

Don't get me wrong, I enjoy a little gambling myself from time to time, but I also know the pain that comes with addiction. Unlike drugs and alcohol, there is currently no Federal funding devoted to addressing problem gambling.

It is time to get off the bench. That is why I am reintroducing the Gambling Addiction, Recovery, Investment, and Treatment Act, a bill that would devote existing Federal funds to the study, prevention, and treatment of gambling addictions.

This legislation will help get more people into treatment and on the road to recovery. I am committed to building bipartisan consensus on this issue, so no matter who you root for this weekend, I hope you will join me to support the GRIT Act.

□ 1115

GOLDEN AGE OF AMERICAN FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. STUTZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, we, the people, are tired of watching billions of our hard-earned tax dollars being sent overseas carelessly, and we are tired of the lack of transparency that surrounds those decisions. The American people voted for accountability, and they voted to keep the government in check.

The legacy media has painted Elon Musk as a tyrant and President Trump as a deceitful puppet master. Their attacks lean on the premise that Elon Musk was never elected by the American people.

My response to them is: How many people elected Kamala Harris to be the Democratic nominee for President? How many people elected those woke bureaucrats who fraudulently doled out billions to foreign lands, even terrorist organizations possibly? Every dollar they wasted was earned off the sweat of the brow of the American taxpayer.

Elon Musk, President Trump, and the Department of Government Efficiency have done more to save tax dollars for the American people in the past month than I have seen government do in decades. Instead of running them through the mud, they should be celebrated in the streets. The golden age of American fiscal responsibility is upon us, and I, for one, am excited to join the ride.

LOOMING CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS

(Mr. LEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, in a few short weeks, President Trump has unleashed the beginnings a constitutional crisis. He is gutting the Federal Government and trying to usurp Congress,

congressional authority of the power of the purse.

President Trump is flouting the law, and he has deputized unelected billionnaire in chief Elon Musk, who is accountable to no one. They are dismantling Federal agencies and are attempting to freeze Federal funds already allocated by Congress.

Elon Musk, and apparently many of my colleagues, may not know this, but let me be clear: Only Congress, the elected Representatives of the American people, can authorize programs or appropriate funds. Everything that is happening is leading to one thing: the great billionaire takeover of our government to line the pockets of the very few.

This is not normal. This is not efficiency, and we cannot let this happen. My grandfather didn't fight in World War II against fascism to see our country overrun by autocracy. I will honor his legacy every day by fighting to defend our Constitution.

I implore my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the same. America is worth the fight.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING PASTOR WILLIAM McCARTY

(Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of former Isle of Wight County supervisor, Pastor William McCarty.

I was deeply saddened to hear of his passing in January. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Known to his community as "Pastor MAC," he was a friend and tireless servant to the Isle of Wight community as both a pastor at Healing Waters Worship Center and a local elected official.

He first came to our region as a 22-year-old in 1999 to revive the small Smithfield Church of God congregation, spending more than 25 years successfully growing it into the thriving church community it is today.

As the true servant he was, he successfully ran to represent Carrollton on the board of supervisors in 2015, working tirelessly to make sure that Isle of Wight was one of the fastest-growing counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

My thoughts are with his loving wife, Amanda, and their two children and their granddaughter. May God uplift his family and loved ones in this time of sorrow and bless his memory.

We will always be grateful for his service to his community and to our Commonwealth.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RETIRED MAJOR GENERAL EDWARD GREER

(Ms. ESCOBAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the remarkable life of retired U.S. Army Major General Edward Greer, a veteran who broke barriers and made history as one of the service's first Black generals.

His military career began when he enlisted in the segregated Army Reserve during World War II. He achieved the rank of master sergeant while attached to the 777th Field Artillery Battalion, an all-Black unit.

Upon commissioning as a second lieutenant in the Regular Army, he pursued a second enlistment during the Korean and Vietnam wars. He concluded 33 years of service, retiring at the rank of major general, as the deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Military Personnel Center.

Last year, in March, I had the honor of visiting him at his home in El Paso to celebrate his life for his 100th birthday.

On January 29th of this year, this extraordinary man died peacefully in his home. I extend my deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him. We honor the life of this hero, husband, father, and patriot, and we celebrate his immeasurable contributions to our Nation.

DEMOCRACY IN PAKISTAN

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Pakistan is an appreciated partner for 70 years of the United States, and our relationship with them is strongest when Pakistan embraces democratic principles and rule of law.

Sadly, Pakistan's military has undermined democracy by jailing former Prime Minister Imran Khan.

There are strong disagreements with Mr. Khan, including his weak policies towards war criminal Putin and the Chinese Communist Party, but political opponents should be defeated in democratic elections and not jailed on fabricated political charges.

President Donald Trump survived a corrupt judicial system and persecuting political opponents, and he knows the danger of persecution.

Pakistan should release Imran Khan, restoring democracy. Free Imran Khan.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks as warned by the FBI. Trump is reinstating existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength.

Best wishes to President Salome Zourabichvili of Georgia and President

Volodymyr Zelenskyy of Ukraine for defending democracy.

BIRD FLU AND COMMUNICATIONS FREEZE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share a rising concern for public health.

My State of Ohio is the second largest egg-producing State in our Nation. Nationwide, over 14 million egg-laying birds have been killed since December of last year due to the growing bird flu outbreak. That is why the cost of eggs is skyrocketing, and this is why we must get this outbreak under control as human infection rates rise.

On January 6, the first American died from this infection. With each new human infection, the virus learns how to mutate and infect more people.

When studying this tragic death, the CDC found the virus had started to mutate, which means split, in two different ways. For the record, we know from just one human infection, the number of infections jumped to 66 human infections last year.

History instructs us that it is only a matter of time until doctors see sustained human-to-human transmission increasing. Despite this reality, the new administration ordered all divisions of our Department of Health and Human Services to halt their external communications. Bad idea. If the FDA wanted to warn Americans about a recalled item, they can't do so. The CDC needs to report what is happening around the country so that the bird flu doesn't continue to kill not just flocks but Americans.

As the bird flu continues to kill flocks and now cattle, impact grocery costs, infect our loved ones, and mutate, it is vital Americans have more access to information, not less.

RECOGNIZING ETA SPACE

(Mr. HARIDOPOLOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible work of Eta Space, a business in my district that is shaping the future of American space exploration.

As we return to the Moon and set our sights on Mars, one challenge remains: the ability to refuel spacecraft in orbit.

This requires storing fuels at temperatures hundreds of degrees below freezing and transferring them while traveling at 17,000 miles per hour in microgravity. That is no easy task.

The dedicated team at Eta Space has been at the forefront of solving this challenge, but like so many small businesses driving innovation, they need support at a critical moment. That support came from a local community

bank that provided essential credit to keep them moving forward.

Thanks to that local support, Eta Space is thriving. Later this year, they will launch their satellite to advance the future of American spaceflight.

Community banks are the cornerstone of our entrepreneurial spirit, and on the Financial Services Committee under Chairman HILL, we are making community banking great again.

FUNDING FREEZE IMPACTS ON DISASTER RECOVERY

(Ms. TOKUDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, last week, President Trump issued an illegal and unconstitutional order for the Federal Government to halt the flow of Federal funds. Shortly after, FEMA shut down its online portal used to distribute disaster assistance across the country.

As if that wasn't enough, President Trump wants the Federal Government to dissolve FEMA and push disaster response and recovery to the States.

These policies are not just alarming, they are downright terrifying for communities in Maui, Florida, North Carolina, Georgia, and now California, still trying to recover from recent disasters.

Ending FEMA will be catastrophic for small and rural communities and States across the country that do not have the financial and human resources to quickly and effectively respond to major disasters.

In their times of uncertainty and need, Americans deserve to know that the Federal Government will be there for them, no matter where they live.

They look to their government for help. Instead, Trump wants to abandon them. This is wrong, this is cruel, and I demand my colleagues, especially those representing disaster-impacted communities, oppose any funding freeze or delays and any efforts to dissolve FEMA. Americans deserve better.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING SHERIFF MICHAEL BOUCHARD

(Mrs. MCCLAIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an individual whose unwavering dedication, exceptional leadership, and commitment to public safety has made a profound impact on our community.

The epitome of a public servant, Sheriff Michael Bouchard was named 2025 Sheriff of the Year by the Major County Sheriffs of America.

Sheriff Bouchard is no stranger to this title, having received similar

awards from the National Sheriffs' Association and the Michigan Sheriffs' Association.

Serving as sheriff since 1999, Sheriff Bouchard has set a standard that others strive to attain. Whether through community programs, outstanding crisis management, or simply being a resource to his team, Sheriff Bouchard has shown what it means to lead and lead with purpose and heart.

The 1.2 million Michiganders who live in Oakland County have a safer place to call home thanks to Sheriff Bouchard.

On behalf of our communities in Oakland County, we thank him for his service and congratulate him on this well-deserved honor.

□ 1130

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION IS DISMANTLING VETERANS' PROGRAMS

(Ms. BROWNLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my disgust over the Trump administration's reckless actions to dismantle DEIA programs across the Federal Government, particularly within the Veterans Administration. These programs have been crucial in ensuring that veterans of all walks of life receive the gender specific and culturally competent care they deserve.

Over 9 million veterans rely on the VA for their care, and the President's directive to end all diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility initiatives jeopardizes the health and well-being of our veterans.

Healthcare providers know that understanding the unique needs of veterans from diverse backgrounds is key to improving their health outcomes. This assault on DEIA programs puts those outcomes at risk and widens healthcare disparities.

These actions are disgraceful and dangerous. I call on the President not to put veterans' lives at risk in order to further extremist ideology and an extremist agenda.

CELEBRATING 22 OAKLAND CALIFORNIA'S BRAVE FIREFIGHTERS

(Ms. SIMON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SIMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 22 brave men and women from the Oakland Fire Department. These men and women responded to the call for help and literally ran into the fire last month in southern California.

While many firefighters from the Oakland Fire Department volunteered, which sums up our department's amazing commitment to service throughout our State, 22 members of our fire department came down from Oakland,