

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Puerto Rico will provide the Clerk a translation of his remarks.

#### VISIT TO BLUEBONNET DETENTION FACILITY

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, I visited the Bluebonnet Detention Facility in Anson, Texas, about 3 hours outside of Dallas. What I saw was deeply disturbing. It speaks to the harmful policies under Donald Trump and Secretary Noem, policies that are ripping families apart, wasting taxpayer dollars, and making our communities less safe.

Bluebonnet was built to house prisoners under the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, but in 2019 the first Trump administration handed a contract to a private prison company to convert it into an ICE detention center. Today, instead of prioritizing dangerous criminals, those who commit rape, murder, or trafficking drugs, people who pose real threats to our communities, ICE is filling this facility with people who have done absolutely nothing wrong and are being targeted simply because of the color of their skin.

As a Member of Congress and as a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I have both the right and the responsibility to see what is happening inside these facilities. For years, Members of Congress could visit unannounced, but under Secretary Noem, that right was stripped away. My team and I worked for weeks just to gain entry and finally got a scheduled appointment.

When I visited, 1,079 people were being detained at Bluebonnet. Nearly 700 of them, almost two-thirds, were designated by ICE itself as a low threat. Let me repeat: Hundreds of people with no violent history, no record of serious crimes, targeted solely because of the color of their skin, were denied their constitutional rights and then locked away in a detention center.

I met with several detained individuals. Here is a common story that we came across. A man came here more than two decades ago and worked a blue-collar job. He raised his family in Texas. He has children whom he loves and who depend on him. He hasn't committed any violent crimes or sold any drugs. His only offense was a traffic stop. Now, he faces deportation to a country he left decades ago.

My question is: How is this fair? Why are people who are contributing to our economy, who are working hard and making sure that our citizens are being taken care of, being targeted instead of all of the violent criminals?

This is what is happening under Trump. They are not prioritizing threats to public safety. They are not going after violent offenders. They are

taking workers out of our economy. They are spreading fear in communities where families should feel safe, and they are doing it with our taxpayer dollars.

Let me be very clear. Locking up people who pose no danger to our communities does not make us safer. It weakens us. It destabilizes families. It wastes resources that should be used to pursue violent criminals, traffickers, and those who actually endanger our neighbors.

As I left the detention center that day, an employee from ICE made one request: Stop politicizing us.

It is the White House that needs to hear this message most of all. Trump and Secretary Noem are not using taxpayer dollars to keep communities safe; they are using it as political theater. They dress up in ICE jackets, parade through detention centers, and turn detainees into props for their campaigns.

This isn't law enforcement. It is performance. It makes a mockery of our justice system by prioritizing sensational videos over safety and cruelty over compassion. This is political theater at the expense of human lives.

We need a smarter and fairer approach. That means alternatives to detention that allow people to remain with their families while their case moves forward. It means investing in an immigration system that is fair, fast, and final so that people can have their cases heard in front of a judge and are not left in limbo for years. It means prioritizing dangerous individuals, not hardworking parents who have built their lives in our communities.

People who play by the rules, follow the law, and adhere to the guidelines laid out before them should never be targeted because of the color of their skin and denied due process. Our society should not accept this, and this administration needs to put a stop to this injustice.

That is what I saw at Bluebonnet, a betrayal of our values as a nation. We are a country of immigrants. We are a country that claims to honor family, community, and fairness. Yet, the Trump administration is locking up people who are simply trying to work, raise families, and contribute to our community. This is not about fairness or safety, and it is not who we claim to be as Americans.

Congress must step up and hold this administration accountable. We must work in a bipartisan way to build an immigration system that keeps people safe and ensures that people's rights are respected. Locking up neighbors who pose no threat does not make us stronger. It divides us. It weakens us, and it undermines everything that we stand for.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MILLIE ORTIZ SHEEHAN

(Mr. LATIMER of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life and times of Millie Ortiz Sheehan. Today, we are naming a street after her in the town of Greenburgh where she did so much to help her community and her people.

Millie was born in New York City, the daughter of Miguel and Cruz Ortiz. She graduated from Baruch College where she met her husband, Francis. Together, they spent over 40 years married, with two children and four grandchildren.

Millie was a school psychologist with over 30 years of experience in the Greenburgh Central School District and still had time to be active in numerous community groups and worthwhile projects that helped her neighbors, particularly the youth of her town. She was a spectacular cook to boot.

Millie's loss came unexpectedly and tragically, but we remember her and her life, and we join the community in valuing her life spent caring about others. Her name on that street sign will ensure that Greenburgh will never ever forget her.

□ 1020

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF LYNNE TROTTER WAGSTAFF

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, every now and then, there are people born who personify the essence of love in action. On November 2, 1946, Lynne Louise Trotter, later Lynne Louise Trotter Wagstaff, was born in Harlem, New York. She was one of those people.

Lynne attended St. Catherine of Siena and graduated from St. Pascal Baylon High School. She loved to dance and attended Johnson Dance Studio during her youth. Her summers were enriched, and she formed lifelong bonds at Camp Minisink, a camp for African-American youth in New York City.

Lynne met her husband of 47 years, William O. Wagstaff, Jr., at Central State. He was a Kappa and a football player, two criteria she later joked were on her checklist for potential mates in college. They were married on August 5, 1978, and purchased their first home in Mount Vernon, New York.

Although her childhood dream was to become an actress, she decided to pursue a career as an educator. Over the years, she was an elementary school teacher, a reading teacher, an assistant principal, and retired as the principal of P.S. 112, located in the Edenwald neighborhood of the Bronx.

Lynne spent her entire career in public education and felt it was her responsibility not only to educate but to provide care and safety for children who were often underserved and overlooked, either due to their race or economic status.

Lynne's love for her family was her foundation, and she poured into her family, always being a reliable supporter. Even when a relative might have felt that life's challenges left them fighting alone, she was always there.

Lynne leaves to carry on her legacy William O. Wagstaff, Jr.; William O. Wagstaff, III; William O. Wagstaff, IV; her daughter-in-law, Christina; and bonus children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, cousins, and friends who have become family.

It is an honor to recognize Lynne on the House floor today.

#### CELEBRATING DAN OLDEWAGE ON HIS CENTENNIAL BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th birthday of my good neighbor, Dan Oldewage, another one of our Greatest Generation.

Dan began serving our country as a B-24 Liberator nose gunner with the U.S. Army in World War II. Just a few years later, he was again called to serve our great country, this time in the Korean war.

On a bombing mission over Korea, his plane was hit by enemy fire, and the crew was forced to parachute over enemy territory. Dan was captured by the North Korean army, where he was tortured for 30 months. He survived and returned to the United States in 1953. At that time, he moved to Orange County, where his family has lived since then.

Today, I wish Dan a happy birthday and thank him for his service to our great country.

#### CELEBRATING LOWRIDER CULTURE

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate "Lowrider Culture in the United States," a traveling exhibition that is currently on display in the city of Anaheim.

Lowriding is a Latino tradition that has been alive in this country since the 1940s. This car restoration tradition captures a blend of Latino soul, creativity, and perseverance. This new exhibit by the Smithsonian tells the stories of Mexican Americans in the United States since World War II.

From the beginning, Mexican Americans have always been part of this great country and our great national history. I invite everyone to visit the Museo Museum in Anaheim to celebrate this great culture.

#### RECOGNIZING BETH MARTINKO

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Beth Martinko for her advocacy for people with disabilities on Medicaid.

Beth's son, Josh, is an adult with severe autism who relies on Medicaid programs for medication and support. She asks all of us not to cut Medicaid.

Beth moved her family from Maryland to Anaheim not just because her

son loves Disneyland but also because of California's visionary healthcare programs.

Beth is her son's primary caregiver and knows just how devastating Medicaid cuts would be to her and her son. In her words, she fears that her son will "fall out of the network and die."

I call on my colleagues to join me in defending these programs that so many of our constituents rely on, on a day-to-day basis.

#### RECOGNIZING KATRINA JOY

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Katrina Joy for winning the National Education Association Foundation's 2025 Award for Teaching Excellence.

Ms. Joy has taught at Magnolia High School in Anaheim for 20 years. At Magnolia, she is active both inside and outside the classroom in helping students become better citizens.

Ms. Joy has always encouraged students to give back to their communities. Recently, her students built a pop-up library to help more students in the community have access to library books.

During the pandemic, she founded the nonprofit Magnolia SAFE to address food insecurity and other basic needs of Magnolia High School students and the surrounding community. She has also raised more than \$100,000 since March 2020.

I thank Ms. Joy, Teacher Joy, for being a role model in our community, and I congratulate her on an honor well-deserved.

#### HONORING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S 225TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a cornerstone of faith and community in Winchester, Virginia, First Presbyterian Church, which is celebrating its 225th anniversary this September under the leadership of Rev. Amanda Maguire Thomas.

Founded in 1800 but with roots reaching back to the earliest days of Winchester, First Presbyterian has stood as a witness to history and as a steadfast presence in the lives of generations. From hosting the funeral of Revolutionary War hero Daniel Morgan to opening one of the first Sunday schools south of the Mason-Dixon Line, its story is woven into the fabric of our Nation's growth.

What really makes this church remarkable is its service. First Presbyterian helped to establish the Free Medical Clinic, Jubilee Kitchen, and many other initiatives that have lifted our neighbors in times of need. Even today, the congregation continues to live out its faith through community service, disaster response, and care for creation.

Mr. Speaker, for 225 years, First Presbyterian Church has embodied the values of faith, service, and resilience. On behalf of the people of Virginia's

Shenandoah Valley, I congratulate them on this milestone and thank them for their unwavering commitment to God and community.

#### CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SENIORS FIRST

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of Seniors First, the Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging.

In 1965, with the passage of the Older Americans Act, Congress laid the foundation for home and community-based services so that older Americans could live with dignity, health, and independence. That vision remains alive today through organizations like Seniors First.

Since its incorporation in 1975, Seniors First has served as the only comprehensive regional provider for older adults across the northern Shenandoah Valley. From Meals on Wheels and personal care to transportation, senior centers, and insurance counseling, these services make it possible for older Virginians to remain at home while being supported and connected to their communities.

This vital work is carried forward by a dedicated team of senior center managers: Joe Babcock of Shenandoah County, Tina Landis of Winchester, Amy Courtney of Page County, Misty Alger of Warren County, Erica Owens of Clarke County, and Renee Carr of Frederick County, led by Executive Director Jimmy Roberts.

For 50 years, Seniors First has exemplified dignity, compassion, and service. I congratulate them on this milestone and thank them for their continued commitment to our older neighbors.

□ 1030

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CHARLES JAMES KIRK

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Charles James Kirk. At just 31 years old, Charlie accomplished what many could only hope to accomplish in a lifetime. He built a movement, inspired the next generation to love their country, and stood for the principles he believed in.

Charlie's commitment to free speech and open dialogue on college campuses was at the core of his mission. He believed that young people should not only be heard but also equipped to engage respectfully in the exchange of ideas. In an era when open discussion is too often silenced, Charlie's voice reminded us all of the importance of defending our First Amendment rights.

He was a man of deep faith, grounded in Christ, and he shared those traditional values with countless people across the Nation.

His life reflected courage and conviction, a combination that left a lasting impact on students, colleagues, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

While his time with us was far too short, Charlie's legacy will endure. It lives on in the students he mentored, the conversations he sparked, and the love of country he instilled in so many.