

development by putting in place rent caps that disincentivize investment.

In other words, HARRIS would both increase demand and limit supply, the exact wrong combination of policies if you want housing costs to go down.

The result is a housing market where both renters and potential homeowners are squeezed, leaving everyone with fewer choices and higher prices.

Vice President HARRIS has said previously that “Bidenomics is working.” For those that are concerned about rising housing costs, her words should be taken literally and taken as a warning.

Vice President HARRIS plans to continue the inflationary policies of the Biden-Harris administration, exacerbating our housing affordability problems and leaving renters with less options and future home buyers with even higher costs.

If America wants to boost housing supply and end the inflationary policies of the Biden-Harris era, we need to cut red tape, streamline Federal housing programs, and remove barriers to building new units.

Until we move toward a solution that encourages private investment in development, we can expect that our country’s housing shortage will persist, leaving the American Dream out of reach for everyday working families.

□ 1045

REMEMBERING LARRY FISHER FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIS COMMUNITY

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Larry Fisher.

Throughout his life, Larry showed incredible dedication to his community. He was a proud alumnus of the University of Southern California. After his graduation from USC, he served as executive director of the California Democratic Party. In 1966, he joined Braun and Company and rose through the ranks to become CEO of this international public relations firm, which eventually became Braun and Ketchum.

In his retirement, Larry moved to the bay area with his wife, Betty, and briefly worked as director for Options Recovery in Berkeley, California, assisting people through the process of recovering from addiction. He then became the spiritual director, working with clients to help them find new meaning in life.

Sadly, Larry passed away this year. Our hearts are with his wife, Betty; their children, Timothy and Lara; and the rest of their family. Larry will be remembered for his outstanding character and community contributions. Please join me in honoring Larry Fisher for his incredible impact on his community, his State, and the country.

INCREDIBLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF AMIT ELOR

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Amit Elor for making history as the youngest wrestler from Team USA to earn an Olympic Gold Medal.

Amit was born and raised in Walnut Creek, California, and has been wrestling since the age of 4. In 2022, Amit won under 23, then under 20, and senior world titles, making her the youngest U.S. senior world champion in wrestling. She went on to win those titles again in 2023, making her the only wrestler in history to win these three titles 2 years in a row.

In August, Amit won an Olympic Gold Medal in the women’s freestyle in her weight group. Her astonishing skill and unwavering dedication to the sport make her an inspiration for the next generation of girls’ wrestling.

Our community is incredibly proud of Amit, and it was a delight to root for her during the Paris Olympics alongside California’s 10th Congressional District. Please join me in congratulating Amit Elor on her incredible accomplishments and the many more to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BETTE BOATMUN

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and work of Bette Boatmun.

Bette was a trailblazer for women in leadership in the community, water agencies in California, and in special districts. She was a native New Yorker who settled in Concord, California, with her family of six. In 1974, Bette was appointed to the Contra Costa Water District’s Board, and she served in that seat for over 46 years. She was instrumental in implementing many significant projects, such as building the Randall-Bold Water Treatment Plant and expanding Los Vaqueros Reservoir.

Bette was passionate about bringing more women into elected office and into the water industry. She was an active member of many organizations, including the Concord branch of American Association of University Women, Soroptimist International of the Americas, and many others.

In 2020, the Association of California Water Agencies presented her with a lifetime achievement award for her lasting contributions to California water.

Sadly, Bette passed away last week, on September 19, and our hearts are with her family. Bette will be remembered as a remarkable leader and a true visionary when it came to water conservation and women in politics. Please join me in honoring Bette Boatmun for her incredible impact on our environment, her community, the State of California, and this country.

SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observation of Suicide Preven-

tion Month, a time to raise awareness on this urgent crisis and to rededicate ourselves to watching out and caring for each other, not just this month but every single day.

Suicide is a complex, personal, and devastating moment. The loss of life is painful, and the heartbreaking aftermath spreads beyond the individual to friends, family, coworkers, neighbors, and society itself.

Whether you are a servicemember, veteran, or civilian, mental health challenges affect us all. We must work to end the stigma surrounding mental health and asking for help. Seeking help is not a sign of weakness. In fact, it is a sign of strength.

If you or a loved one are struggling with your mental health, please know there is a caring community who stands ready to assist. You can get help 24/7 by calling or texting 988 or you can chat with the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988lifeline.org.

During this month, let us dedicate ourselves to shifting public perceptions, spreading hope, and sharing vital information and resources for people struggling with their mental health.

Know that you are not alone.

ADDRESSING CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 9678, the FLASH Act.

For 3½ years, border districts, like mine, have suffered the devastating consequences stemming from the crisis at our southern border. As a result, bad actors are emboldened, CBP agents and officers are overwhelmed and overworked, our communities have become more dangerous, and the environment along the border has been harmed.

My legislation will address this crisis and secure the border by allowing States to place temporary barriers on Federal lands, providing for the construction of navigable roads to enhance CBP’s ability to do their job, and directing Federal managers to develop plans to address growing trash piles along the border that hurt our environment.

Securing the border and protecting the environment are not partisan issues. They remain top of mind for the constituents in my entire southern Arizona district.

I remain committed to working with anyone on either side of the aisle to find common ground to address the issues impacting communities in my district and our Nation.

HISPANIC RESTAURANT WEEK

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1480, recognizing Hispanic Restaurant Week, a time to mark and honor the significant contribution of Hispanic restaurant owners and workers.

In southern Arizona and across the United States, countless Hispanics have opened a restaurant in search of their American Dream. These establishments allow Hispanics to share their rich culinary traditions and bold flavors, all while creating jobs and

strengthening our local economy. Growing up in a Hispanic household myself, I can confidently say these are some of the best restaurants in our country.

As a Hispanic myself, I am proud to co-lead this resolution with a bipartisan group of colleagues to dedicate this week to Hispanic restaurants and thank all of the owners, chefs, servers, dishwashers, and more for all their work and contributions to our community and Nation.

ACCESS PROMOTES UNDERSTANDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th anniversary of the Arab-American Community Center for Economic and Social Services of WNY. ACCESS was founded to promote understanding and foster bonds of friendship between Arab Americans and people of all faiths, ethnicities, and backgrounds, recognizing the critical importance of dialogue and understanding.

Over the past 20 years, ACCESS has connected individuals with legal services, financial assistance, healthcare, and employment opportunities. It provides our young people, who often face uncertain and challenging circumstances, with the mentorship and programs required to enrich their lives and set them on a path of success for the future.

In addition, ACCESS is committed to aiding immigrants as they pursue their dream of citizenship, helping them navigate the application process financially, culturally, and linguistically. For refugees fleeing persecution, poverty, and violence, ACCESS offers programs that help people and families begin new lives, acclimate to life in the United States, and thrive.

I thank Executive Director Talib Abdullah and the leadership of the board for their extraordinary efforts meeting our community's needs and making western New York a more welcoming and connected home for all.

Our community and Nation look forward to their continued success and congratulate them.

SICKLE CELL DISEASE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the passage of the Sickle Cell Disease and Other Heritable Blood Disorders Research, Surveillance, Prevention, and Treatment Act.

I am proud to support this critical legislation to reauthorize Federal efforts to research, prevent, and treat sickle cell disease through 2028.

Sickle cell disease is an inherited genetic blood condition affecting approximately 100,000 Americans and a million people around the world.

As a clinical nurse specialist caring for sickle cell patients, my own mother knew firsthand the hardships stemming from this terrible disease, includ-

ing pain, anemia, infections, and stroke, as well as kidney, liver, and heart disease.

For those with sickle cell, life expectancy is 20 years shorter than the average.

We have more to do, especially as this disease disproportionately impacts Black and Latino people who are already facing health inequities.

To put it in perspective, in my home State of New York, one in every 365 Black babies is born with sickle cell disease.

During Sickle Cell Awareness Month this September, the legislation passed in the House will honor the resilience of those affected by this disease, advance important research to improve treatment options, and help ensure equitable access to care for all patients. The time to act is now.

COMBATING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the passage of two bipartisan bills that will continue our Nation's commitment to researching, treating, and ultimately curing Alzheimer's disease that has caused so much heartbreak and pain across the country.

Families are enduring the profound emotional, physical, and financial toll of Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Nearly 7 million Americans currently live with Alzheimer's, but their burden is not theirs alone. Each of those individuals have families and communities that are impacted. In fact, the Alzheimer's Association estimates that 11 million Americans provide unpaid support to patients every year, accounting for more than 18 billion hours of care.

This disease impacts families in every State, city, neighborhood, and of all races, incomes, and religions. My own family has felt the pain of Alzheimer's, as my grandmother suffered for years with this debilitating disease. I watched as my family provided 24-hour care for her in her home until the time that she passed.

It is critical that we make Federal investments to research and address Alzheimer's disease and provide resources for the patients and families who are impacted. The bipartisan legislation to extend and strengthen the National Alzheimer's Project and to develop the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services will go a long way to combat this terrible disease.

I thank the advocates who have volunteered their time caring for loved ones, fighting for research funding, and for always keeping faith for future generations that will hopefully not have to feel the grief of watching a loved one slowly slip away.

REMEMBERING MARK MORTENSON

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mark Mortenson, who passed on September 14 and whose life work always brought beauty and wonder to so many lives in western New York.

After taking on his most recent role as president and CEO of Buffalo and

Erie County Botanical Gardens in 2022, Mark was ready to take on a new multimillion dollar expansion to fulfill its mission to change the region.

His life will always be remembered in western New York. Our prayers are for his loved ones that he left behind: his husband, Curt Maranto; and his children, Nicolas, Kiara, Mikey, Elliott, Emily, and the late Clayton, who will always be remembered.

He will be missed. May he rest in peace.

□ 1100

COMMEMORATING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MIDDLEBURG'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Lord says that when two or more people gather in prayer, there He will be also. At the First Baptist Church of Middleburg this past Sunday, we certainly felt the Lord's presence.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a spiritual rock in northeast Florida. On September 22, First Baptist Church of Middleburg celebrated its 125th anniversary.

Abby and I had the privilege of attending the commemorative service this past Sunday, and when we entered the sanctuary, it was obvious the holy spirit was already there. The congregation, the choir, Pastor Chris Bonts, and the entire pastoral staff team were celebrating the church's long history and its future as a missionary church.

In 1899, a dozen citizens gathered in the back of a local general store to start a church that would honor the Lord and serve Middleburg. Mr. Speaker, 125 years later from those humble beginnings, First Baptist Middleburg has transformed the lives of thousands through the Gospel and community partnerships.

From youth outreach programs to food pantries to recovery ministries for those impacted by addiction and a robust missionary presence around the world, First Baptist Middleburg is spreading the good news to neighbors and strangers alike.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating First Baptist Middleburg's 125 years in service to Him and others. I congratulate First Baptist, and let's go get them on the next 125 years.

HONORING CALEB DRESSSEL

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great northeast Florida athlete who made a big splash this summer at the Paris Olympics.

Caleb Dressel is a Green Cove Springs native who was a Clay High Blue Devil who went on to earn—get this—10 NCAA national championships at the University of Florida as a Fighting Gator. Caleb is a three-time Olympian, earning a career nine Gold Medals and one Silver, placing him in a very elite group of swimmers.