

clothing, and shot them dead in groups of 10 while others looked on terrified.

This horrific massacre has been memorialized by a brilliant Jewish artist in my community, Victoria Carlin Milstein, in a sculpture she has named "She Wouldn't Take Off Her Boots." The sculpture, which stands in LeBauer Park in downtown Greensboro shows a grandmother, her daughter, and her three granddaughters, arms locked together, awaiting their gruesome fate. All are barefoot, except the grandmother, who in an act of defiance, refused to take off her boots.

The sculpture was based on a haunting photograph taken by the Nazis to document their cruelty. The artist has placed a bronze camera in front of the statue so each person can look through the camera lens and see exactly what the photographer saw before the family was shot. Each person who looks through that camera is a witness to the unimaginable cruelty that was inflicted on innocent Jews while others stood by either complicit or silent.

A film has been made about the creation of this sculpture and a curriculum written to educate students and teachers about this dark time in history when 6 million Jews were murdered in the Holocaust.

Tragically, we are experiencing the violent cruelty of anti-Semitism today.

On October 7, 2023, thousands of men from Gaza invaded Israel and tortured, burned, and murdered more than 1,200 innocent people. These Hamas jihadi terrorists driven by Jew hatred subjected women and girls of all ages to unimaginable acts of torture, mutilation, rape—violence intended to dehumanize and humiliate Jewish women and girls before they were murdered.

Just like the Nazis 83 years ago in the Liepaja massacre, the Hamas terrorists filmed their horrific acts to memorialize their unspeakable cruelty.

These acts should shock the conscience of the entire world, and yet for too long, the world stood silent. Despite overwhelming evidence, some continue to minimize or deny these war crimes.

Another Jewish woman, Sheryl Sandberg, made a film to show the world what happened on that terrible day, to allow the victims to tell their stories. Just like looking through the camera in front of Victoria's statue, we can all watch Sheryl's film and bear witness to the horrors of anti-Semitism.

I am proud of these Jewish women who have taken action to make sure we do not allow these atrocities to be denied or forgotten.

We must all take heed of the words of Elie Wiesel, which are inscribed on the base of Victoria's statue: "The opposite of love is not hate, it is indifference."

As a nation, we must not be indifferent to the alarming rise of anti-Semitism across our country and around the world—from Los Angeles to New York to Amsterdam to Lithuania to Israel.

I call on my colleagues and all Americans to speak out against anti-Semitism and hate in all its forms and take action. Let us not be indifferent.

RELEASE KEITH SIEGEL

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, it has been over a year since Hamas launched a brutal attack on our ally Israel, slaughtering 1,200 innocent people and taking hundreds of innocent people hostage.

Today, the families of these hostages continue to live in unthinkable anguish, desperate for their loved ones to return home safely.

Among them is the family of Keith Siegel from my home State of North Carolina.

On October 7, Keith and his wife, Aviva, were kidnapped from their home in K'far Aza and held captive together in inhumane conditions underground lacking food, water, and even air.

After 51 days, Aviva was released in a hostage exchange, but Keith, now 65 years old, remains in those horrific tunnels.

We must continue to fight for the return of Keith and all 100 hostages. We must keep them in our hearts and speak up for them.

#### WILLCOX SOFTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Willcox softball's little league team for their perseverance and their hard work.

After winning back-to-back Arizona Little League State titles, this team was crowned as this West Region Champions and were invited to play at the World Series Tournament.

Unfortunately, they came up a little short in a 5-2 defeat in one of the elimination games, but we are so proud of them.

While they were not able to make it all the way, I know that Cochise County and the entire State of Arizona is incredibly proud of the Willcox softball's first World Series appearance.

They are only the fifth team from southern Arizona to ever make it this far. They have made our district proud with their resilience and competitive spirit. They must keep up the great work.

□ 1030

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
PRESIDENT DR. SURESH GARIMELLA

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the new president of the University of Arizona, my alma mater, Dr. Suresh Garimella.

I have met and spent time with him, and I am deeply impressed with what I have experienced. Dr. Garimella is a tireless champion for students who is well suited to lead the university into an even brighter future. He is a passionate educator who fosters the creativity of his students and empowers

them with the tools to pursue their own American Dream.

Throughout his career, he has personally mentored 90 graduate students and 50 post-doctoral scholars, many of whom were placed in prestigious faculty positions across the United States and the world.

Additionally, Dr. Garimella serves on the National Science Board, which acts as an independent body of advisers to Congress and the President on policy matters related to science and engineering.

I am grateful for Dr. Garimella's leadership and look forward to working with him to support the university and its students.

Bear Down.

CONGRATULATING MO SHELDON RETIRING

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mo Sheldon, who will be stepping down as CEO of Northern Cochise Community Hospital at the end of this month, and thank her for all of her invaluable work.

Mo joined the hospital in 2020 and has successfully led them over the past 4 years, including during their transition to Tucson Medical Center in 2021.

In FY24, Mo and I worked closely to secure \$859,000 in Federal funds for much-needed upgrades and repairs to the main entry area and emergency department, which are over 50 years old.

Mo is a pillar of her community, and she has dedicated herself to serving her patients and strengthening the healthcare system in our rural communities. Mo will be dearly missed, but her legacy of servant leadership will continue to echo far into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mo for her commitment, dedication, and hard work. It truly made a difference in our communities. Laura and I wish her all the best in this next chapter in her life.

#### WATER IS LIFE

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, we all know that water is life. Safe, accessible, affordable drinking water is a human right.

In 2021, I was proud to work with Representative DEBBIE DINGELL and the Committee on Energy and Commerce in helping establish the low-income household water assistance program, a \$1.2 billion financial assistance program to help pay off bills and debts to keep people's water connected, especially during the pandemic.

The program, of course, saved countless lives, but the money has run out. Millions of Americans all across our Nation are still struggling to keep up with their bills, and many are having their water shut off as we speak.

We already have a permanent program right now for gas and electric utilities for our families called LIHEAP, but we have nothing for water utilities. The cost of water has gone up more than 40 percent nationwide in the last decade, and increased 285 percent in Detroit since 1980.

With this bill, called the Half-Century Update for Water Access and Affordability Act, we are establishing a bill that would dedicate funding every year to keep people's water flowing. The program, Mr. Speaker, would include direct financial assistance, bill payments, and debt relief. What I also love is that it is going to help with water efficiency upgrades, like plumbing repairs that are much-needed in very old homes all across our Nation.

We are going to set up a community advisory committee made up of residents, nonprofits, utilities, and other local stakeholders that will help advise the EPA on how to set up and implement these programs.

Mr. Speaker, the act will also go to help fund local nonprofits to help with technical assistance to help many of our families. We are also going to collect the data that is necessary to improve this program every year to make the biggest impact.

This bill would also ban the practice of water shutoffs as punishment for not being able to afford your bills. It is inhumane to have our families in the richest country in the world not have access to water.

We always seem to have the money, Mr. Speaker, to send more bombs and weapons, but not support working families who can't live without water.

#### CELEBRATING UNITED COMMUNITY HOUSING COALITION'S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I celebrate United Community Housing Coalition's 50 years of service to our communities.

It is an amazing organization that, in the past five decades, worked on life-saving housing assistance for many thousands of our neighbors throughout Detroit and southeastern Michigan. The United Community Housing Coalition has been a critical organization, helping families retain their homes, helping folks become homeowners, and helping to protect neighborhoods from abandonment and blight.

UHC serves as a beacon of hope for many of our residents in building a sense of community and empowerment. Their efforts in one of the most difficult times during the recession helped many Detroiters understand their legal rights, avoid foreclosure, fight eviction, organize, and secure housing.

I am proud of these 50 years of extraordinary service to our families. Please join me, Mr. Speaker, in recognizing UHC's impact as we continue to strive toward a future where everyone has a safe and secure place to call home.

#### BLINKEN'S 30-DAY HUMANITARIAN DEADLINE

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, let's talk about "Biden's 30-day humanitarian deadline."

The Biden administration has continued to ignore reports from its own experts, international human rights organizations, and the United Nations that the Israeli Government is blocking humanitarian aid into Gaza in violation of U.S. and international law.

ProPublica published a detailed account of how the U.S. State Department submitted report after report to Congress that contradicted the findings of the Department's own experts and those of other agencies.

The Israeli Government is using starvation as a weapon of war. Look at this picture. It is evidence that blocking U.S. humanitarian aid is clearly happening, and it is a blatant violation of section 620(i) of the Foreign Assistance Act.

In a letter to the Israeli Government on October 13, Secretary Blinken acknowledged that the Israeli Government is violating U.S. law by blocking aid and gave them 30 days to comply. The letter demanded that 350 trucks be allowed into Gaza per day. Guess what? According to Israel's own data and own government, only 57 trucks were allowed into Gaza per day in October. If that is even true, this is the lowest amount of aid into Gaza in a year.

On November 1, top United Nations officials said the entire Palestinian population in northern Gaza is at imminent risk of dying from disease, famine, and violence.

This week, Mr. Speaker, Secretary Blinken exposed his lie by announcing that there will be no change to any policy, despite admitting that the Israeli Government has still failed to comply with all of their demands.

Secretary Blinken has continued to lie to Congress and should resign. U.S. law is very clear: No nation blocking U.S. humanitarian assistance can receive U.S. weapons. The Biden-Harris administration cannot pick and choose when they comply with our own laws.

Children are forced to eat pet food and bug-infested flour. Look at this, and do not turn your back on again being complicit to this war crime.

Blinken says there is no need to change our own policy. Shameful.

#### HONORING FRANCO CUPINI'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th birthday of Mr. Franco Cupini.

Born in the heart of Rome, he was determined to make his mark on the world through his culinary talents. He learned the intricacies of Italian cuisine and earned himself a position at Villa Madama, of the Presidential palace, serving President Giovanni Leone and other distinguished government dignitaries.

He moved to the United States in 1968, bringing the flavors of Italy to the Midwest with his brother, Carlo. They owned several restaurants, and he solidified his place as a top-tier chef at the Ritz Carlton in St. Louis.

In 2003, Franco and his son Eddie opened up a restaurant in Kansas City in Westport, Cupini's. We eat there often.

What began as a modest 1,500-square-foot deli quickly became a local treasure. Over the next 21 years, the restaurant grew in size, dedication, and quality. Franco was a repeat guest on our morning show on Fox4 News.

Franco's love for his homeland is a testament to his lifelong dedication and passion. His story is one of hard work, determination, and a love for good food.

I wish Franco Cupini a happy birthday, and I thank him for keeping the culinary spirit of Italy alive and well.

Ciao, bello.

#### CELEBRATING ERICA SHADWELL

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding educator from Columbia, Missouri, Ms. Erica Shadwell, who participated and was selected as part of the prestigious Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program for the 2023–2024 academic year.

Ms. Shadwell is a dedicated teacher at Ann Hawkins Gentry Middle School and really shared her expertise and passion for education with students in Ghana, fostering cross-cultural understanding and enriching the lives of countless students.

The Fulbright Program is a beacon of international exchange and cooperation, and Ms. Shadwell's selection reflects her exceptional dedication and commitment to education. Her work represents the excellence of Missouri's educators and the importance of building bridges between our communities and the entire world.

We are proud of Ms. Shadwell's achievements and her role as an ambassador of knowledge. Her efforts will inspire students, both in Missouri and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Erica Shadwell on this remarkable achievement and wishing her the very best in this exciting and impactful endeavor.

#### HONORING CORPORAL GERALD "JERRY" NEWTON WILSON

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Corporal Gerald "Jerry" Newton Wilson, a true American hero from Macks Creek, Missouri, whose remains, after more than seven decades, have finally returned home.

Corporal Wilson was born on December 18, 1930, and enlisted in the Army in 1948, serving bravely in the Korean war with Fox Company. He was reported missing in action on July 25, 1950, following a fierce ambush by North Korean forces near Yongdong.

For decades, Mr. Speaker, his family endured the heartache of uncertainty with his remains resting unidentified in the U.N. Military Cemetery until the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency confirmed his identity in 2018.

On October 11, 2024, his remains were returned to Camdenton, accompanied by a tribute procession from across our State, an honor for a soldier who gave his life in the line of duty.

Corporal Wilson's sacrifice and unwavering faithfulness to his country