

the plan is after the A-10s depart. We had a bipartisan agreement that would ask the Pentagon to tell us what their plan is. We would like to know what fighters are coming behind that.

Unfortunately, it was ruled out of order, and we weren't able to talk about it. Despite having 30 bipartisan cosponsors and a tremendous show of support from the Air National Guard, this will not receive a vote on the floor.

As a CIA officer and Pentagon official and someone who has spent my entire life looking at national security issues not through a political lens but through a national security lens exclusively, it is hard to watch my colleagues across aisle turn the Pentagon budget into a culture war buffet.

Particularly on the issue of choice, as we have the Supreme Court in real time making decisions about a woman's right to choose, do not believe my colleagues when they say that they now are done pursuing a woman's right to choose. Look at what they do, not what they say.

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, Juneteenth is a day of joy, a celebration of freedom, and a reminder of the work that lies before us as we continue to fight for true equity and justice for our Black neighbors.

On Juneteenth and every day in our community, we honor the trauma and acknowledge the pain and hurt of our Black Americans who fought tirelessly for their freedom, and we still aren't done.

We celebrate this independence day with activists, organizers, and community leaders who uplift Black history and carry on the enduring struggle for justice for all.

In our country right now, which our own Black neighbors literally built, including this very building I am standing in, the Capitol, systemic racism and discrimination continue to plague our institutions and communities.

We see it in disparities in healthcare, education, housing, access to basic necessities, racism in our legal system and economic opportunities, and so much more. By providing reparations, the debt owed to our Black neighbors upon emancipation from centuries of enslavement and oppression, we can begin, Mr. Speaker, to address the injustices.

I know the 12th Congressional District knows that reparations are a debt that our Nation owes, a true acknowledgement of the pain and harm inflicted on generations of our Black families.

Juneteenth is a reminder of how far we have come, but also how far we still need to go. This Juneteenth, please join me in honoring our Black neighbors as we commit to fighting for repa-

arations, voting rights, ending police brutality, investing in Black maternal health, HBCUs, and so much more.

□ 1030

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT IS FACING A CORRUPTION CRISIS

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court is not facing an ethics crisis; it is a corruption crisis. It seems like every single day there are new headlines about more corruption coming out of our U.S. Supreme Court.

I know we need urgent action to hold these unhinged, corrupt extremists accountable. It is extremely disturbing that the United States Supreme Court, the highest Court of our land, is the only Court that does not have an enforceable code of conduct.

Mr. Speaker, Justice Thomas, which my residents call "Corruption Clarence," has received over \$4 million and 193 gifts, including multiple vacations, flights on private jets, helicopter rides, and yacht trips from Republican billionaire mega-donors like Harlan Crow, who actually have cases before the Court. We are supposed to expect this Court to hold itself accountable? Give me a break.

One of these luxury trips actually cost \$500,000. It is not just corrupt Clarence. Justice Alito has also been hit with numerous scandals recently, including accepting luxury trips and flying insurrectionists around, hanging stop the steal flags outside of his home after the attack on our U.S. Capitol. Yet, the American people are supposed to trust him to decide the cases around January 6th.

These unelected Justices, serving lifetime appointments, Mr. Speaker, continue to strip us of our rights, shred our voting rights, gut our environmental protections, our right to breathe clean air and drink clean water, and sell our democracy to the highest bidder.

It is time to expand the Supreme Court. It is time for reforms. I know our residents in the 12th Congressional District are demanding that I move with urgency on this issue. We need to enact term limits for Supreme Court Justices, enforce binding a code of conduct, real reforms, and expedite impeachment proceedings.

These reforms are long overdue. I know Justice Thomas should have never been confirmed in the first place. We should have listened to Anita Hill.

Let me be clear: Thomas and Alito need to be impeached and removed from the bench now. Our country deserves a Supreme Court that is acting in the best interests of the American people, not a Court that is accepting bribes and doing the bidding of right-wing extremists.

RECOGNIZING CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I recognize Caribbean American Heritage Month as we celebrate the contributions of our Caribbean Americans in Michigan's 12th Congressional District and across our Nation.

I know Caribbean American Heritage Month was first recognized in 2005, and this was a combination of tireless efforts of organizers that highlight the amazing contributions of our Caribbean Americans.

I also uplift in our backyard the Caribbean Community Service Center, an organization based right in our district that is proudly uplifting the history and continuing to celebrate that culture and our neighbors in southeastern Michigan beyond this month.

Please join me in recognizing Caribbean American Heritage Month and the contributions of our Caribbean Americans across our Nation and in the 12th Congressional District.

HONORING THE LEGENDARY BILL WALTON

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the loss of one of San Diego's most accomplished native sons and one of our most devoted citizens. On May 27, Bill Walton passed away from colon cancer at just 71 years of age.

Most people know Bill Walton as a successful basketball player, and that he certainly was.

After winning titles at Helix High, he enrolled at UCLA where he was a three-time college player of the year, and he led the Bruins to two national championships in 3 years.

In the NBA, despite a series of injuries, he won titles with the Portland Trail Blazers and the Boston Celtics, and he had an all-around game.

His college coach, the great John Wooden, said: "Walton is the type of player who wouldn't have to score at all, yet he'll dominate the game."

Magic Johnson called Bill "one of the smartest basketball players to ever live."

Most count Bill as one of the two greatest college players ever, along with Lew Alcindor, later known as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. Bill was inducted into the National Basketball Hall of Fame in 1993 and included in ESPN's ranking of the 50 greatest basketball players of all time.

Bill retired from basketball almost 40 years ago, so his most famous accomplishments, those on the basketball court, have been history for a long time now. However, his generosity, his gratitude, and his determination, which set an example for me and so many, were present to the very end, and we will miss those qualities very much at home.

I understand when he was young, Bill may have been a bit cranky. Well, I never knew that Bill Walton. By the time I met him, he wanted to make everyone happy. He wanted to volunteer. He wanted to help. He wanted to boost San Diego.

Bill was a champion for the poor and for addressing homelessness through

his work with the Lucky Duck Foundation, Champions for Health, Father Joe's Villages, and Feeding San Diego. He supported the Brad Fowler Memorial Scholarship, which used sports to help teens overcome substance abuse. He helped the Challenged Athletes Foundation equip disabled people to participate in sports.

He helped San Diego State become a national basketball power. He cared deeply about the environment and joined the activists and organizations working to protect San Diego's natural resources. He never just raised money, although he was willing to do that. He was there personally to thank, to encourage, to congratulate, always with a big smile and never intending to be the center of attention, but inevitably always the center of attention.

Bill also faced hard times. The injuries he had suffered in sports led to such intolerable pain that Bill actually considered ending his own life. Fortunately, medical innovations in spine surgery helped him have close to a normal life, though he often brought his own tall chair with him so he could have a more comfortable spot for his 7-foot frame to sit.

Given the physical pain he suffered, I guess it is a little ironic that when you encountered Bill, what you noticed was his joy. You could feel that joy when he did a basketball broadcast or when he talked about the Grateful Dead or when he told basketball stories about Coach Wooden or about Larry Bird. Thankfully, he found joy in riding his bicycle.

When I rode the Bike the Bay with him once, he told me that that was really important to him. Even though this amazingly accomplished world-class competitor was notoriously slower on a bike than his friends, he would regularly proclaim himself the luckiest man in the world. Just being healthy enough to ride was the win.

Mr. Speaker, I offer condolences to Bill's wife, Lori; to his sons, Adam, Nate, Luke, and Chris; and his grandchildren, Olivia, Avery Rose, and Chris.

Bill Walton was a great San Diegan and a great American, and while we will miss him so much, he will live on through the thousands he served as a philanthropist, as a citizen, and as an example.

CELEBRATING DIA DE PORTUGAL

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Dia de Portugal. It is a national Portuguese holiday celebrating the anniversary of Portugal as a nation. It is the equivalent of their Fourth of July.

The story of the Portuguese Americans, I think, is also a part of the American story. Why? Because the American story is one of immigrants past and immigrants present. I think it is the secret sauce of America.

Every generation of immigrants coming to this country for over 200 years add value to our country. My district in California is home to generations of the Portuguese diaspora, the majority of them coming from the Azores Islands off the coast of Portugal out in the middle of the Atlantic.

As the co-chair of the Portuguese Caucus and a proud descendant of Portuguese immigrants, the traditions and values that my family took from the Azores have always been a part of who I am.

This year, it is particularly meaningful to celebrate Dia de Portugal because it is the 50th anniversary of what they call the Carnation Revolution. That is a revolution that occurred in Portugal in the mid-70s when they transitioned from a dictatorship to a full-fledged democracy.

Now a contributing member of the European Union, Portugal is one of America's longest and strongest allies. It was one of the first to recognize the United States as an independent Nation after the Revolutionary War and it is also an original member of NATO.

Join me in celebrating this special occasion and the strong bond between Portugal and the United States and the Portuguese people and people from our country. "Happy celebration of the day of Portugal," "Feliz Dia de Portugal."

PROTECT SNAP

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, millions of families continue to struggle to put dinner on their table every night, and that is why I will speak about the American safety net known as SNAP, which is providing food for people who are insecure, 41 million Americans.

Fresno and Tulare Counties that I represent are among the top agricultural-producing counties in the country. It is a real dichotomy because we produce so much aplenty, over 300 commodities, 20 percent of America's milk production, almost half of the fruits and vegetables, 75 percent of the almonds in the world, and 50 percent of the pistachios. The list goes on and on.

However, in my district I have a significant amount of food insecurity. Mr. Speaker, 42 million Americans are food insecure, or 12.5 percent of our Nation's population rely throughout the year on SNAP, this food supplement.

In my district, out of 52 congressional districts in California, 28 percent rely on SNAP. They are food insecure, whether it be young or old or people with disabilities or working people. A lot of them are seasonal workers in our fields that live on \$20,000 a year or maybe a little bit more but have a family of four or five that they have to feed every night.

When we think about the farm bill and the reauthorization, it is not only the safety net to American farmers, ranchers, dairymen and -women, but it is also the safety net to 42 million Americans who are food insecure.

What we need to understand is that four out of five SNAP households include a child, an elderly individual, or

a person with a disability. I know because my district ranks among the highest in California and the sixth highest in the Nation.

SNAP is more than a lifeline. Why? Because it also benefits local economies and cuts hunger by 30 percent. Every dollar spent on SNAP generates economic activity and support for our farmers and small businesses and obviously puts food on those families' dinner tables.

Nothing is more challenging than to educate a child. For many of our children, the breakfast and lunch program in our schools is the best meal they get during the day. I don't look at this as a burden on taxpayers. I look at it as an investment in our Nation's health and well-being.

As we debate the importance of reauthorizing the farm bill, let's address the income inequality that makes people food insecure and let's sit together to try to find a bipartisan agreement to reauthorize the farm bill.

RECOGNIZING ILWACO FIRE DEPARTMENT AS FIREHOUSE OF THE YEAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. PEREZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the Ilwaco Fire Department, which was recently recognized as the Firehouse of the Year by the Washington State Fire Fighters' Association.

First responders and firefighters are on the front lines of keeping our communities safe, and many of them are doing this as volunteers because they are committed to serving their community.

At the Ilwaco Fire Department, the ambulance component is entirely run and operated by their volunteers. Whether it is a wildfire or a house flood, our first responders are constantly prepared for emergencies throughout our community.

In this last year, the Ilwaco Fire Department was responsible for transporting more than 200 patients and traveling over 23,000 miles. The crucial role they play can't be done without proper funding, which is why I will always fight to bring back the Federal dollars they deserve. I am honored to have such a hardworking and outstanding fire department in my district.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of the brave members of the Ilwaco Fire Department, and a special thanks to Sparky, the fire dog, for keeping everyone's spirits high.

□ 1045

21-YEAR-OLD ANDREW OKERLUND SUMMITS 100 HIGHEST PEAKS IN WASHINGTON STATE IN 85 DAYS

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andrew Okerlund, a young mountain climber in my district. Last summer, Andrew became the 91st person to summit the 100 highest peaks in