

Class Foster Sayers, a 20-year-old infantryman from my hometown of Howard, Pennsylvania, who answered the call to serve during World War II.

On November 12, 1944, while fighting near Thionville, France, Private Sayers singlehandedly charged enemy positions, drawing fire away from his unit and allowing his fellow soldiers to successfully flank and capture the enemy stronghold.

His courage, sacrifice, and dedication to duty earned him the Medal of Honor. Eighty years later, his name remains a symbol of the price of our freedom.

In November of last year, I had the privilege of presenting two flags to Foster Sayers, Jr., and Foster Sayers III, in honor of their father and grandfather's legacy.

Foster Sayers was married to his wife, Ellen, at the time he deployed. He never met Fos, who actually was my neighbor for a lot of years, for decades, and married to my dad's cousin. Foster's wife, Ellen, was actually my babysitter when I was growing up. They are a remarkable family.

Behind every Medal of Honor recipient is a family that has also sacrificed. Our military families often bear the weight of their loved one's service. I also thank them for their sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, when we observe National Medal of Honor Day, we honor these heroes, and we affirm our sacred obligation to all who wear the uniform. We must ensure that our veterans and servicemembers are treated with the dignity, care, and gratitude that they have so courageously earned.

Let us continue to build a country worthy of the sacrifices of our veterans. May God bless our veterans, our fallen heroes, and our great Nation.

UNDERSTANDING TARIFFS

(Ms. JOHNSON of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I recognize that most Americans are not economists, trade experts, or well versed in the intricacies of tax policy. If you will, I want to take this opportunity to sort of "Schoolhouse Rock" tariffs. Let's talk about what they are, how they work, and how they impact Americans and their families.

Tariffs are taxes on imported goods, plain and simple. When the government slaps a tariff on a product, it makes the product more expensive to buy from other countries.

Take your sneakers. Most sneakers are made with rubber, synthetic fabrics, and leather, stuff that gets imported from China and other places. Let's say the government puts a tariff on those materials. That is an extra included tax on materials that make up the sneakers.

Now these products become more expensive to make, and the way that companies make up for that is passing that cost on to the consumer. A pair of sneakers that cost \$30 might now cost

\$50 after tariffs are imposed. You now have to work more to get more money and then pay more for the same exact pair of sneakers.

The idea of tariffs is to protect American businesses and jobs. The reality, though, is, as you can see with the sneaker example, it often backfires. Other countries hit back with their own tariffs, hurting American manufacturers and workers.

Now, are tariffs always bad? The answer is no. When used correctly, tariffs can be a powerful tool. They can protect American jobs, boost key industries, and stop countries like China from flooding our market with cheap, low-quality goods.

When a country imposes tariffs strategically on industries we need to rebuild, like steel and manufacturing and technology, we can give American businesses the breathing room to compete and grow. When foreign countries play dirty with unfair trade practices, tariffs can be a productive way to respond to that.

Here is the key: Tariffs have to be smart. When used correctly, tariffs can defend American industry. When used incorrectly, though, they are just another tax on working people. Right now, the Trump administration is using tariffs in the wrong way, and their actions are causing costs to skyrocket for families in Texas and all American families.

To be clear, Trump's tariffs on Canada and Mexico are nothing but a tax on American businesses and consumers. They are two of our biggest trading partners. For example, Mexico is Texas' largest trading partner, accounting for one-third of our State's exports. In 2023, trade between Texas and Mexico totaled more than \$272 billion. We trade so many products with our neighbors to the south that families in Texas use every day, like tomatoes, greens, avocados, car parts, electronics, plastics, and the list goes on. With Canada, Texas buys steel and lumber to build homes to ensure families have a roof over their heads.

All of these products will have higher costs, and the only ones who will pay more are the families and businesses that buy them. Instead of strengthening those relationships with our neighbors, Trump's tariffs are making everything more expensive for us.

What do we get in return? Absolutely nothing. American companies didn't suddenly stop buying from Canada or Mexico. They just have to pay more to do it. Meanwhile, those countries have hit back with their own tariffs, hurting Americans across the board. Instead of using tariffs for smart trade policy, Trump is using them as a political stunt that punishes the very people it claims to help.

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Madam Speaker, these tariffs are self-inflicted wounds on the American economy. We see this every day in the stock market with the market value

falling by trillions of dollars over the past few weeks. Those in their twenties, thirties, and forties have lost tons of money in their 401(k).

I should also mention something else because I know there is something more sinister going on. Right now, we have Elon Musk in the White House. He has been our president since January 20, calling all the shots and using President Trump as his puppet.

These tariffs will benefit his businesses because they are being imposed on Elon's competition. This is a clear conflict of interest. It is wrong, and it is a display of the grift and the greed that the Trump administration has ushered into this White House.

None of this is about helping American families. None of this is about lowering costs. This is about Trump and Musk settling scores, causing chaos, and making sure they line their pockets on the backs of Americans and the middle class.

Madam Speaker, we need to end these reckless tariffs and get back to lowering costs for the people we serve.

HONORING MARCH VETERAN OF THE MONTH LIEUTENANT COMMANDER GREG COWAN

(Mr. ALFORD of Missouri was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. ALFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding American and our March Veteran of the Month, Lieutenant Commander Greg Cowan, United States Navy, Retired, from Lebanon, Missouri, in Laclede County.

Greg Cowan's service to our Nation spans more than two decades, beginning in 1980 when he enlisted in the Navy. From his early days as an aviation electronics technician, to earning a commission through the Naval ROTC program, his dedication and commitment to our Nation never wavered. He served in duty stations across the country and around the world, from Rota, Spain, to Camp Lemonnier in Africa.

He deployed multiple times to the CENTCOM areas of operation, serving aboard the USS *Comstock*, the USS *Kitty Hawk*, USS *Harpers Ferry*, and USS *Inchon*. His leadership as a surface warfare officer was instrumental in ensuring mission success and in training the next generation of warfighters.

After retiring in 2024, Lieutenant Commander Cowan's passion for service continued through his dedication to mentoring and teaching others. His career is a testament to the values of duty, honor, and country.

Today, we salute Lieutenant Commander Greg Cowan and thank him for his selfless service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to the United States Navy and to the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING GOLD APPLE BOUTIQUE

Mr. ALFORD. Madam Speaker, today we are proud to recognize Gold Apple

Boutique, located in the historic district of Fayette, Missouri, as Missouri's Fourth Congressional District March Small Business of the Month.

Owned by Cana Conrow, Gold Apple Boutique is a shining example of entrepreneurial spirit and community dedication. Cana's passion for business and her desire to build a future for her growing family led her to open this unique shop on Fayette's historic square. I was just in it last week. It is a great store.

They are offering fashionable clothing, accessories, and personalized items. Gold Apple Boutique provides a welcoming space where customers find both style and confidence.

Cana's success is a testament to the impact of small businesses on local economies. Her engagement in our U.S. Chamber of Commerce roundtable last week highlighted her commitment to strengthening the business community. As spring approaches, Gold Apple Boutique's latest arrivals are already drawing in excited customers there on the square, proving that small businesses like hers keep our towns vibrant and keep them thriving.

We congratulate Cana Conrow and Gold Apple Boutique on this well-earned recognition, our Small Business of the Month. We thank them for their dedication to Fayette and to making Missouri's small business community thrive.

RECOGNIZING SEASIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF NICK BORGES

(Mr. PANETTA of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Seaside Police Department Chief Nick Borges and many others for their dedication and doggedness to solve the case called the "American Nightmare."

Aptly named, this case started back in 2015 in Vallejo, California, when Matthew Muller broke into the home of Denise and Aaron Quinn, drugged and bound them, and kidnapped Denise. Muller then took Denise to a cabin near Lake Tahoe where he sexually assaulted her and released her 3 days later down in southern California.

Of course, Aaron immediately called the authorities, but the Vallejo Police Department was unable to solve the crime. This is after they interrogated Aaron for hours upon hours, brushing aside his explanation, trying to get him to confess to killing Denise.

Ultimately, after Aaron wouldn't confess to something he didn't do, the detectives accused both Aaron and Denise of faking and lying about the whole thing. The detectives even went as far as putting out a formal statement, calling the whole thing a hoax and that, given the facts that had been presented thus far, this event appeared to be an orchestrated event, not a crime.

Madam Speaker, get this. Around the same time period, Muller committed

several more home invasions. He eventually got caught and convicted for those similar crimes. The Vallejo detectives never connected Muller to the kidnapping of Denise.

It was such a sensational story about how the detectives acted and about how Aaron and Denise allegedly concocted a kidnapping that even Netflix came out with a documentary called the "American Nightmare." Madam Speaker, it became one of the most watched docuseries on Netflix.

Fortunately, one of the people who watched that Netflix series was Seaside Police Chief Nick Borges. Chief Borges didn't have anything to do with that case, but after watching the documentary in 2024, he literally reached out to Denise and Aaron. He let them know that even he was disgusted with the way the Vallejo detectives conducted the interviews and that Denise and Aaron had the backing of law enforcement, despite how they were treated.

Chief Borges then decided to meet with the couple, along with Alameda County Detective Misty Carausu and El Dorado County DA Vern Pierson, all of whom felt that the investigation was mishandled. The group then started their own investigation and quickly found that Muller was in custody for similar crimes in the same areas.

Chief Borges then simply and literally reached out to Muller who was in custody on his other similar crimes, and he asked Muller if he would want to talk about the crimes against Aaron and Denise. Madam Speaker, if you can imagine this, Muller responded, and he admitted what he did do to Denise.

Further investigation by the group and getting the FBI involved led authorities to the Lake Tahoe cabin where they found further evidence to corroborate the crimes that Muller committed against Denise and Aaron. Eventually, Muller ended up pleading guilty to those crimes, as well as others that he had committed in the area.

Madam Speaker, as DA Pierson said: This was a very unusual, crazy set of facts. It unfortunately had detectives who didn't believe Aaron and Denise from the start, as well as those who used some outdated investigation and interrogation techniques, that led them down the wrong path.

Fortunately, though, police officers with common sense got involved to help solve this case. Moreover, Denise, Aaron, Chief Borges, and others are now working with law enforcement to change how interrogations are conducted and to ensure that what Aaron and Denise experienced never happens again.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Denise and Aaron for their fortitude, for their resilience, and for their belief in law enforcement. I recognize Seaside Police Chief Borges and the other law enforcement officers who used common sense and their humanity to not only solve this case with a sense of justice but to do what is right in our society.

HONORING WISCONSIN'S WINTER SPORTS SEASON

(Mr. TIFFANY of Wisconsin was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. TIFFANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the high school athletes from Wisconsin's Seventh District who competed in the State championships during the winter sports season.

In the individual State wrestling tournament, my district had Liam Neitzel of Hudson, Lane Andersen of Amery, Reegan Roy of Wabeno, Blake Underwood and Cale Quantance of Marathon, Wyatt Unser of Glenwood City, Colton Weiler of Auburndale, and Carter Lueck of Stratford secure the State championship, with the Saint Croix Falls boys' team taking home the first place title at the team State wrestling tournament.

Then the Tomahawk boys' hockey team claimed their first-ever State title at the boys' hockey State tournament. At the gymnastics State meet, Chippewa Falls Co-op won Division 1 team State, Rice Lake High School won Division 2 team State, and Avery Ash of Rice Lake took home first place in the individual balance beam event.

I also congratulate the Osceola High School ice fishing team on taking home the State title, going against 87 schools. Not many States have an ice fishing tournament.

We congratulate each one of these State champions, as well as their coaches. I wish them the best of luck in their future seasons.

HONORING ALFREDA HARRIS

(Ms. PRESSLEY of Massachusetts was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Chair, I rise today to honor Women's History Month. As a practice, I do celebrate Women's History Month every month, but today I take the floor to talk about a living legend, Ms. Alfreda Harris.

Ms. Harris is a champion for everyone who calls Boston home and a mother of movements. She has committed her life to building community and supporting our young people. She is widely known for her dedicated work to the Boston Parks Department, actualizing a vision of beautiful green space, room to play, and fresh air for all of our children.

Ms. Harris was the first Black woman to coach in UMass Boston's history in 1980 when she was hired in that role, becoming UMass Boston's first women's basketball coach. She was also the first female head coach at UMass Boston for any sport. She led her basketball teams at Roxbury Community College and the University of Massachusetts Boston to an outstanding 136-20 career record.

Her tenure on the Boston School Committee is defined by her lasting commitment to strengthening Boston