

those it is holding captive. It is time to bring Ran and all the hostages home.

CELEBRATING CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOHN AND VIV EWING

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great couple from Omaha. It is my pleasure to rise during Black History Month to acknowledge the important contributions that African Americans have made and continue to make to American society. Today, I honor two extraordinary citizens, John and Dr. Viv Ewing, from Omaha, who have made long-lasting professional and personal contributions to the Second District of Nebraska.

In September 2024, John and Viv will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. Guided by their faith, their marriage has been a demonstration of faith, service, and civic engagement. They have passed along their strong work ethic and communal leadership to their daughters, Christina and Alexandria, who also have extensive community service experience with the Salvation Army, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, the Girl Scouts of America, and the Open Door Mission.

John Ewing served the citizens of Omaha for 24 years, retiring as the deputy chief of police for the Omaha Police Department. During that time, he served as unit commander of the Special Victims Unit, investigating crimes committed against women and children, the most vulnerable of our society.

With this experience, John hoped to develop legislation to more effectively address crimes committed against women and children. Ten new State statutes have become law as a result of his effort to protect our citizens.

For 17 years, John has held public office as the Douglas County treasurer. In this role, he is responsible for the collection of over \$1.7 billion in taxes for Douglas County, the largest county in my district.

John has continuously volunteered his time serving our community, having been involved in over 60 nonprofit boards.

Dr. Viv Ewing has devoted her professional career to serving communities across the Second District. Viv is currently the president and CEO at Children's Square U.S.A., a child welfare organization that provides programs and services for vulnerable children and families. She has previously served in nonprofit leadership positions at PromiseShip, Alzheimer's Association of Nebraska, Habitat for Humanity, American Red Cross, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and many more notable organizations.

Viv is the founder and president of the Ewing Group, a consulting company that helps women, small business owners, corporations, universities, and organizations rise to success.

Viv understands the value of education and spent many years teaching at major universities and colleges. She is the author of a motivational book, "Yes! You Can Have Your Cake and Eat

It Too," in which she shares her strategies for achieving more success and fulfillment.

John and Viv Ewing are servant leaders and have worked on initiatives and volunteered for organizations that strengthen families, children, and the community, such as United Way, Great Plains Black History Museum, 100 Black Men of Omaha, Salvation Army North Corps, Siena Francis House, Child Saving Institute, Charles Drew Health Center, and more.

They have received many awards and accolades for their actions and recently were awarded the Face on the Barroom Floor by the Omaha Press Club. In addition, they both serve as associate ministers for Salem Baptist Church, which has played an important role in the history of African Americans in Omaha.

I thank John and Viv for their past, current, and future contributions to our city, State, and country.

BLACK HISTORY IS AMERICAN HISTORY

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Black History Month, we must embrace that Black History Month and Black history is American history. When we embrace Black history as American history, we tap into a wellspring of intellect, perspective, and capacity.

Individually, we shine, but collectively, we radiate brilliance and effect change in our Nation and around the world—change as doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, artists, sports folks, Members of Congress, moms, and more.

I honor Harriet Tubman, the first woman to lead an armed Civil War expedition, freeing over 700 South Carolinians. Today at noon, I celebrate the Harriet Tubman Commemorative Coin Act in honor of her 200th birthday, authored by Congressman GREG MEEKS. However, Madam Speaker, this is just the first step. I will continue to fight for Tubman on the \$20 bill.

As we strive to make Black history a required part of American history, we must first recognize the trailblazers.

I celebrate Rosa Parks, who resisted on the day of December 1 on that bus and who paved the way for integrated public transportation. Rosa Parks sat down on that bus so I can stand in the Halls of Congress today.

Rosa Parks, the mother of the civil rights movement, was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal for her bravery. I am proud that I authored the first Rosa Parks Day in the Nation in Ohio on December 1.

I celebrate my lifelong friend and mentor, Lieutenant Colonel Charity Adams Earley, the first African-American woman officer in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. The top-ranking Black woman officer, Lieutenant Colonel Charity Adams Earley, battled

segregation in the United States Army, laying the groundwork for today's integrated military. As a member of the Six Triple Eight Battalion, she posthumously received the Congressional Gold Medal.

I honor Dr. Dolly Desselle Adams, a trailblazer, activist, community leader, a dear friend and mentor who passed away 6 days ago, a legend in the Episcopal Church as a supervisor, a 60-year member of The Links, Incorporated, and the eighth national president.

As a young member of The Links, Incorporated, the iconic Dolly Adams held my hand and said: I am paving the way for you to go make a difference.

She was granted the Order of the Palmetto, the State's highest honor. Dolly Adams is Black history.

I celebrate Vice President Kamala Harris, the first woman and the first Black person to be Vice President of these United States of America. She speaks to America and the world with a strong voice of protecting our democracy and fighting for equality and justice to save the soul of this Nation, always putting people over politics.

Madam Speaker, as we stand here today, I am honored to be able to come today to salute so many Black Americans. I celebrate Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, appointed by President Biden, the first Black woman to serve as a Supreme Court Justice. I had the distinct pleasure of testifying as a witness at her confirmation hearing in 2022. Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson is Black history, American history.

Finally, I celebrate Amanda Gorman, the youngest poet at a Presidential inauguration. Her story inspires youth worldwide to choose democracy's brilliance over the hopelessness of autocracy. Amanda Gorman is American history. Let us not have her books banned by this Congress or anyone else but be read by all of our schoolchildren.

These historic roles, Madam Speaker, celebrate our Nation's progress and compel us to leverage talent across race and gender for national prosperity. Celebrating Black history as American history allows us to celebrate our Nation's shared brilliance, strength, wisdom, and power.

Madam Speaker, I close by saying, for this reason, I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 703, the Black History is American History Act.

DAM REMOVALS IN CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, what I am illustrating here today is one of the largest environmental disasters in American history. This was caused by environmental movement actions here.

What you see is the Klamath River up in northern California, which

reaches partly into Oregon. There have been four hydroelectric dams that have been there anywhere from 60 to 100 years, creating clean, renewable, CO₂-free, green electricity, something that Americans seem to want and certainly the government is pushing hard for as it tries to electrify everything by mandate: our vehicles, leaf blowers, lawnmowers, stoves, what have you. On the other hand, they want to take away the generation capacity to make all this electricity.

Here you see this plume right here on the Klamath River, where one of the stems of the Klamath still has clean water. What you see here is the plume from where they started to knock down one of the dams so far, as well as release from the bottom, unplugging many, many years of silt and sedimentation that had been built up underneath at the bottom of the various lakes in the chain.

Guess what? We warned them about this. They just glossed over it and said: Oh, the silt will be fine. It will be fine. Well, they are finding out there are high levels of chromium and other heavy metals in that silt. We knew this. They ignored it anyway because these four dams for them are trophies for the environmental movement.

It is not about protecting fish. The latest projection by Fish and Game personnel, just said this week in meetings up in the north—again, you see here a normal part of the river, a tributary coming in. It is winter water there, so it isn't perfectly clear, but that is normal water for the winter.

Here is the dirty plume coming down the Klamath, this brown, mucky stuff that is killing the wildlife in that system.

They are actually expecting, and they said it with a straight face, that it might be 10 to 12 years now for the fish population that they ostensibly are trying to protect to return. The life cycle of a salmon is 3 years, so you are going to be wiping out several generations, hoping, I guess, that the salmon that are out in the ocean that return up the river will somehow find their way back after 10 and 12 years of forgetting about their habitat and where their imprint is to their normal breeding grounds.

Would you have bought into this idea that the salmon are going to be wiped out for 10 or 12 years and think that is an environmental win? I don't think any normal person would think that. That is what they are saying since they started this project of tearing down.

This shows an existing dam that makes hydroelectric power, but you can see the plume right here. It may be hard to see on TV, but this is a gray, blackish, brown crud hitting that dam from up above and coming through at the bottom where they have unplugged it and just let it run. Again, if it is supposed to be about wildlife, it isn't.

The final poster I have to show you here, this shows dead deer that have waded out into that muck that came

from the bottom of the dam. This is not the natural condition of the river, by any stretch, with the dams in place. At least three deer in this photo—there are several more in the larger pull-away of the photo—that wandered out and got stuck, as the Fish and Game Commission helplessly stood on the shore and could hear them bellowing and bleating, being unable to get out.

They had, of course, no means to go out and rescue them. Heaven knows if people would have gone out there or some crazy kids out there mud bogging in their four-wheel drives or something, how they would get anybody out of that. They don't have a plan for that. We will have that plan later. They are working on it as they monitor it, says Fish and Game.

This is what you have, an environmental disaster under the guise of preserving fish. They are trying to differentiate, well, there is a bunch of nonnative fish that are dying off, like yellow perch and others. The salmon they are trying to protect, we still think they are up in the tributaries, hiding out right now. What happens as soon as they come down into that, if they move at all or if they come upstream at all? What happens? They are going to get wiped out on that.

As much as farmers and ranchers there have bent over backward in the Scott and Shasta Rivers, as well as the Klamath River up in Tule Lake Basin, not to mention the refugees that don't get water for ducks, geese, and other waterfowl habitat, what is the answer to them? Oh, I guess we messed up.

Likely, they are going to want to take even more water out of Klamath Lake and cut off agriculture even more so because they have to now clean this mess up here.

Who is going to be held liable for this? Who is going to be held liable for the lies about this whole system here? Is it going to be the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC, which signed off on this 5-0 finally, after we tried to give them facts on what was going on here?

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Is it going to be EPA? Is it going to be NOAA fisheries? Is it going to be the California Department of Fish and Game? Excuse me. It is now known as Fish and Wildlife—politically correct. Will it be U.S. Fish and Wildlife?

Are they just going to keep coming back more and more to agriculture and saying: Well, you are going to have to pay more for your water supply because we screwed up?

The people out there have been wronged by this, and the government needs to do much better, and they are going to have to be paying restitution for the damage.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JEREMY WATKINS

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I take this moment to recognize Captain Jeremy Watkins for his 22 years of extraordinary service with the Dearborn Fire Department in Michigan's 12th District Strong.

Captain Watkins started as a firefighter with the Dearborn Fire Department in 2002. He steadily rose through the ranks, serving as engineer, lieutenant, and was promoted to captain in 2024.

Over the years, Captain Watkins has been recognized for his commitment and outstanding public service, achieving five Meritorious Company Commendations, as well as the Fire Chief's Unit Award, the Fire Chief's Life Saving Award, and the John D. Dingell Medal of Freedom Memorial Commendation.

He has also been recognized multiple times, Madam Speaker, for his safe driving record and for his work at the vaccination center.

Captain Watkins has devoted countless hours and energy to serving the people and the families of the city of Dearborn.

Please join me in recognizing his 22 years of commitment to protecting our communities across Michigan's 12th District as we wish him strength in his fight against brain cancer.

ENDING PROFIT FROM WAR

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, ending utility shutoffs, boldly tackling the climate crisis, fully funding Social Security, universal school meals for every child that is hungry in our country, guaranteeing healthcare and clean water is a human right.

Year after year, many colleagues tell me that there is no money for these lifesaving programs, and then they turn around and vote for another record-breaking \$886.3 billion in military budget and massive weapons giveaways for foreign governments, funneling billions of our tax dollars to the very same defense contractors that many of them are invested in and taking campaign donations from.

We should not be voting to send our U.S. dollars to any government that is violating human rights, period. It is disturbing that many of my colleagues in this Chamber are actively profiting financially when they vote to pass more funding for weapons and wars. Literally every bomb dropped makes them money.

The American people deserve Representatives who vote in the best interests of our families. We are all elected to serve the public, not to serve stock portfolios.

I introduced the Stop Politicians Profiting from War Act to put an end to this corruption and ban Members of Congress from owning war and defense stocks. The American people deserve better. We are sick of politicians profiting from death and war.

DEMANDING JUSTICE FOR SYRIANS

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, over 600,000 have been killed. It has been over a decade since the start of the