

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.

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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-

border policies that created this mess, but I will first address that number. If that so-called limit was enforced each day for a full year, 912,500 immigrants would still likely be admitted into the United States, and that is before all of the loopholes and exceptions in his executive order are even considered, which will drive the number even higher.

The Biden administration would have you believe that this new policy will really crack down on the flow of illegal immigration into our country, but its effect will be marginal.

At best, the policy will slightly downgrade the unmitigated catastrophe at our southern border back to a mere full-blown crisis. The move confirms what House Republicans have been saying for 3 years. President Biden created this border catastrophe by using his executive powers to reverse the Trump border policies that were actually working, like construction of a border wall and the remain in Mexico policy. The President could use these same executive powers to reimplement those Trump border policies to again make the border much more secure, but unfortunately, this weak effort doesn't even come close.

President Biden's gross mismanagement of the border has sent a message to the entire world to just come on in. The result is more illegal immigrant encounters every month under this administration than the worst month under the previous administration.

Under President Biden, there have been more than 9.5 million illegal immigrant encounters at our borders. More than 7.8 million of them were reported at the southern border alone. We know at least 1.8 million people have managed to evade U.S. Border Patrol, and over 350 people who have tried to enter the country also were on the terrorist watch list.

The administration isn't done setting records. So far this fiscal year, there have been a record-breaking 27,583 Communist Chinese nationals encountered at the southern border. That is an increase of about 8,000 percent from just 3 years ago.

From the deadly fentanyl that is flowing across the border to the cartels making record profits from human trafficking, this has had a devastating impact on countless men, women, and children. There are many human costs resulting from the open border. There is also an actual monetary cost of more than \$150 billion each year, costing each U.S. taxpayer an average of \$1,156 each year.

The American people see this announcement for what it is: an election year public relations gimmick and a belated admission that there is, indeed, an unmitigated crisis at our southern border.

Fortunately, the American people will have their own chance to secure the border this November.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SPEECHES IN MISSOURI'S FOURTH DISTRICT

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

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Art Competition began back in 1982, and since then more than 650,000 students have entered.

As we speak, the winning art from 435 districts is being displayed in the tunnel here that connects our office buildings. Our office wanted to do something different, Mr. Speaker, something that would instill patriotism back in America, especially for our young people, so our Fourth Congressional District of Missouri is starting the congressional speech competition. I hope it catches on with other Members here.

These are students from all over our district that have entered this contest. We had a big turnout for this. The assignment was: "What America Means to Me."

This week, I will be reading the top 10 speeches from these individuals.

SPEECH BY MADDIE ARNETT

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, this is from Maddie Arnett, 10th grade, Climax Springs High School in Camden County.

"'America the Beautiful' is a Nation that deeply values the principles of freedom and equality. These values were earned through tireless efforts of its people, making it a place where individuals can pursue their dreams and aspirations, working towards building a better life for themselves and their families. The iconic 'Star-Spangled Banner' asks, 'O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?'"

"The question is a powerful reminder of the country's ongoing commitment to these values.

"While the interpretations of what America means vary, one thing is certain: It continues to inspire hope and optimism for a bright future."

SPEECH BY BROOKLYN GARRISON

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, next up in our speech contest is Brooklyn Garrison, 10th grade, Concordia High School in Lafayette County.

"America, to me, embodies the promise of opportunity and the pursuit of dreams. It's a land where diversity thrives, where people from all walks of life come together to build a better future.

"It's a beacon of freedom, where individuals have the right to speak their minds, worship as they please, and chase their ambitions without fear of persecution. America symbolizes resilience, overcoming challenges, and striving for progress.

"It's a place where innovation flourishes, where the impossible becomes possible, and where the spirit of entrepreneurship thrives.

"America is not just a country; it's an idea, a belief in liberty, equality,

and the endless possibilities of tomorrow."

SPEECH BY JAXSON DECKARD

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, our next winner in our speech contest is Jaxson Deckard, 11th grade, Warsaw High School in Benton County.

"Early on, I had an interest in serving my country to preserve our freedoms. I was raised in a patriotic, God-loving home, with family members serving before me.

"To me, America is a land of freedom. Citizens have the freedom to make their own decisions and opinions. This gives citizens pride and patriotism unlike any other country, pride and patriotism that gives citizens the drive to follow their dreams.

"My dream is to attend a military service academy to become a fighter pilot for our great Nation.

"Whatever your dreams are, I encourage you to chase them. In America, there are no limits to how far you can go."

SPEECH BY JACK SCHROEDER

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, our last finalist winner for today is Jack Schroeder, 12th grade, Smithton High School in Pettis County.

"To me, the United States of America is a beacon, a beacon that shines its light across the world, showing the world what life can be like: a life where everyone can have the same opportunities.

"Parts of the world have been blocked off from the light, whether from their actions or ours, but regardless of what blocks the light, we simply shine brighter.

"We've shown our capabilities of bringing our message and ideals to some of the darkest corners of the world, whether they be domestic or abroad.

"Regardless of what we must sacrifice, we've always held our ideals close to our hearts and fought for the repressed and oppressed people to have the same rights and liberties that we do.

"To me, America is a beacon of liberation."

Mr. Speaker, it is great to be able to get up here and speak the words of our young people.

Patriotism is still alive in America.

Later this week, Mr. Speaker, we will have the six remaining finalists for our speech contest. It is something I hope the rest of Congress picks up and runs with.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF BLAINE MOELLER

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

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Blaine Moeller, who passed away at 60 years young and dedicated his career to protecting our community.

He grew up in Orange, attended Peralta Middle School, and graduated