

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 Sooie. 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

impacts my district in St. Louis. It impacts your districts. It impacts our entire country, and it does not need to be this way.

Missouri has some of the weakest gun laws in the country. Instead of addressing this epidemic, Missouri Republicans continue to eviscerate and obstruct gun safety laws.

Therefore, to the Missouri Republicans who are pointing their finger at the people of Kansas City, Missouri, and calling them thugs—Missouri Republicans need to get a better vocabulary—this blood is on your hands.

My colleagues don't get to scapegoat the victims of this shooting when they are actively blocking gun violence prevention legislation. Their allegiance to the NRA over the needs of the people of our communities is absolutely shameful.

Missouri needs action. Join Democrats in passing meaningful, common-sense gun safety legislation so that we can put an end to this crisis and save lives.

#### REMEMBERING LEONARD TIBBS, JR.

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

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Leonard Clifford Tibbs, Jr., born on March 3, 1934, in Los Angeles.

Mr. Tibbs was the son of Aluia Lee Tibbs, a beautician, and Leonard Clifford Tibbs, one of the few Black pharmacists in Los Angeles at the time.

In 1952, Mr. Tibbs graduated from Manual Arts High School, in my district, where he played football. After obtaining a business degree from UCLA, Leonard pursued many successful entrepreneurial endeavors, establishing a real estate business, Tibbs Tacos restaurant, a catering business, and World of Curls.

He was a man of few words, yet he was always charming and friendly. He loved to golf, captain his boat, fish, and travel.

In 1999, Leonard met the Honorable Gloria Gray, and they shared 25 loving years together. They were partners in every aspect of life, with Leonard staunchly supporting Councilwoman Gray's journey through public service.

Leonard peacefully passed away on November 22, 2023, and is lovingly remembered by Gloria, his daughter Allison, and the many loving bonus children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

I join them in honoring his life and legacy.

#### WARREN COUNTY TOWN HALL

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, listening to constituents is the most important thing we can do.

On a recent visit to Warren County, North Carolina, constituents discussed the essential role of agriculture and education. Congresswoman Eva Clayton emphasized the vital link between agriculture and STEM funding. Afterwards, we visited the Green Blue Marketplace, which is now using hydroponics.

We must inspire the next generation to engage in agriculture. We must also showcase farming as a viable career, demonstrating its potential for a good living, family support, and community benefits.

#### IF TEXAS WAS INTERCONNECTED

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

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, I am GREG CASAR, and I represent the heart of Texas. I represent hundreds of thousands of Texans who faced mass blackouts, medical emergencies, and even death 3 years ago during the Texas grid's failure under Winter Storm Uri. Over 10 million people needlessly lost power, and hundreds died, cold, alone, and in the dark.

Texas officials like Greg Abbott have not just failed to fix the grid and to respond to constituents' needs, but they have repeatedly abandoned us in favor of large corporations and the donations that they provide, those corporations that profit off of the misery of Texans.

That is why, yesterday, I announced new legislation, the Connect the Grid Act, to connect Texas to the national electric grids and make a real difference and bring forward real solutions.

If our State were interconnected, we could prevent mass blackouts, save tens of billions of dollars, and help our country meet its climate goals. It is not radical to say that, in the middle of a heat wave or a winter storm, Texans should be able to keep the lights on.

Too many people have already died because of our inaction. With the Connect the Grid Act, we can keep the lights on, and Congress can give power back to the people.

#### ACCESS TO RELIABLE ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I first recognize and commend someone who has been working in my office most recently as director of operations, Corinne Schillizzi, who is unfortunately going to be leaving us after tomorrow, her last day here in the office, but she has been a wonderful part of our office. She is heading over to work

with the former Vice President and do some work with his organization.

We will all miss her. I know the scheduling operation is always complex. I know the floor staff will miss working with her because she has been fantastic.

She will be joining another staffer of mine, Jonah Wendt, who was with me from the time I first ran for office in the summer of 2018, all the way until December. Jonah also left to work with the Vice President's organization. It means I need to have a word with the Vice President about taking my staff.

I am very delighted that they have this opportunity, and I thank them for their service.

I have the benefit of Corinne for the next 24 hours. I thank her, Jonah, and all of my staff, all of the great staff on the Hill—maybe almost all of the staff; it depends on the day.

I joke as a former staffer, but we can't do this without our staff. We can't do it without the floor staff, all the great employees here that keep this place operating. They tolerate us when we are holding the floor open late, forcing votes, and—I don't know—maybe giving a long speech on the floor of the House, which occasionally I might shorten just to make sure they can get home in time to have a reasonable night. I am ever thankful for their support and work.

I would note that my colleague from Texas was just complaining about the alleged weakness of the Texas grid.

Well, the only reason that there is any weakness to the grid is because we have had radical leftists embracing power schemes that have been funding our enemies in China and trying to promote a radical leftist agenda with unreliable energy—that is the truth; promoting windmill power in Texas, which on a windless day, oddly enough—hard to predict this, I know—doesn't produce a whole lot of power; or solar power, which, on a cloudy day—I know, again, hard to predict—doesn't produce a whole lot of power.

Therefore, if you have a deep freeze in the State of Texas that shuts down the windmill capacity and you have some other events going on, like some frozen gas lines, you end up having some difficulties. When you have had a war on reliable power, as my radical leftist colleagues have been doing for as long as I can remember, you end up with problems with the grid.

It is not just in Texas, it is nationwide. We have had rolling blackouts in California. Texas has been able to stave off those kinds of blackouts because we are trying to fight through the Federal mandates and the laws that come out of this body and the regulations that come out of the Federal Government that prevent us from being able to provide the power we need for the people of Texas.

Just last year, my colleague from Texas joined with my radical leftist colleagues on the other side of the aisle to advance the so-called Inflation Reduction Act, which has done none of