Security by \$1.5 trillion over the next 10 years. In the process, Mr. Speaker, what they have done also is said that, yes, initially what we need to do is to raise the age of people.

What they don't tell the recipients is for every year you raise the age, that is a 7 percent cut in benefits. What they have proposed is a 21 percent across-the-board cut for Social Security. My good friend JODEY ARRINGTON is the chairman of the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee meets this week, and I hope they get to explore the myths regarding Social Security.

It has nothing to do with the debt or the deficit of this country. The chief actuary will lay that out.

Mr. Speaker, you might be surprised to know that in your district, there are over 179,000 recipients. In your district, that brings in \$306 million monthly. Where do they spend that money, Mr. Speaker? Right back in your district. They go to the pharmacy. They go to the grocery store. They put gas in their tank. They pay their rent. They pay their mortgage. They haven't had an increase since 1971.

It is long overdue for Congress to act. The President has put forward a proposal. Democrats have a proposal. All we need to do is vote.

If you have a better idea, by all means, put it out there. If you don't, at least allow a vote to take place so you can minimally help out the people in your district. On average, every Member of Congress gets more than \$200 million monthly that comes into their district. There is no better economic development plan for people in your district because of where they are going to spend that money.

Nobody gets wealthy on Social Security. The average for a male is \$18,000, and for a female, it is \$14,000. For more than 5 million of our fellow Americans, they get below-poverty-level checks from the wealthiest Nation in the world. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle are out proposing cuts for the very wealthy, the top 1 percent,

and won't even take care of the 5 million people who have paid into a system and get below-poverty-level checks.

While we are speaking of tax cuts, as I noted to Mr. ARRINGTON, how about the 23 million Americans who will receive a tax cut under the Democratic plan? How about we look at working Americans and give them a tax cut in their retirement instead of double taxing them on Social Security?

Twenty-three million Americans will benefit directly from this program that we have put forward. President Biden has said that we will pay for this as well by lifting the cap on people making over \$400,000.

Now, to understand this, as LINDA SANCHEZ said in the committee the other day, look at those expensive professional football or baseball players. For a baseball player, he is done paying Social Security after his first at-bat while the rest of America continues to pay into the system.

There are several millionaires and billionaires who circumvent the law completely and pay nothing into Social Security. Meanwhile, those men and women who defend this Nation—the firefighters, the police officers, and schoolteachers—many were double-victimized by WEP and GPO. We repealed WEP and GPO.

How about a vote, Mr. Speaker?

SECURING THE BORDER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, for the past 18 months, House Republicans have worked to create a border that is secure and a Nation that is safe.

Throughout that time, President Biden has ended the remain in Mexico policy. He has thrown open our borders to a record number of illegal immigrants. He has allowed billions of dollars in cocaine, heroin, and fentanyl to enter through our porous borders.

Now, amid his falling poll numbers, President Biden is issuing an executive order on the border crisis in a very lame attempt to save his struggling campaign. These halfhearted policies are too little, too late, and do nothing to stop the surge in illegal immigration and drug smuggling that have put each and every American at risk. Since President Biden took office, there have been 1.8 million known got-aways, which is higher than the combined total of known got-aways in the previous 10 years.

Instead of offering up political stunts, it is time for the President to support H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, which would build the wall, end catch and release, and give our Border Patrol agents the tools that they need to keep America safe.

HONORING SAM WORLEY

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as we mark the 80th anniversary of the D-day landings, we are reminded of the incredible sacrifices that were made by the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who fought for the freedoms that occurred because of that success of World War II. One of those men was Sam Worley.

As a part of an intelligence unit, Sam Worley worked to decode classified messages and organize the bomber squadrons and their fighter escorts that helped pave the way for the Normandy landings.

This week, Sam will celebrate his 103rd birthday. Since returning home to Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, Sam Worley has become an important member of the Franklin County community.

In addition to his 34 years at the Valley Bank and Trust Co., Sam Worley served 8 years as chairman of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners. He served more than 20 years as a representative on the Chambersburg Borough Council, culminating in his service as the Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, mayor.

Sam Worley remains to this day heavily involved with a variety of local groups and organizations, including the YMCA, Kiwanis, The American Legion, and Masonic Lodge. He also attends and speaks at many veterans' events and public gatherings.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I wish Sam Worley a happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING PHILIPPINES
INDEPENDENCE DAY

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, as a Pacific Islander, I wish to recognize the significance of June 12 as Philippines Independence Day and the relationship that the U.S. and the Philippines share.

As a founding member of the United Nations and a member of many international global security organizations, the Philippines has long been a bastion of freedom in the Pacific as a close friend of the United States.

It is well known that the horrors of World War II affected the entire world. In the Pacific, many island nations and territories were conquered by the Imperial Japanese forces and many suffered under their occupation.

In the face of such harsh conditions, Pacific nations like the Philippines and territories like Guam preserved an unbreakable spirit that could not be rivaled.

In 1945, Filipino guerrilla fighters, with the help of Allied forces, broke free of their shackles and forced their occupying forces away, despite 4 years of atrocities. Ever since then, the Philippines has been a bastion of freedom and an integral part of keeping the world safe.

June 12, the day Emilio Aguinaldo declared independence from Spain in 1898, represents more than just a free Philippines. It demonstrates to the world that an independent nation can withstand whatever challenges come its way.

Yet, because of their unwavering commitment to the principles of freedom and democracy, the Philippine Government and people face daily harassment from the People's Republic of China.

As the PRC continues to expand its military presence within the region, Pacific regions like the Philippines need our support. As gray zone attacks, like breaches of exclusive economic zones, cyber warfare, and maritime militias in the South China Sea, continue to increase, U.S. support for our friends in the Philippines is paramount to securing the Indo-Pacific.

With the Philippines Independence Day this Wednesday, recognizing the Philippines' ongoing fight for freedom is the first step for securing the region and deterring aggression within the region.

In light of such an important event and day, I wish a happy Independence Day to our friends in the Philippines who just crossed into the 12th of June, as well as an early happy Independence Day to those who celebrate in the United States.

As co-chair of the U.S.-Philippines Friendship Caucus, I thank my colleagues whose continued support makes our alliance with the Philippines strong. Your support for H. Res. 837, Reaffirming the ties between the United States and the Philippines, as well as a resolution I will be introducing today to commemorate Philippines Independence Day, is vital for maintaining a free Pacific.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my fellow Members of Congress to cosponsor these two resolutions, and I wish a happy Independence Day to our friends in the Pacific.

□ 1230

PAYING A DEBT OF GRATITUDE
TO KYLE ROBERTSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALFORD). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a debt of gratitude to a terrific public servant, a trusted adviser to me and to many others in public service, and someone that has become a very close friend to the Pence family.

Kyle Robertson, my chief of staff, is departing our team after decades together in politics and here in Washington, D.C.

Here on Capitol Hill, Kyle's wise counsel has guided me from day one, and under Kyle's exemplary leadership, I am proud that our office has built a reputation throughout Indiana's Sixth Congressional District for putting constituent services first.

His leadership will be missed by every member of our staff and so many other people here in the House Republican Conference and up on the Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to miss Kyle every day that I am here and he is not, but our loss is Indiana's gain.

Kyle and his family have made the decision to move home to Indiana, and I am pleased the Robertsons will be close by, reachable, and I can bother him there.

I am confident that his leadership will continue to be in demand throughout the Hoosier State and beyond in the next endeavor he is going to embark on.

Mr. Speaker, to Kyle I would say, well done, good and faithful servant. I thank him for everything he has done for me and my family.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GORDONSVILLE
HIGH SCHOOL
TIGERETTES FOR WINNING
TSSAA 1A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes for winning the TSSAA, Division 1, Class 1A State championship in softball for the second year in a row.

Gordonsville, Tennessee, is known as a Title Town for having won 10 State championships in their history. This year, Title Town has another jewel in its crown thanks to the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes.

This is the second consecutive State championship win for this team, which beat Eagleville by a score of 5-2 last year and Jo Byrns High School by a dominating 11-1 score this year.

The Tigerettes came to the field in the championship game with a can-do spirit and the goal of getting started early, and they sure did.

This is the fourth time the Tigerettes have made it to the State championship game in recent years with the first trip resulting in an agonizing 2-run loss. Afterward, Coach Jonathan Bush made it his mission to raise the expectations for the program and challenge the girls to reach new heights. The results speak for themselves: three State titles.

I am proud to represent Gordonsville, Tennessee, and take much pride in the success of the community, the families that live there, and its home team champion.

Mr. Speaker, again, I congratulate the Gordonsville Tigerettes, the 2024 TSSAA 1A State softball champions.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S EXECUTIVE ORDER ON THE
BORDER CRISIS IS WEAK

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, last week, President Biden signed an executive order to limit the number of asylum seekers that are allowed to enter the United States in one day. The number is 2,500.

I have many concerns about the timing of this action and about the open-