

daughter, Quynh-Chi Nguyen, is 20 years of age and attends James Madison University, pursuing a degree in architecture. His son, Hoai-Viet Nguyen, is 19 years old and studying cybersecurity at George Mason University in Fairfax.

Phi's story is not just one of survival. It is one of resilience, adaptation, and success. It is, at its heart, a multigenerational story of the American Dream, a dream that Phi and his father before him pursued with determination and faith in the promise of a better future.

Over his nearly four decades of service to the United States Senate and House of Representatives, Phi has captured countless moments that only a photo can, and while doing so, he has also captured the hearts of those who know and work with him.

Mr. Speaker, in preparation for this speech, I asked Phi: What do you want the listeners and the viewers to take from your story? His answer was simple: "The American Dream is real, and I am evidence of that. You can do it, too."

Today, on this anniversary of a day that changed the course of history for millions, I want to take a moment to honor one remarkable individual whose life journey embodies the spirit of the American Dream.

I thank Phi Nguyen. All of us who share in a professional relationship with him thank him for his service and commitment to capturing history and doing it with excellence. It is with the utmost sincerity that I commend Phi for his 39 years of service to this institution and congratulate him on one-half century of living the American Dream.

HONORING DOMINICK RUGGERIO

(Mr. MAGAZINER of Rhode Island was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a true Rhode Island public servant, State Senate President Dominick Ruggerio.

President Ruggerio dedicated his life to making Rhode Island a better place, devoting 40 years to service in the Rhode Island State Senate, culminating in his leadership as senate president.

Through it all, he was a tireless advocate for working people, a skilled legislator, and a kind and gracious presence to everyone he met.

President Ruggerio made his career in the labor movement, working with the Laborers' International Union of North America before retiring when he assumed the Office of the President of the Rhode Island Senate.

During his tenure in the senate, he championed raising the minimum wage, protecting workers' pensions, and rebuilding infrastructure, among many other causes.

When I was State treasurer, I was proud to work alongside him on the

2018 statewide school construction initiative, where we made historic investments in repairing or replacing hundreds of Rhode Island public school buildings. I saw on that occasion and throughout my time in the statehouse that his commitment to the future of our State was unwavering.

My thoughts are with Dominick Ruggerio's family on his passing this past week, particularly with his children, Charlie and Amanda, and his four grandchildren, and with all in Rhode Island who had the privilege to know and work with him.

EDESIA NUTRITION FUNDING MUST BE RESTORED

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the second time to call for funding for global emergency food aid to be restored.

Plumpy'Nut is a nutrient-dense paste used to save the lives of millions of children around the world.

On every box manufactured at the Edesia Nutrition factory in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, are printed the words: "From the American people." It is not just a slogan. This product is made with peanuts from Georgia, milk from Wisconsin, soy from Iowa, and ingredients from a total of 27 States. It is 100 percent manufactured in the United States, and then it travels on American trucks to American ships to children around the world who are caught in the middle of humanitarian crises.

Plumpy'Nut is a lifesaving necessity for millions of children around the world struggling with malnutrition, and it is from the American people.

At Edesia Nutrition, the organization in my district that manufactures Plumpy'Nut, more than 25 million children have been treated by their product.

That is American patriotism that we can all take pride in, but this work is at risk. The Trump administration has halted all new orders, stranding shipments and slowing production. That hurts farmers, American workers, and children most of all.

This funding must be restored. To be clear, Secretary Rubio, Elon Musk, and others in the administration have said that they intend to restore this funding. We need them to do it. We are not asking the administration to change their policy. We are asking them to execute on their stated policy to save lives while also supporting American farmers and workers.

This food is from the American people. It is a promise, and we urge the administration to ensure that this promise is kept.

COMMEMORATING COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH

(Mr. CISCOMANI of Arizona was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of H. Res. 340, commemorating April as Community College Month to honor and recognize

the more than 1,000 public, Tribal, and independent community colleges across the U.S.

Specifically, I want to highlight my alma mater, Pima Community College, and others from Arizona's Sixth Congressional District, Cochise College, Eastern Arizona College, and Central Arizona College.

Together with colleges across the Nation, these institutions serve over 10 million students, equipping them with the skills they need to thrive and succeed.

My time at Pima Community College was deeply impactful and gave me the tools that I needed to pursue my own American Dream, a dream that I am so blessed to live every single day.

For decades, community colleges have empowered students of all ages and backgrounds with the knowledge, certification, and hands-on skills they need to thrive and succeed. From nurses to welders, teachers to construction workers, and so much more, community colleges are responsible for training the workforce that drives our economy forward.

As we wrap up the month, I am proud to celebrate the vital role community colleges play in supporting our students, building communities, expanding opportunities, and strengthening our Nation.

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CONGRATULATING MICHAEL HUMPHRIES

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Michael Humphries for his distinguished service as Nogales Port of Entry director.

After taking over Arizona's busiest border crossing in 2017, Director Humphries instituted policies that kept communities safe from dangerous contraband while ensuring trade and commerce continued to flow smoothly.

He uncovered record hauls of deadly fentanyl and other dangerous drugs and made sure that essential products like food and medical equipment made it through the port of entry without interruption, even during the COVID pandemic.

His efforts were critical to strengthening the security at our border while supporting economic vitality in southern Arizona.

On behalf of Arizona's Sixth Congressional District, I extend my deepest gratitude to Director Humphries for his years of service and wish him the very best during his well-deserved retirement.

CELEBRATING CASA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and courage of seven outstanding members of the Casa Grande Fire Department and congratulate them on a well-deserved promotion.

Congratulations to Captain Matthew Farmer, Chief Tony Fornaro, Battalion Chief Ryan Littrell, and Engineers Iveta Murray, Garrett Walker, Jose Serrano, and Tyler Bogart.

Their courage and selflessness keep our community safe. It is deeply honorable and much appreciated. I thank them for their service.

Congratulations on a well-deserved promotion.

CONGRATULATING ORANGE GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arizona's Sixth Congressional District's own Orange Grove Middle School's eighth grade class for their big victory in the classroom, sweeping the Arizona Council on Economic Education's Economics Challenge.

This competition allows students to compete and test their knowledge on economics, monetary policy, international trade, and even the stock market.

What an incredibly bright group of young students. I know I definitely wasn't studying monetary policy in eighth grade like they are right now.

Since January, 32 students have been hard at work, voluntarily spending their Sundays preparing for this competition.

To all the students, teachers, and parents who had a role in this amazing achievement, I thank them for their dedication. They have proven themselves and made their school and community incredibly proud. They should enjoy this victory. They earned it.

REMEMBERING DOMINICK RUGGERIO

(Mr. AMO of Rhode Island was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. AMO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rhode Island's late, great, senate president, Dominick Ruggerio.

Mr. Speaker, "Donny," as he was referred to by those who knew him best, was a "force" to be reckoned with, a "forza," as his Italian loved ones would say.

For over 40 years as a State legislator for North Providence, a jewel of the First Congressional District, President Ruggerio served as champion for all Rhode Islanders.

From infrastructure to the environment, labor protections and more, he fought for the places and people who make the Ocean State great, hard-working people, like my mom who worked for years as an SEIU nurse in Rhode Island nursing homes.

Every time our paths crossed, he would remind me how, with enough hard work, grit, and determination, that anything is possible, even my own story. He loved our State, and he loved our Rhode Island State House.

Throughout his tenure, he mentored so many legislators, countless legislators, regardless of the aisle they sat on.

His passing last week, after a lengthy battle with cancer, is both a profound loss for our community and for our State.

Earlier this week, we came together at St. Anthony Church in North Provi-

dence to remember this beloved icon in Rhode Island history.

Today, I join President Ruggerio's friends, family, staff, and colleagues who will carry the torch that he lit and ensure that his legacy shines a light for generations to come.

SUPPORTING EDESIA NUTRITION

Mr. AMO. Mr. Speaker, today, I also rise in support of the lifesaving producer of humanitarian aid, Rhode Island's own nonprofit, Edesia Nutrition.

Since coming to Congress, I have been proud to advocate for Edesia in hearing after hearing as vice ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

I have joined over 200 of my Democratic colleagues in an amicus brief to push back on Trump's and Elon Musk's unlawful destruction of USAID, and I have led bipartisan appropriations letters to support funding for Edesia's work. Why? Because it reflects the best of America's values. Edesia supports domestic peanut farmers, creates jobs, and helps distribute the only proven treatment for acute malnutrition and famine.

To date, Edesia's products have saved over 26 million lives around the globe, including in sub-Saharan Africa.

Mr. Speaker, as the son of West African immigrants, it means the world that America shows up in this way, in this important way, for the vulnerable.

Now, more than ever, we should be investing in Edesia's work, not stripping them of funding. That is why I will be relentless in sounding the alarm and pushing Trump to release the remaining funds that Edesia is owed.

I will continue to fight so that Edesia's programs receive the funding they desperately need in fiscal year 2026. The stakes are literally life and death for millions of children, mothers, and vulnerable populations across the world.

PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS

(Mr. MOORE of West Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MOORE of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to address a grave and urgent crisis, the rampant persecution of Christians in Africa and the Middle East.

Across these regions, our brothers and sisters in faith experience violence, displacement, and death for their belief in our Lord Jesus Christ.

No person or community should ever face such brutal conditions for acknowledging the name of Jesus.

In Nigeria, the situation is dire. More Christians face persecution there than any other nation combined. Since the outbreak of Boko Haram's insurgency in 2009, more than 18,000 churches and 2,200 Christian schools have been destroyed in northern Nigeria alone. More than 50,000 Christians have been killed, and more than 5 million have been displaced since 2009, making it the most dangerous country in the world for Christians.

Earlier this month, 54 Christians were slaughtered after celebrating Palm Sunday. On Ash Wednesday this year, a priest in north central Nigeria was kidnapped and brutally murdered.

This targeting of religious leaders is not a one-off occurrence. Thirteen priests and seminarians were kidnapped in 2024, and nearly 200 priests and seminarians were kidnapped or killed in Nigeria in the last decade.

In Syria, the Christian population has plummeted from 1.5 million in 2011 to just 300,000 in 2022, driven by the horrors of the Syrian civil war and the rise of the Islamic State. Ancient churches have been razed and Christian artifacts destroyed, erasing a Christian heritage that dates back to the Apostle Paul.

With the fall of the Assad regime, Christians are rightly afraid of continued violence against Christians as clashes continue in western Syria.

In March, Islamic forces attacked churches, desecrated cemeteries, forced Christian women to adhere to Islamic dress codes, and confiscated the homes of Christians.

Unfortunately, U.S. foreign policy blunders have exacerbated the crisis for Christians in the region, especially in Iraq. The 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, intended to bring stability, unleashed chaos that empowered extremist groups like al-Qaida, and, later, ISIS. The number of Christians living in Iraq has plummeted from 1.2 million in 2011 to around 100,000 now.

In 2014, ISIS overran Qaraqosh, forcing 100,000 Christians to flee as their homes were marked with the Arabic letter "N" for "Nazarene." Churches were burned and families were torn apart, and the Christian mayor of Qaraqosh, a devoted leader working to rebuild his community, was recently removed from his post. This decision was driven by an Iranian-backed militia leader as a deliberate attempt to erase Christian influence in the region.

The failure to stabilize Iraq post-invasion left Christians vulnerable to ethnoreligious cleansing, a tragedy that the international community has yet to fully address.

Mr. Speaker, the United States cannot stand idly by. I urge my colleagues to join me in raising our voices for the persecuted, to honor their faith and bravery with action, and to ensure the United States is a beacon of hope for those suffering for their beliefs in Jesus Christ.

I will introduce a resolution condemning the persecution of Christians, and I urge this body to take up that resolution and pass it overwhelmingly.

BLOCKING RESOLUTIONS OF INQUIRY

(Ms. BONAMICI of Oregon was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the decision of my colleagues to block the House from