

finest, my good friend, Dr. Jasper Lewis.

Dr. Lewis, an eastern North Carolina native, earned his dental degree at UNC Chapel Hill and then served 2 years in the U.S. Air Force. He received his post-doctoral degree from UNC in 1973 and then moved to Greenville, North Carolina, to open his practice in pediatric dentistry.

He held numerous offices in regional and national dental organizations, including as president of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry.

Through tireless efforts, Dr. Lewis was instrumental in bringing a dental school to East Carolina University which has become the national model in rural dental care.

Dr. Lewis brought the American Dental Association's Give Kids a Smile campaign, providing oral healthcare to underprivileged children in eastern North Carolina.

Recently, Dr. Lewis was named recipient of the prestigious Legacy Award for 2023 by the Greenville-Pitt Chamber of Commerce, an accolade that attests to his unwavering commitment to improving the lives of those in our community.

Dr. Lewis has impacted countless lives in eastern North Carolina, and today we thank him for his selfless service.

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

(Mr. FOSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my thoughtful colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join Democrats to continue funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program.

Affordable internet is essential to participating in our modern economy and ensuring a high quality of life for workers, students, seniors, and families.

That is why our Democratic majority first launched the Affordable Connectivity Program in 2021. Since then, it has helped lower internet costs for millions of Americans and nearly 700,000 households in Illinois, including 17,000 in my district.

Nonetheless, unless Republicans join Democrats at the table, the ACP will expire in just 2 months, which would increase broadband costs and put internet access at risk for millions of Americans. We cannot let that happen.

So I will continue fighting to ensure this critical program remains funded, and I hope my Republican colleagues will join me in this effort to keep all of our communities connected.

HONORING RANDALL PIFER

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of U.S. Army veteran Randall Pifer.

Randall was recently recognized with the Veteran of the Year Award by the Brunswick Exchange Club.

He grew up in coastal Georgia's Golden Isles where he played high school football. Randall then attended the prestigious United States Military Academy at West Point and entered Active Duty service in 1975. He served at Fort Benning, Fort Rucker, Hunter Army Airfield, and in West Germany as a combat helicopter pilot.

Randall joined the National Guard in 1989 where he continued to fly missions in the Middle East.

He retired in 2014 with over 41 years of military experience where he earned the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, and numerous Army medals.

Randall Pifer's record speaks for itself. He is a patriot, a hero, and a model we should all look up to.

HONORING NICK AIKEN, JR., DURING NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK

(Mr. FROST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the rich history and unwavering resilience of Black small business owners during National Entrepreneurship Week.

Mr. Speaker, 17 percent of Black-owned firms are family run, providing jobs for over 160,000 Americans. In my district, my constituent Nick Aiken, Jr., owns and operates Nikki's Place with his family in the vibrant community of Parramore in Orlando.

For 25 years, Nikki's Place has been a hub for warm service and authentic and delicious soul food. Nonetheless, like so many small and minority-owned businesses, they have faced countless hurdles, specifically in securing affordable financing.

All Nick, his family, and their 12 employees want to do is to continue to contribute to the vibrant culture of Orlando and what makes Orlando beautiful.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to work with me and ensure that we invest in small businesses like Nikki's Place to ensure they receive the investment and support they need to continue making amazing and beautiful communities like mine thrive.

HONORING LISA FORADORI'S SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lisa

Foradori's service to the United States House of Representatives.

This month, Lisa will be retiring from the Office of Official Reporters, which is within the Office of the Clerk of the House.

Lisa has been one of the House's elite court reporters providing expert stenographic support to committees and the House floor.

Lisa was born in DuBois, Pennsylvania. That is in the 15th Congressional District, and I am very proud of that. She grew up in Ebensburg, Pennsylvania, which also was in my Congressional District for a while.

In 1982, she obtained her court reporting degree from Central Pennsylvania Business School in Summerdale, Pennsylvania.

Following graduation, Lisa worked as an official court reporter in Clearfield, Pennsylvania, and Pasco and Hernando Counties in Florida. In 1992, Lisa started her own court reporting firm in Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

During this time, Lisa also worked as a contract reporter for the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

In 2007, Lisa moved to Washington, D.C., to serve as a court reporter for the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, where she worked until joining the House.

Lisa enjoys spending time with family and friends, and two beautiful granddaughters, Vivian and Chloe. Once retired, Lisa plans to travel, play golf and tennis, and go kayaking.

Mr. Speaker, the court reporters who support the House floor are the best in their profession, and Lisa is no exception.

On behalf of the whole House, I wish to express my gratitude for Lisa's dedicated service to the House and her country.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Lisa and wish her all the best in her next chapter.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066 AND JAPANESE INTERNMENT

(Ms. TOKUDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, on February 19, 1942, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order No. 9066, which led to the forced removal and incarceration of over 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry.

My great-grandfather, Seiki Takasato, was one such "issei," "first generation," taken from his home in Puunene, Maui, and sent to Honouliuli on Oahu, Sharp Park in California, and finally ending up at the internment camp in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

It was there that he painted this picture. Guilty of nothing else but being of Japanese descent, internees like my "jiji," "great-grandfather" were stripped of everything they owned—

homes, property, and life savings—and denied the most basic human and civil rights.

Mr. Speaker, I stand before you as one of millions of descendants who will never forget. We bear the familial scars from a time filled with xenophobia, hate, and fear. Be that as it may, we also embody the “gaman,” “enduring the seemingly unbearable with patience and dignity” of those who came before us, committed to making sure we learn from the mistakes of our past lest we are doomed to repeat them.

With everything happening in our country and our world, let us stand up and recommit to ensuring that such atrocities never stain our collective conscience again.

RECOGNIZING ALFRED TURNER

(Mr. COMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and achievements of Alfred Turner from Gamaliel, Kentucky.

Alfred, along with his late brother-in-law Burr Boyles, co-founded Stitches, a small manufacturing company in my home county of Monroe. Stitches was one of the last surviving garment manufacturers in Kentucky and Tennessee after the passage of NAFTA.

Alfred Turner was a tremendous leader, and he was a tremendous corporate citizen in the tiny town of Gamaliel where my family originated.

Alfred did a lot for many people keeping those jobs going after just about everyone else in the garment industry went to Mexico or some other country after the passage of NAFTA. Stitches is still in business today because of the great work that Alfred Turner did for his community and his employees.

So, again, Mr. Speaker, I recognize the life and legacy of my friend, Alfred Turner, who passed away a few weeks ago in Gamaliel, Kentucky.

APPRECIATING OUR BRAVE FIRST RESPONDERS

(Mr. CARBAJAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to say thank you to the first responders on the central coast for whom it has been a busy and challenging few weeks.

Our hardworking emergency service workers in Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties have shown incredible bravery, commitment, and resilience during multiple heavy storms that have torn through the central coast.

Up and down our region, local fire crews and emergency management departments worked quickly and diligently to remove downed trees and

power lines that fell on apartment buildings, homes, cars, and roadways.

In San Luis Obispo, the fire department fielded over 400 emergency calls during the storm’s peak and helped rescue someone stranded in their car amid rising floodwaters in Nipomo.

In Santa Barbara, law enforcement officials knocked on more than 500 doors to alert households of a flooding evacuation order, and in Ventura, a man was rescued without injury from the Ventura River by the Ventura City Fire Department.

I thank our brave law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders who, in the face of danger, run toward it. I also thank our emergency dispatchers who fielded so many calls and everyone at the National Weather Service who helped keep the central coast updated on the storms.

Our entire region is grateful to have them watching over our back.

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A FOCUS ON REAL CHANGE

(Ms. BARRAGÁN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, extreme MAGA Republicans are focused on chaos and dysfunction. Their agenda does nothing for everyday Americans.

Republicans continue to push sham impeachments and political stunts to distract from their radical agenda. They have made this Congress the least productive since the Great Depression. We have seen that on full display this week, where Republicans have canceled another workday in D.C. because they cannot get anything done.

House Democrats are fighting to cut through the chaos. We are focused on lower cost, a stronger middle class, and safer communities.

Under President Biden and House Democrats in Congress, we have focused on real change. Democrats have capped the price of insulin at \$35 a month for seniors on Medicare and provided student debt relief to 3.7 million Americans. Month after month, our economy has seen strong job growth.

President Biden’s economic policies are working. House Democrats know that we have more work to do, and we stand united to put people over politics and do the work of the American people.

BENNETT COLLEGE

(Ms. MANNING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, this Black History Month, I am highlighting the long and rich history of Bennett College, an all-woman HBCU in my hometown, Greensboro, North Carolina.

For over 150 years, Bennett College has been a beacon of social justice in the South.

In the 1930s, the Bennett Belles protested racism in the film industry with protests at our local Carolina Theatre. In the 1950s and 1960s, the Bennett Belles played a key role in the civil rights movement.

In 1958, when Martin Luther King, Jr., visited Greensboro and struggled to find a place to speak, Bennett College president, Willa B. Player, gave him a stage. She said: “Bennett College is a liberal arts college where ‘freedom rings,’ so King can speak here.”

Two years after Dr. King spoke on campus, the Bennett Belles staged a sit-in at the segregated Woolworth’s lunch counter with The Greensboro Four. Their actions sparked a nationwide sit-in movement that forever changed the course of history.

Today, Bennett College students and alumni continue to be changemakers. I am proud to recognize the immense contributions of the Bennett Belles this Black History Month.

HONORING DEAN WEBER

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dean Weber.

In 1973, Dean Weber started as head athletics trainer for the University of Arkansas, where he provided care for thousands of Razorback student athletes. He never missed a football game as an athletic trainer, working over 415 games with the team under eight head coaches.

A Hall of Famer, Dean served the university for over 50 years and has the third longest tenure of anyone in Razorback athletics history, behind Frank Broyles and Norm DeBriyn.

Dean’s love for the Natural State and Razorback athletics was immeasurable. Still, his legacy will always be in the relationships he built with the athletes, coaches, colleagues, and friends.

When I think about what made Dean special, I can say from personal experience that I was just a walk-on, but Dean treated me like an all-American.

We can all learn from that, and the world could use some more Dean Webers. We will miss our friend, but we are better having known him. Dean Weber made a difference.

Woo Pig Soobie. Go Hogs.

KANSAS CITY SHOOTING

(Ms. BUSH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise to send our love and condolences to Kansas City, Missouri, in the wake of yesterday’s mass shooting.

This preventable and despicable epidemic of gun violence affects us all. It