

over as chief of education for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

Most recently, Mary Beth has been serving as the coordinator of school innovation in the North Little Rock School District, leading students and teachers on trips to learn outdoor skills.

In this position, she was working directly with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission to bring innovative ideas to best teach our youth about nature and conservation. With over 18 years in public education, she decided it was time to educate more than just students in the classroom.

In her new role, Mary Beth will be responsible for guiding the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's educational efforts in conservation and natural resources.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mary Beth in her new role, and I look forward to the improvements that she will make in the Natural State.

RECOGNIZING DYLAN SILVERMAN-BARNES

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dylan Silverman-Barnes, a rising senior at the University of Central Arkansas.

In April, for his honors capstone project, Dylan orchestrated the building of three new community gardens at Conway's Bethlehem House to provide fresh food to the homeless population in Conway, Arkansas.

Bethlehem House provides temporary housing to individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness in Conway. They can provide housing and dinner to nearly 40 individuals, including kids, on any given night, and the house serves more than 100 people annually.

Dylan, a dietetics major, was able to make this project a reality through a grant provided by Arkansas Interfaith Power & Light, a national organization that focuses on regenerative urban agriculture and environmentally conscious practices.

Dylan's project was 1 of 20 projects approved out of 300 applications and the only one in Arkansas. I thank Dylan for his service to central Arkansas and his service to others.

THANKING DR. LARRY AND CARLENE DAVIS FOR INVESTING IN NURSING

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Dr. Larry and Carlene Davis for the creation of their new nursing endowment scholarship at the University of Arkansas Community College in Morrilton.

This scholarship is in honor of their daughter, Sarah Woods, who has a master's of science in nursing and is currently a nurse in neighboring Oklahoma.

Larry and Carlene Davis' scholarship will help change the lives of many prospective nurses. The Davis family presented the foundation with more than \$25,000 to distribute among full-time students in the practical nursing and registered nursing programs based on financial need. The scholarship ensures that talented students will have the

opportunity to hone their skills, regardless of financial background.

I thank Dr. Larry and Carlene Davis for their generosity and their investment in future nurses for the State of Arkansas.

RECOGNIZING BRAD AND TARA PEACOCK'S DEDICATION TO FARMING

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brad Peacock of Bald Knob, Arkansas.

Mr. Peacock and his wife, Tara, manage 1,500 acres of farmland known as Peacock Planting, where they focus on cultivating soybeans, corn, and rice.

In February 2023, the Peacocks were named finalists in the National Outstanding Young Farmers award. This past March, Brad joined other honorees on a trip to Washington, D.C., during National Agriculture Week to interact with lawmakers and advocate for a strong reauthorization of the farm bill.

The Peacocks' dedication to farming and passion for helping those around them truly make them outstanding farmers. I thank Brad and Tara Peacock for their important work to provide food for the Nation and the world.

CONGRATULATING TRUMAN SCHOLAR DANIEL BLOCK

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Daniel Block, a proud native of Little Rock. Daniel is currently a student at Brandeis University and a member of Congregation B'nai Israel, Little Rock's Reform Jewish synagogue.

Last month, Daniel was named a Truman Scholar, an award for those dedicated to being future leaders in the environment, Tribal public policy, and healthcare fields.

His work at Zumwalt Acres, a farm in rural Illinois, not only leads the cause of carbon negativity but is also rooted in Jewish values of social justice.

Daniel is well deserving of this achievement, and I wish him success in his commitment and steps toward a sustainable future.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

COMMEMORATING CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is with great honor that I rise today to co-anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour along with my distinguished colleague, the Honorable Representative SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, from the great State of Florida.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the Congressional Black Caucus have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on the topic of Caribbean American Heritage Month, an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to yield to the Honorable Congresswoman SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK from the State of Florida.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate Caribbean American Heritage Month, a time to recognize the profound historical significance and impact of Caribbean Americans on the history and development of the United States.

Caribbean Americans have played a pivotal role since the earliest days of our Nation's history. One of the most notable figures was Alexander Hamilton, born in Nevis, whose vision and intellect helped lay the foundation of our financial system and set forth the course for America's economic future.

During the 20th century, Shirley Chisholm, the daughter of Barbadian and Guyanese immigrants, emerged as a trailblazer in American politics.

During the same time, Malcolm X, a transformative civil rights leader whose roots trace back to Grenada, advocated for Black power and economic autonomy. His work has inspired individuals to strive for a more just and equitable society.

Next, we honor Puerto Rican-born Dr. Antonia Novello, a trailblazer in the field of public health who broke barriers as the first female and first Hispanic United States Surgeon General. She worked to improve health conditions and access to medical care, particularly for women, children, and underrepresented communities.

Finally, we celebrate the Cuban-born Celia Cruz, also known as the Queen of Salsa. Cruz not only captivated audiences but also enriched American music by popularizing salsa and creating a cultural bridge that we continue to enjoy and appreciate today.

In my home State of Florida, the historical significance of Caribbean Americans is particularly evident. In the early 20th century, waves of Caribbean immigrants arrived in Florida, playing a crucial role in developing industries such as agriculture and tourism, which remain vital to Florida's economy today.

For example, the construction of the Overseas Railroad in the early 1900s was made possible by the labor of many Caribbean workers. The railroad connected the Florida Keys to the mainland and transformed the region's economic landscape.

Let us celebrate this heritage with the recognition it deserves and a commitment to ensuring that the contributions of Caribbean Americans continue to be acknowledged and celebrated for generations to come.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank my co-anchor and leader, the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK of Florida, for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Caribbean American Heritage Month. For much of the long history of this Nation, it has been lost to most of our citizens the tremendous role that the nation of Haiti played in the formation of the United States of America.

What most people miss is that it was because of the Haitian Revolution that Napoleon lost interest in maintaining control over his so-called Caribbean landholdings and, therefore, saw no use in keeping Louisiana, prompting him to facilitate the Louisiana Purchase, which doubled the size of the United States of America.

The expansion of this Nation west of the Mississippi was directly related to the Haitian Revolution, a point I invite my colleagues to remember the next time they wonder why members of the Congressional Black Caucus are so concerned about Haiti.

Let me further remind my colleagues that the city responsible for my birth, the city of Chicago in the State of Illinois, was founded by a Haitian immigrant, Jean Baptiste Point du Sable.

While I was growing up, if you talked about the erasure of history, there was no monument formally dedicated in the great city of Chicago to the founding father of the city of Chicago. It was first recognized in what was formerly a city jail that Dr. Margaret Burrows turned into the DuSable Black History Museum and Education Center in the city of Chicago. Most recently, our magnificent Lake Shore Drive was renamed Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable Lake Shore Drive.

We have had to insert the history to make it whole because when history is not made whole, it is propaganda.

I was born and raised in Chicago, and there would be no Chicago without a member of the Caribbean-American community. It is about time the people of this Nation come to terms with the immense contribution of Haiti to the United States of America.

Everything that we love about New Orleans and Chicago is directly dependent upon the nation of Haiti and the children she sent around the world. The people of Haiti had as much to do with the formation of America's cultural influence as any of the descendants of Europe. Yet, somehow, Haitians are left out of the conversations when it comes to the contribution other nations have made to the formation of the American spirit.

□ 2015

The father of Chicago was a Haitian man, but there was a time in American history when history books would not

acknowledge the ancestry of persons of African heritage.

In fact, there was a time in the history of Chicago when Jean Baptiste du Sable's name would never be erected on a building. We had denied the truth of Haiti's contribution, and yet, the reality of Haiti's indelible endowment to America lives on.

Those of us who rise tonight do so because we refuse to be silent about the great contributions that African descendants from the Caribbean have made to this Nation's history and this Nation's future.

Malcolm X once said: "Of all our studies, history is best qualified to reward our research." Yet, what he meant by the statement was that it is only when we discover the immovable truth of our history that we find the footing we need to leap out of the darkness and into the kind of future we deserve.

A point which I should add is that Malcolm X was himself of Caribbean-American descent, as his mother and her descendants hailed from Grenada.

Needless to say, there is a long and noble list of Americans whose ancestry goes back to the Caribbean, and we would be wise to honor that history because in honoring it we honor, in fact, ourselves.

It is only when we honor the truth that we tear down the load-bearing walls of falsehood, hatred, and bigotry.

The days when we could be in denial about the unique and important contribution of marginalized parts of the world to the formation of America are over.

Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said that before you leave the house in the morning you have already depended on half the world to clothe you, to feed you, and provide you with a cup of coffee to wake you up.

I submit to the Members of this body that America is better when we are about the business of acknowledging the longstanding connection that our pursuit for freedom has with other parts of the world.

I know sometimes certain populations in America would like to believe the mythical lie of a rugged American individualism. I understand that there are those who would rather think that this country pulled itself up by its bootstraps without any assistance from anybody anywhere.

Regrettably, nothing could be further from the truth.

America is not a weaker country because nations such as Haiti assisted us and directly benefited us, but rather, we are stronger because the truth will set you free.

Mr. Speaker, this is a 220th anniversary of the Republic of Haiti. Haiti is America's longest and oldest democratic partner. Haiti now celebrates 220 years.

I would like to remind this body, on Haiti's 220-year anniversary, their democratically elected president was

highjacked, kidnapped, and taken out with U.S. assistance from his homeland to an African city.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this is a time where the Haitians certainly need our assistance. Haiti is not a debtor country. Haiti is a creditor country to the United States. Haitians supported America during the Revolutionary War in Savannah where a statue still rises from those ashes.

Let us celebrate this Caribbean Heritage Month. Let us celebrate all of those that have been erased from history that have committed such great and noble works to us.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK), the co-anchor of this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my co-anchor, who I think, is an honorary Haitian for all his advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, today we come to the floor to celebrate Caribbean Heritage Month. It is a time to honor Caribbean Americans' vibrant culture and invaluable contributions to our Nation.

It is significant in my home State of Florida where the Caribbean diaspora thrives and flourishes.

As someone of Haitian descent, my heritage provides me with strength and resilience, traits passed down through the generations of Caribbean people who have faced and conquered tremendous challenges.

Caribbean Americans have been at the forefront of advocacy and leadership in politics. From city councils to the Halls of Congress, we have raised our voices to champion civil rights, social justice, and equality for all.

Moreover, Caribbean Americans are innovators and pioneers. From the groundbreaking research of Dr. Patricia Bath, a pioneering ophthalmologist of Trinidadian descent, to the literary genius of Jamaica Kincaid from Antigua, our contributions to science, literature, and the arts have profoundly impacted the entire world.

These achievements are a testament to the ingenuity and creativity that are the hallmarks of our heritage.

In recognizing the importance of Caribbean American Heritage Month, we acknowledge that our diversity is, in fact, our strength. It is a reminder that the United States thrives when we embrace and celebrate the unique cultures and histories that make up our entire Nation.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, my co-anchor of this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour, for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I would like to share that Haiti has a rich and a very vibrant history. It pains me deeply to see that people look at Haiti as a beggar nation. Haiti has gone through one of the most horrendous stories in mankind.

After the Haitian people valiantly fought off those that enslaved them,

American powers and European powers forced those that had been enslaved, kidnapped, raped, and robbed to pay reparations back to France up until the 1940s.

The Haitian people are vibrant people and honorable people, and Haitians deserve our help and support. The United States asked the Kenyan Government to support the Haitian people to help gain back control of their country by the citizens for their rightful democracy. We very well, as the world's most powerful country, should be able to send our forces down and assist those people so they can build back their country.

We owe them a development plan. We cannot be the greatest nation having the poorest country in the world off of our shores. Haitians have been our best allies, our longest democratic partners, and we can do better.

Mr. Speaker, you have heard from my distinguished colleagues and the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK of all the great issues important to the Congressional Black Caucus, our constituents, Congress, and all Americans tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE MATH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, every week I come behind this microphone, and I walk through the demographics and the debt and try to demonstrate that the primary driver of debt is our demographics and our health.

I have brought lots and lots of charts here over the last couple years sort of demonstrating the death spiral the country is heading towards. Total interest this year is going to be maybe just a little shy of \$1.2 trillion, making interest the second biggest expenditure in this government. Social Security will be about \$1.480 trillion; interest \$1.2 trillion, and then, believe it or not, Defense and Medicare are fighting for who is going to be third and fourth.

I thought it would actually be more honorable to come behind this mike and say, all right, we have defined the problem over and over and over and over. I don't seem to be making much progress with my brothers and sisters being willing to accept the actual math because our friends from the left say tax rich people more and that will take care of the problem. Then we show them the economic papers that make it clear that you can maximize people's taxes for those over \$400,000 on their income tax, their estate tax, the whole list of taxes, and when you do economic effects, you get about 1½ percent of GDP.

For us on the right, we have all sorts of things we want to cut, but if we are

limited to only nondefense discretionary, we come up with about 1 percent of GDP.

The problem is this year we are borrowing close to—I think our run rate in the last 365 days is like 8 percent of GDP. The long run is 6, 7, 8 percent over the years.

Does anyone see the math problem?

When the left's solutions and the right's solutions are combined, you get 2½ percent, and you are borrowing 6, 7, 8 percent of GDP, the size of the economy, maybe we need to have a brutally honest conversation of what is the driver of debt and the things that provide a solution that also have a chance of passing here.

Here is the board that gets the most complaints to my office, so let's do it again.

From today through the next 30 years—and this is in the President's math, this is in the CBO's math, this is in the outside group's math—100 percent of the debt from today through the next 30 years is interest and healthcare, and if in a decade from now the decision is, hey, the Social Security trust fund is gone, and we are not going to let people take a 21 to 25 percent cut and double senior poverty and we backfill Social Security.

So right here, the new number isn't 116. This is my older board. I think it is somewhere now in the 120, \$130 trillion in 30 years. The rest of the budget is flat. It pretty much grows with the growth of the economy. It is healthcare. If you want to disrupt debt, make this society healthier or adopt technology that makes government smaller.

Let's sort of actually walk through some of these things. I brought this board again just to reemphasize what I was just saying. The new number on Social Security for this coming year is \$1.480 trillion. My math actually has the interest being a little bit higher, and then you see Defense and Medicare.

Think of that. When you think Defense and Medicare are now down here third and fourth, and Medicare—I think Medicare is spending maybe upwards as much as 10 percent so far this year.

Let's see, if I came to you and said, all right, here is the stack of solutions, in previous years I would come here with all sorts of charts, and I would show sort of my holistic unified theory, saying you had to do things in immigration, you had to do things in fixing the tax code to maximize investment in growth. Over here you had to legalize adoption of technology to crash the price of healthcare. Over here you had to do things to make the society much more competitive and less oligopolies in our economy; you know, big players.

I kept trying to show—and we had like 20, 21 things you had to do almost at the same time. I felt like I was making no progress.

The reality of it is, we are in real trouble. A couple weeks ago I came here and did the demographics, and I

knew everyone was right on the edge of their seats wanting to understand the demographics, except demographics is your destiny.

In 15 years, we model this country has more deaths than births. Understand what is going on. Yet, you have your Medicare system, your Social Security that are sort of a pay-as-you-go system, but the number of children, the number of young people, the number of future workers we are going to have in this society—we are in trouble.

You are going to have to do things like technology substitution.

What the hell does that mean? We are going to walk through some of that.

I have a stack of articles, some boards, and we are going to walk through one of those pillars that we talk about. The two biggest changes I expect in society, in the economy, and in the world over the next decade or two will be synthetic biology and artificial intelligence.

Let's talk about one of the things on our list of like 21 disruptions of what we could fixate on policy-wise to make government smaller, more efficient, and more moral, and maybe your retirement doesn't have to implode on you, and maybe my little kids—yes, I have young kids—have a future because the math says right now that child that is young today will be poorer than their parents.

□ 2030

It is the first time in U.S. history when the expectation is, the math says, this young generation is going to be poorer. Does anyone see just the apocalyptic immorality in that?

So what is going on here? Why are we so terrified to tell the truth?

Mr. Speaker, I will tell you one of the reasons you should tell the truth. You come here and walk people through the actual math of Social Security and Medicare, how we are going to save it, what we have to do, and you will get attack ads because, God forbid, you told the truth. This side particularly over there cares much more about winning the next election than saving this country, saving your retirement, the morality of you receiving the earned benefits you worked for.

It is because the politics are so much more important. Winning the next election is so much more important than doing what is right.

Let's actually sort of walk through some ideas here.

First off, I am going to do this in the next couple of weeks. There are now starting to be economic models and discussions talking about how the debt is going to make us all poorer and how it is starting to do that.

The fact is, as far as your taxes, I have shown things here where every dime a Member of Congress votes on today is on borrowed money. So far this fiscal year, every dime of discretionary, every dime of defense, and, actually, one-quarter of Medicare are on