

While Republicans take away the lifesaving care you need and deserve, they are getting rich with your hard-earned tax dollars.

House Democrats will keep fighting to protect your healthcare and make life more affordable.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the Senate or individual Members of the Senate.

#### RECOGNIZING LISA YANNEY ROSKENS

(Mr. BACON of Nebraska was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lisa Yanney Roskens, a true leader whose vision, dedication, and compassion have touched the lives of tens of thousands of military families and veterans across our Nation.

As the chief executive officer of Burlington Capital, Lisa has spearheaded initiatives focused on affordable housing for veterans, contributing to programs designed to help individuals break the cycle of poverty and lead healthy, productive lives.

Lisa embodies what it means to lead with both intellect and heart. A proud graduate of Stanford University, where she earned her bachelor's degree and juris doctorate, Lisa brings not only deep business acumen but also a strong sense of service and purpose.

Lisa has guided Burlington Capital to become a national model for purpose-driven investment. This company demonstrates that you can achieve financial success while positively impacting communities and transforming lives.

Under Lisa's leadership, Burlington Capital has made an extraordinary commitment to those who serve the United States of America, both Active-Duty servicemembers and the veterans who have sacrificed for our freedom.

Lisa's belief has always been simple yet powerful: The people who defend our Nation deserve quality homes, supportive communities, and a true sense of belonging.

One of the most outstanding examples of this commitment is at Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue, Nebraska. There, Burlington Capital partnered with the United States Air Force to redevelop and manage the base's military family housing community. Through a long-term public-private partnership, Lisa and her team delivered \$240 million in redevelopment that transformed outdated housing into modern neighborhoods where military families can thrive.

The results speak for themselves. Nearly 2,000 obsolete units were replaced, and hundreds more were renovated. New homes were built to meet the needs of today's airmen and their families.

The community now known as Rising View was recognized for its strong

partnership, its service to tens of thousands of families, and its unwavering commitment to quality of life for those in uniform.

Lisa's impact doesn't end there. She saw another pressing need in our community, the need to provide housing and stability for our Nation's veterans, especially those who have faced homelessness.

In 2013, Lisa and Burlington Capital partnered with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to create Victory I Apartments, a community built on part of the former St. Joseph Hospital site. It provides 90 permanent, supportive housing units for formerly homeless veterans. This project was more than a renovation. It was the creation of a lifeline for men and women who once protected our Nation but returned home to uncertainty.

Building on that success, Lisa led the charge for Victory II Apartments, which opened in 2020. This second phase added 60 more apartment homes dedicated to veterans and their families who earn at or below 50 percent of this area's median income. These homes are designed with dignity in mind, paired with access to health, wellness, and job readiness services.

Together, Victory I and II provide 150 safe, stable homes for men and women who once wore our Nation's uniform. The apartments offer not only a safe place to live but also access to onsite supportive services from the VA and local agencies, helping veterans rebuild their lives with dignity and purpose.

Victory Apartments earned national recognition, receiving the Charles L. Edson Tax Credit Excellence Award for outstanding affordable housing that serves special needs populations. Just as importantly, it has become a model for how public, private, and nonprofit sectors can come together to change lives.

Lisa expanded that vision even further with the creation of Victory Park in Lincoln, Nebraska. On the VA campus, Burlington Capital developed 70 new apartments for veterans and partnered with the VA to deliver a new community-based outpatient clinic for Lincoln's veteran population. Victory Park combines housing, healthcare, and supportive services in one location, a community that restores independence, connection, and pride for those who once served our Nation.

Through efforts like these, Lisa Roskens has demonstrated what it means to not only be a successful business leader but also somebody who is deeply committed to making a difference in the communities where her organization operates.

#### RECOGNIZING IMPORTANT VICTORY FOR COUNTLESS CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, after 9 months of delay, I rise today to rec-

ognize an important victory for the United States and for thousands of children around the world who have a new chance at life.

Finally, after months of advocacy and struggle, funding has been restored for global emergency food aid for children. You see, malnutrition is the number one cause of death for children under 5 globally, and when children are on the brink of starvation, their organs break down, and they cannot even digest food if it is given to them.

There is a proven treatment: ready-to-use therapeutic food, also known as Plumpy'Nut, a shelf-stable peanut paste. It does not need to be refrigerated. You don't need to add water. It has the nutrients that children need to survive and grow back from the brink of starvation.

Edesia Nutrition in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, is one of the two organizations that manufacture Plumpy'Nut. Since their founding, they have saved over 25 million lives.

Earlier this year, in January, funding for Plumpy'Nut was cut off by President Trump's DOGE initiative. New Federal orders were halted. Production ground to a halt. Boxes of lifesaving food aid sat in warehouses while children starved to death.

This was not just cruel. It was shortsighted.

America's reputation as a global leader suffers when we fail to deliver international aid. Our adversaries—China, Russia, terrorist organizations—fill the abyss when the United States pulls out.

A broad coalition of Americans fought back. In April, I made a commitment that I would speak on this floor every legislative day until funding was restored. I ended up speaking here 42 times in total to demand that emergency food aid for children be restored.

I wasn't alone. My colleague from Rhode Island, Representative AMO, made his voice heard on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Representative AUSTIN SCOTT from Georgia, whose district hosts the other organization that manufactures Plumpy'Nut, was a vital partner. Of course, Navyn Salem, the CEO of Edesia, never gave up her mission to help starving kids in need.

Last month, the administration finally listened, and the program was restored. A few weeks ago, Edesia was able to resume regular shipments. I was there at the loading dock in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, when the first new shipments went outbound for children whose small bodies were struggling on the edge of starvation and who now have a chance to survive and grow. I will never forget that moment.

This is proof that, even in these challenging times, it is possible to get good things done. This victory wouldn't have happened if it weren't for the advocacy of people at all levels, all across the country, making their voices heard. It is a monumental step toward

restoring the moral standing of the United States abroad and saving countless lives.

While I am very glad that this program is restored, that Edesia is up and running again, and that funding for food aid is back, none of this should have ever happened.

Make no mistake, children died needlessly because President Trump and an unelected tech billionaire cut off their supply of food before eventually reversing course. This is a lesson in the devastating consequences of the chaotic slash-and-burn style of government that we have seen too much of over the last year.

Nevertheless, today is a day for celebration, as Americans came together to do the right thing, to advocate for those who couldn't advocate for themselves, and to deliver a victory for countless children around the world who now have a chance to grow and thrive.

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#### HONORING THE LIFE OF ROCCO J. DIINA

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

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with both gratitude and a heavy heart to honor the extraordinary life of a dear friend, a devoted public servant, and a guardian of our community, former Buffalo Police Commissioner Rocco J. Diina, who passed away on October 5 at the age of 75.

Commissioner Diina was a pillar of western New York, a man whose leadership, character, and compassion shaped our great city. His legacy is etched in the lives he protected, the hope he restored, the community he made safer each and every day, and the family and friends that he loved.

Rocco grew up on Tacoma Avenue in north Buffalo, the middle of three brothers, in a proud, hardworking family rooted in faith, service, and devotion to community. Those values guided his life and charted the course of his calling.

At just 18 years old, he walked through the doors of the Buffalo Police Department as a cadet. He wasn't drawn to the badge for prestige or distinction. He answered the call out of duty, earning a reputation for trust and honesty.

After two decades in uniform and a distinguished career of serving and protecting the great City of Good Neighbors, Rocco retired, though anyone who knew him knew he would not stay away for long.

In 1994, his lifelong friend, Mayor Anthony Masiello, called him back to serve, this time as deputy police commissioner.

Mr. Speaker, 4 years later, he became the city of Buffalo's police commissioner. In that role, Commissioner

Diina didn't just lead the department; he transformed it. He brought innovation and modernization to the department and streamlined precinct operations. He opened doors once closed, appointing the city's first African-American woman to serve as deputy commissioner, an act of leadership that strengthened both the department and our city.

Among his proudest achievements was reopening the Buffalo Police Athletic League, a program built on the belief that trust is forged not through authority but through relationships.

Through sports, mentorship, and guidance, PAL created a bridge between law enforcement and young people who were yearning for opportunity and connection. Today, it serves more than 20,000 children each year, a living testament to the enduring impact of Rocco's vision.

For Commissioner Diina, public safety was about restoring hope, investing in youth, and strengthening the bond between community and those sworn to serve it.

Beyond every title and every professional achievement stood the role he cherished most: that of husband, father, and grandfather. He met the love of his life, Anna Marie, at a hot dog stand at Crystal Beach, and the rest was history.

For more than 50 years, they built a family grounded in love, laughter, and loyalty. Together, they raised two exceptional children, Rebecca and Rocco Jr., and delighted in the joy of five grandchildren, the light of their lives and the pride of their hearts.

Rocco was a steadfast leader who was tough when duty demanded it and compassionate when humanity required it. Even after stepping out of public office, his mission never changed. Rocco founded RJD Security, growing it from a small startup into one of western New York's most trusted security firms. In doing so, he continued to do what had always driven him: protecting people, supporting local businesses, and safeguarding the places that make community possible.

We honor Commissioner Rocco Diina for the department he strengthened, the neighborhoods and the city that he made safer, and for reminding us what true leadership looks like: service before self, strength without ego, and kindness without hesitation.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his remarkable life. We offer our deepest condolences to the Diina family, who shared him so generously with all of us.

May we strive to emulate his leadership with integrity, his service with humility, and his love and unwavering devotion to our community.

On behalf of the grateful city of Buffalo, the western New York community, and the Nation, may Commissioner Rocco J. Diina rest in peace.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SIDNEY DAVIDOFF

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sidney Davidoff, a towering figure in New York's political life and a true son of the great city of New York, who passed away Sunday at the age of 86.

Born in Brooklyn, Sid served 7 years as administrative assistant to Mayor John Lindsay. He went on to become one of New York's most respected government affairs attorneys.

As founder of Davidoff Hutcher & Citron, he built a firm whose 50 years of work stands as part of his extraordinary legacy. A frequent lecturer at Yale and NYU and board member on countless city initiatives, Sid earned the distinction few can claim: He was respected on both sides of the aisle.

Beyond the title, Sid Davidoff was a true New Yorker: brilliant, tough, generous, and kind. He worked right up to the end, always thinking about what more he could do for the city and State he loved.

Today, we mourn his loss and celebrate his life. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Linda; his family; and to all who knew and loved him, especially his colleagues at Davidoff Hutcher & Citron.

#### CELEBRATING RETIREMENT OF GEORGE GAINES

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the outstanding career of George Gaines, a dedicated educator, mentor, and longtime boys' basketball coach at Tappan Zee High School in Orangeburg, who recently announced his retirement after an extraordinary 22 years of leading the Dutchmen.

During his tenure, Coach Gaines built one of the most respected basketball programs in the region, guiding his teams to an impressive 301-47 record, four section I titles, two Rockland County championships, and the 2023 New York State Class A crown. His leadership, discipline, and passion for the game inspired not only his players but the entire Tappan Zee community.

In addition to his success as a coach, Coach Gaines served as a physical education teacher at Tappan Zee, shaping generations of students with his commitment to excellence, integrity, and personal growth.

May we commend Coach Gaines for his years of service, mentorship, and dedication to young people. May his next chapter be as fulfilling as the impact he left on his players, his school, and his community.

#### CELEBRATING RETIREMENT OF TIM IDONI

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Tim Idoni of New Rochelle on his retirement after more than 40 years of extraordinary public service to Westchester County.

Tim's career has been defined by a deep commitment to his community.