

the Chamber of Commerce to picking up litter in a big sombrero. He made our little corner of the world a better place, and for that, I am one of many in Riverside who will miss him deeply.

My thoughts are with his family, friends, and our community. May his memory be a blessing.

#### WORK STUDY VOTING SCHEME

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, the Biden administration is desperate to shore up support before the November election.

It is so desperate, in fact, it has announced its intent to co-opt the Federal Work-Study Program and begin paying college students to register voters and to work at the polls.

That is right, the Federal Government will be handing out cold, hard cash for students to scoop up votes.

Vice President HARRIS in recent remarks billed this scheme as non-partisan and one that will promote voter participation for students. Nobody is buying that pitch, Madam Speaker.

Here is the truth: The Biden administration is turning the Federal Work-Study Program into a vote-buying sweepstakes.

Enough with the smoke and mirrors already. The American people are not fooled.

#### HONORING TERRY BRIGGS

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

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, St. Louis and I rise in honor of the life and legacy of Bridgeton, Missouri, mayor, Terry Briggs.

Mayor Briggs was a loving husband, father, and dedicated public servant. As a three-term mayor of Bridgeton in St. Louis County, he cared deeply about his community and those in it.

One issue we worked together on was the cleanup of Manhattan Project waste dumped in Westlake Landfill and surrounding areas. Together, we fought not only for the cleanup of this waste but also for compensation for those impacted.

Mayor Briggs was also a champion for the rights of those living with disabilities. He worked to ensure that everyone was treated with dignity and given the resources to thrive through his service on the Productive Living Board, Special Olympics Board, Special School District Board of Education, and the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis.

Mayor Briggs was deeply loved, and his legacy will live on through the lives he has touched. My heart goes out to Mayor Briggs' family and friends and all of Bridgeton. May he rest in peace.

#### BIDENOMICS ONGOING FAILURE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. During the State of the Union speech on Thursday, Biden will falsely claim that his policies are working, but in reality, Bidenomics is a failure.

When Biden took office, inflation was 1.4 percent. Since then, inflation has risen by nearly 18 percent.

Inflation is a tax on all families paying more for goods and services since Biden took office, including: electricity up 29 percent; food up 21 percent; auto insurance up 21 percent—just to name a few basic examples.

Americans for Prosperity reveals the truth at Bidenomics.com.

House Republicans led by Speaker MIKE JOHNSON will continue fighting to reduce inflation and create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism moves from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new border laws; we need to enforce existing laws. Biden shamefully opens borders for dictators as more 9/11 attacks across America are imminent, as warned by the FBI.

#### READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

(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. Madam Speaker, as students sat criss-cross apple sauce intently listening, I began reading "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle.

The book was about a caterpillar that continued eating and eventually built a cocoon.

He pushed his way out as a beautiful butterfly.

Read Across America encourages educators and parents to highlight the significance and fun of reading.

March is National Reading Month.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Sarah Joyner, a former student of mine is the teacher of this fantastic class. Ms. Sarah's class is as beautiful as a butterfly. I am so proud of Ms. Sarah for devoting herself to her students and transforming their lives for over 30 years.

I congratulate Sarah on a successful teaching career and her upcoming retirement.

#### ENFORCING IMMIGRATION LAWS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, maybe soon we will actually get serious about enforcing our border and the immigration mess we have down there.

We see what is happening with sanctuary cities, and certainly, Mayor

Adams from New York City is feeling the heat on that, as well, and actually starting to talk the right language.

On top of that we have San Francisco that is not only fully embracing illegal alien sanctuary but starting this November—get this—they will let illegal aliens vote in their local school board elections.

Right.

So how can we even think that that is constitutional? How is that going to make San Francisco elections and the legislators they would send to Washington, D.C., or Sacramento in the eyes of the voters in the rest of the country, how do they have confidence in that?

Texas can't enforce their laws on illegal immigration invasions into their State, but San Francisco can ignore Federal law and allow illegal aliens to vote in their local elections and set up ultimately to legitimize them in their eyes to vote in Federal elections? That will lead to this body having to invalidate their elections for Congress and Senate and for the White House.

#### AIRDROPPED HUMANITARIAN AID IN GAZA

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to raise awareness of not only the desperate humanitarian situation in Gaza, but also, the fact that Israeli hostages that probably number over 100 have not been freed by Hamas.

Every means at our disposal, including U.S. sea and airdrops, should be airlifted to get all necessary aid to civilian populations trapped and in dire need of supplies.

I applaud the Biden administration's new mission to airdrop food and other aid directly into Gaza in collaboration with our Jordanian allies and in cooperation with Israeli forces.

If our Nation could lead the Berlin airlift following World War II, surely we can ease the suffering as we urge a truce and work with our allies toward a two-state solution.

I include in the RECORD a proposal for a negotiated truce and a two-state solution that will allow for rebuilding.

[From the Blade, Jan. 31, 2024]

GUEST ESSAY: ESTABLISHING 'GAZA-PALESTINIAN PROTECTORATE' WOULD GO A LONG WAY

(By U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur)

Halfway around the world, the war between Hamas' terrorist units and Israel is a piercing global tragedy. It demands a global response. Yet, "Peace and Justice" have eluded solution in this troubled region for over a century. It will be even harder to achieve after this conflagration ends. The extraordinary death toll will resound for generations forward. How does one create a lasting peace borne of such fierce, enduring hatreds?

The invasion Hamas' fighters launched from Palestinian Gaza into Israel on Oct. 7, 2023 broke the cease-fire that had tensely hung over that very troubled region. More than 1,200 innocent Israeli civilians were slaughtered in a barbaric attack, with more

than 100 Israeli and some American hostages still remaining in captivity. More than 250,000 Israelis were evacuated and displaced from their homes. In Gaza, 1.7 million Gazans have subsequently been displaced with Hamas health officials claiming more than 25,000 civilians dead, and more than 60,000 injured with two-thirds of the victims being women and children.

How does any army defeat a hostile enemy positioned amidst a civilian population and underground in a vast “bunker city” with miles of interconnected tunnels, dug for purposes of war, not peace?

Over 140,000 Hezbollah terrorist forces supplied by Iran, are positioned in southern Lebanon, shooting rockets down on Israel now. It is no accident Yemen's terrorist Houthi adherents, also supplied by Iran, have been purposefully shelling private cargo ships as well as targeting U.S. naval vessels in the Red Sea to disrupt global trade in this conflicted region. Russia's role in exacerbating resurgent unrest was made clear when top Gen. Sergei Shoigu recently visited Iran. And a Hamas delegation was in Moscow not long after it attacked Israel.

Across the Middle East, a spiderweb of terrorism is hastening, hell-bent on evil. Iranian drones and missiles are being used against Ukraine, Israel, the United States, and our allies in Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, and Jordan. North Korean missiles are likewise in use against Ukraine. The global distinction between tyranny and liberty could not be clearer. The world community of nations must not allow terrorist forces enabled by Iran and Russia to foment unrest and carnage. The sacred boundaries of nations must be respected, defended, and enforced.

The history of the Middle East instructs that former adversarial nations can make peace among themselves. For nearly five decades, dating back to my days of service in the Carter administration, proposals for a two-State solution have been advanced for Israel and Palestine.

Ironically, the depth and brutality of this present conflict may create an opening for a far-reaching solution. If the world community could spend as much money on peace as it has on war, both the Israelis and Palestinians could have thriving homelands.

To move forward, I propose that the United Nations, or a coalition of willing nations, begin to negotiate a “Gaza-Palestinian Protectorate.” The parties involved should aim to negotiate a long-lasting solution to the conflict in Gaza, address challenges in the West Bank, and divide the contested territory securing their existence with an International Multilateral Security Force to separate warring factions.

If the civilized world could achieve this with a divided Korea, why not with Palestine and Israel?

The goals of the Protectorate would be fourfold:

- 1) an international coalition of nations should be assembled and involved in organizing its administration and staffing;
- 2) Gaza would be demilitarized of weapons, war, tunnels, and fortifications;
- 3) Hamas would have no role, politically, administratively, or economically;
- 4) Palestinians from Gaza should be involved in the administration of the Protectorate's on-site operations, including its police forces.

The Protectorate would have three immediate tasks. The first would be to quickly secure resources and provide food, water, shelter, and medical care to the almost 2.3 million people of Gaza.

The second is to provide an international military coalition that can demilitarize Gaza as quickly as possible. Gaza must never again be a threat to its neighbors.

The third is to physically separate Gaza and Israel, by creating a demilitarized zone between the two, that is virtually impenetrable, as is the DMZ between North and South Korea. As part of the separation, the infrastructure to provide water, sewage treatment, and energy needed by Gaza should be located in Gaza and staffed by the people of Gaza.

One of the long-term missions could be to rebuild what is now a destroyed area under a new vision of peace and prosperity. Gaza has many undeveloped resources, the primary of which is its land and location. While small in size, Gaza is located in one of the most attractive parts of the Mediterranean, with miles of undeveloped, beautiful beaches that could become a recreational center of the region.

With peace and stability, Gaza could become a financial and economic hub that attracts capital and businesses from around the world. Gaza and the West Bank have the thousands of workers needed to rebuild what has been destroyed along with necessary staff to renew the economy. A “Gaza Development Authority” as part of the Protectorate could create and administer a long-term development plan to bring prosperity and transparency that would forestall the corruption that so often accompanies unfettered development.

Hope must arise from this cruel war. Old diplomacy, and old solutions should be shelved. They should be replaced with a forward-looking approach that could bring peace, justice, and prosperity to this war-torn region. Succeeding would give hope to a civilized world that hungers for peace in these troubled lands.

Ms. KAPTUR. The U.S. is prepared to continue airdrops if we can work with our allies to achieve it by sea or air. The world community can help.

We have a moral obligation to achieve and to assure the release of hostages and sustenance of life for those who are innocent on the ground.

#### CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, as a father of two intelligent, independent, compassionate daughters, it is with great respect that I rise today to celebrate Women's History Month and its 2024 theme “Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.”

This year, I would like to honor a true leader of northwest Indiana, Dr. Vanessa Allen-McCloud, who has served as president and CEO of the Urban League of Northwest Indiana for more than a decade.

In this role, Dr. Allen-McCloud works to promote services to improve social, educational, and economic opportunities for African Americans and other minority groups throughout northwest Indiana.

Under her leadership, the Urban League continues to grow and succeed and has become an outstanding source of support for many individuals and organizations.

Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Women's History Month, please join me in recognizing the dedication and

contributions of Dr. Vanessa Allen-McCloud and all of the extraordinary women who continue to make our communities more equal, diverse, and inclusive.

#### WE NEED IMMIGRANTS

(Mr. KHANNA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KHANNA. Madam Speaker, it is time that we have a real solution for having high-skilled immigrants help with our national security.

That is why I, as a cosponsor of the EAGLE Act, am going to introduce it and attach it to the National Defense Authorization Act.

The reality is we need immigrants to help build some of the critical technology that is going to keep us ahead of China and keep our military strong and our industrial base strong.

The EAGLE Act benefits all American workers by lifting the arbitrary per country green card cap to bring down the decades-long backlog.

It also will help end H-1B visa abuse by foreign outsourcing corporations, as these visas undercut wages.

It is time to pass the EAGLE Act, attach it to national defense, and make it a national security issue.

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#### OUT-OF-CONTROL NATIONAL DEBT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, we are actually going to try three things tonight, and I apologize to anyone who doesn't like math or complexity. Originally, I promised I was going to do something simpler tonight, and let's just say it didn't work out.

The three things we are going to try doing this evening: One, I want to spend a few minutes talking about folklore. The things we get as Members of Congress—this is both for the folks on the left and the right—the comments we get, things people believe, and I want to walk through a little bit of that. I want to do sort of an update status on what is happening financially. Then I am going to broach a subject that is really uncomfortable, and that is going to be talking about the future. I am going to talk about fertility rates and what that means to being able to finance Social Security and other things.

For anyone who does not like math, please just go watch something on Netflix right now.

A couple weeks ago, I did a whole presentation on the work we have done on what it takes financially to save Social Security. One of the things I have been genuinely angry about—and I