

the fentanyl crisis to an end. This deadly drug has taken the lives of thousands of innocent Americans and made every State a border State—no more.

America remains the land of opportunity that attracts millions of individuals around the world each year. A few months ago, I had the privilege of speaking at a naturalization ceremony for brand-new American citizens who took their oath to the United States and officially became fellow citizens. I was inspired by each of their journeys in becoming Americans and couldn't help but feel blessed to have been born in a land that so many people seek to call their home. At the same time, my heart felt for them.

Of the 168 people who became Americans that day, some of them underwent a multiyear-long process to come here legally. Instead of rewarding their efforts, they watched for 4 years as a President and an administration that were asleep at the wheel allowed our immigration laws to be abused and taken advantage of month after month as millions jumped the line by coming here illegally. I am so glad that America overwhelmingly rejected that nonsense.

Today, our country is more secure and safe than it has been in nearly half a decade. It turns out that common sense works after all, and I am grateful for an administration that chooses common sense over caving to radical, far-left activists.

I thank President Trump for upholding his commitment to making America safe again and securing our border—promises made, promises kept.

#### HONORING GULLERMINA HEREDIA

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent and dear friend, Gullermina Heredia, known lovingly as "Mina," who passed away on July 2.

A proud Mexican American, Mina's family moved to Chicago from Texas in search of better opportunities. As a student at Northeastern Illinois University, she joined the Organization of Latin American Students, where she met her husband, Carlos. She later served as president of the organization, inspiring a new generation of Latino students in Chicago.

After graduation, Mina became a social worker, uplifting countless lives with her warmth and strength. She had a unique ability to make people, especially Latinos and Latinas, feel seen and cared for.

Mina had a gift for bringing people together, and her karaoke nights with Carlos, her husband, were legendary.

Mina was deeply loved and will be remembered for her service and spirit.

My thoughts are with her sons and grandchildren, friends, and all those who were fortunate to know her. We

will miss Mina, and we will carry forward the compassion and strength that she showed all of us.

#### CELEBRATING 79TH BIRTHDAY OF CARLOS ARANGO

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a giant in our community, Carlos Arango, as he approaches his 79th birthday.

For over two decades, Carlos has been a pillar of Chicago's immigrant rights movement, organizing marches, building institutions, and mentoring generations of activists, often behind the scenes, always with purpose.

Carlos stood on the front lines when it wasn't popular, and he stayed when others moved on. He was instrumental in the strength behind Casa Aztlan, not just a building but a beacon of self-determination, cultural pride, and community defense. Through it, he helped countless immigrants find power, purpose, and a place to belong.

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Throughout every political storm, Carlos has remained unapologetically proud of his roots, his people, and, yes, of Los Pumas at the University of Mexico, whose jersey he wears like armor. He is more than an organizer. He is a keeper of memory, a fighter for justice, and a dear friend.

Madam Speaker, I thank Carlos for never backing down and for showing us what commitment is all about. I wish him a happy birthday, and may his struggle live on.

#### HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL JORGE FONSECA

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Brigadier General Jorge Fonseca, a decorated veteran and proud son of Little Village, on his recent promotion as director of the Joint Staff of the Illinois National Guard.

Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Jorge came to Chicago with his family and has dedicated over 30 years to public service, beginning as an enlisted combat medic and later commissioned as a Medical Service Corps officer.

He served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. His path was not easy, but his tenacity carried him through the toughest moments of his career.

Today, his success inspires a new generation of Latinos and Latinas to serve. His journey is a reminder that patriotism isn't defined by birthplace, but by service, sacrifice, and a love of country.

Madam Speaker, I salute General Fonseca. He has made his family, his city, and his country proud.

#### RECOGNIZING SERGEANT EFRAIN MATA

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Efrain Mata, a proud son of 18th Street in Chicago who will be retiring from the Cook County Sheriff's Department after nearly 30 years of distinguished and transformative service.

Sergeant Mata is not only respected for his honor, loyalty, and sharp instincts but also for his vision. He helped pioneer behavioral health and

emergency response strategies now being implemented across Cook County, proving that compassion and safety can go hand in hand.

From Chicago to broader assignments across Federal agencies, Sergeant Mata has served with honor, courage, and an unwavering commitment to justice.

However, what sets him apart is that he never lost sight of where he came from. He has always made it a point to give back, supporting families and standing up for his neighbors. He is a father, a supportive husband, a mentor, and the kind of person you always want on your team.

Madam Speaker, we thank Sergeant Mata for his service and wish him Godspeed.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CONGRESSIONAL SCOUTING CAUCUS

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join the bipartisan Congressional Scouting Caucus.

Scouting has been an essential part of my life. I am an Eagle Scout and was a Scoutmaster for more than 30 years.

The lessons I learned through Scouting: leadership, service, self-reliance, and integrity remain deeply imbedded in my daily life and guide my work here in Congress.

My decisions are guided by the principles of the Scout oath: my duty to God, duty to country, duty to others, and to myself. That is the kind of clarity and compass that Scouting instills. It is a moral benchmark, one that teaches young people to serve their communities, respect others, and become engaged, responsible citizens.

That is why I am proud of the work we are doing with the bipartisan Congressional Scouting Caucus. This group exists to strengthen and support Scouting programs across the country and to highlight the incredible impact Scouts have in each of our districts.

Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join our caucus whether you were a Scout yourself, have Scouts in your family, or simply believe in the power of mentorship and youth leadership. There is no better time to get involved than now.

Today, we are hosting Camp Capitol Hill, an event that will bring the spirit of Scouting right to the heart of our Nation's Capital. This unique showcase will feature Scouts demonstrating outdoor and leadership skills right here on the Capitol grounds in the Rayburn foyer. Displays will include camping equipment, a canoe, a rocket, robotics, knot tying, and Pinewood Derby car racing, alongside educational tables sharing the story and scope of modern Scouting.

There will also be a dynamic panel discussion moderated by Scouting leaders and alumni, highlighting the diverse ways this program shapes the

next generation of leaders, young men and women who will one day serve as firefighters, teachers, doctors, small business owners, and yes, even Members of Congress.

We are also hosting Eagles on the Hill, a reception that will bring together Eagle Scouts and Scouting alumni to celebrate our shared background in Scouting. Eagles on the Hill serves as a reminder that even when Eagle Scouts in Washington disagree on the issues before us, we are united in the belief that Scouting instills essential leadership skills and character values.

The Scouting memorial, just steps from where we sit today, is a tribute not only to the organization but to the ideals it stands for: duty, service, community, and character.

That memorial was made possible entirely through Scout-raised funds in 1960, mostly in the form of dimes. Those Scouts who sent in their dimes have their names engraved at the base of that statue, reminding us of the quiet strength and legacy of civic engagement.

Madam Speaker, I, once again, encourage all my colleagues to join the Congressional Scouting Caucus, attend Camp Capitol Hill, and support the young people who work every day to build a stronger, more service-minded America.

Let's help ensure that the next generation lives up to the Scout law: trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

Also today, on a personal note, I welcome Josh and Finn Kirby to Washington, a Scout leader and a Scout, from the Boy Scout Council in the Juniata Valley.

#### PLUMPY'NUT SAVES LIVES

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the 34th time to call on the Trump administration to restore food aid for children around the world suffering from malnutrition. We have been doing this for months.

We have been doing this for months because after decades of United States leadership in providing aid to children around the world suffering from malnutrition, the Trump administration has stopped funding this lifesaving program.

In my district in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, there is a warehouse with 90,000 boxes of Plumpy'Nut, lifesaving food aid that is designed to save the lives of starving children whose organs are shutting down and can no longer process conventional food.

This food aid has already been manufactured and has already been paid for but is sitting in a warehouse in Rhode Island because some bureaucrat in the Trump administration refuses to sign the piece of paper to restart the shipments.

Why? What possible good can come from allowing children to starve needlessly around the world while American factories and American farmers do not get paid?

The crazy thing is that for months the administration has been insisting that they are going to restart this program. Secretary Rubio, under oath in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said that this program was going to be restarted.

Elon Musk, when he was still in the administration before he had his big break up with Donald Trump, even tweeted the name of the factory in my district and said that they were going to get their funding.

Time and time again when we have inquired with the administration, they say: Yes, any day now we are going to restart it. It has been 6 months. Every day that they delay is another day that children unnecessarily starve to death.

We need the administration to honor its word. We are not asking them to change their policy. We are asking them to execute on their stated policy.

I will continue to speak out on this floor every day until they honor their commitment to restart funding for emergency food aid around the world.

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#### HELPING SMALL BUSINESSES THRIVE AND SURVIVE

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, when I was back in my district in Rhode Island, I took the opportunity to catch up with a number of leaders in the restaurant and hospitality industry around my State, and they told me to a person that business is down this summer compared to last summer.

Why? Well, there are a few reasons.

Number one, the tariffs that Donald Trump has put in place are a tax on small businesses and on the middle class. Why are we putting a 10, 15, or 20 percent tariff on food that we can't even grow in the United States?

Mr. Speaker, 99 percent of the coffee that we drink comes from other countries because we can't grow it here. We are taxing ourselves 10, 15, or 20 percent to import pineapples, bananas, and foods that we do not make or grow in the United States. That hurts restaurants and other small businesses in my district and the entire country. It hurts consumers as well.

On top of that, this is summer tourism season in Rhode Island, and we typically get a lot of tourists from Canada and Europe who come to Rhode Island for our beaches, our food, and our hospitality. Wouldn't you know it, international travel into Rhode Island and the entire Northeast is down because, it turns out, when you threaten to invade other countries, when you enact tariffs on other countries with no clear strategy, and when you badmouth our allies, they don't want to come visit here anymore.

We have a hospitality industry in Rhode Island—hotels, restaurants, and other small businesses—that is facing

crushing costs from tariffs and less business from international travel. In addition, by the way, their domestic customers, American customers, also have less discretionary income because of the increased cost of food. Besides that, for some reason, we are also taxing imports of energy from Canada, so people's electric and heating bills were higher this year.

Supporting small business used to be a bipartisan cause in Washington, D.C., one of the few things that both parties could join together and come together on, but for some reason, over the last 6 months, it seems that Washington, D.C., is intent on doing everything that it can to make it harder for small businesses in this country to operate.

Let's reset. Let's prioritize tax relief for small businesses and the middle class instead of the rich. Let's eliminate these tariffs on products that we don't even produce in the United States because we don't have the climate for it. Let's help small businesses thrive and survive this summer.

#### CELEBRATING A HISTORIC MOMENT FOR CALALLEN HIGH SCHOOL

(Mr. CLOUD of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a historic moment for Calallen High School.

The Calallen Wildcats baseball team captured the UIL 4A D1 State championship with a 5-3 win, ending a 17-year title drought and bringing home the program's fourth State title. Ranked number one in Texas and number two nationally, they lived out their motto: Win on the last day.

Not to be outdone, the Calallen Lady Cats softball team made history of their own, winning their third consecutive UIL 4A D1 State softball championship. This marks the first time in Coastal Bend history that both the baseball and softball titles were won by the same school in the same year.

Congratulations to the Calallen Wildcats Head Coach Steve Chapman, Lady Cats Head Coach Teresa Lentz, and to all the Calallen Wildcats and Lady Cats.

What a great year for Calallen. Congratulations.

#### CONGRATULATING LONDON PIRATES BASEBALL TEAM

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the London Pirates baseball team, the 2025 UIL 3A D1 State champions.

With a 4-3 win, the Pirates secured their second State title in program history, capping off a dominant postseason and a 14-game winning streak.

This championship reflects the discipline and heart that defines London athletics and the unwavering support of a proud community.

Congrats to the Pirates on a remarkable season.

#### CONGRATULATING GANADO MAIDENS

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise as well to honor the Ganado Maidens, our