

hunger, supporting heroes, and education. This foundation has donated \$30 million in the last 8 years to support these pillars.

As Greg Parker steps down as CEO, his focus shifts toward philanthropy. His aim is to grow the Parker's Community Fund to \$100 million and continue prioritizing giving back, strengthening communities, and spending time with loved ones.

Greg Parker's success is not measured by stores built or revenue earned, but by the lives he has touched and the communities he has strengthened.

SUPPORTING MILITARY FAMILIES

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

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, we celebrate a victory for military families. After introducing my bipartisan Support Military Families Act, the administration has heeded our call and granted an exemption to the return to in-person work order.

This is a massive win for patriotic military families who all serve together, ensuring that they have flexibility, stability, and the support they deserve. When we strengthen military families, we strengthen our national security.

I am grateful to the bipartisan group of legislators who stood with me, and I will give a special shout-out to my colleagues from the Commonwealth, Congressman ROB WITTMAN and Congresswoman JENNIFER KIGGANS, for their support in getting this across the finish line.

When we work together, we deliver results. Today, we did just that for our military families.

FIGHTING TO SECURE OUR BORDER

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, before President Trump was elected, there were an average of 3,430 illegal immigrant crossings per day. Today, under President Trump, that number has dropped 126 per day.

Despite this decrease, the threat from illegal immigration has not evaporated. H.R. 35, the Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act, passed just a few minutes ago, gives law enforcement authorities the necessary tools to fully penalize criminals who intentionally evade border security agents.

Penalties include jail time and a permanent ban on obtaining legal status. This legislation does send a clear message to cartels and traffickers: If you endanger Americans lives, we will hold you accountable.

The American people have had enough. We will no longer tolerate lawlessness and policies that put criminals

ahead of citizens. We won't stop fighting to secure our border, stop illegal drugs and human trafficking, and protecting our communities.

PROTECTING EDUCATION IN AMERICA

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

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Oregon's children don't have access to all the tools they need to succeed, and that is unacceptable.

Now, Elon Musk is threatening to eliminate the Department of Education. That would leave millions of students without resources they rely on; end financial aid programs, making higher education more expensive; and leave rural schools behind. As the mom of a kid with disabilities, I know they aren't getting all the funding that they need in their classrooms to thrive.

I would like anybody to tell me how this is helping our kids and how it is going to make us competitive in a global economy. How is this going to make life better for anyone? I know they can't.

If Musk and the Department of Government Efficiency are trying to make the government more efficient by giving tax breaks to the rich at the expense of our schools and our children, to that we say: No thanks.

RECOGNIZING VINCENT TAYLOR

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, if I were to ask you what you had for lunch last Wednesday, chances are you would struggle to remember. If I were to ask you who your favorite teacher was from 40 years ago, you would know instantly.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate one of those unforgettable teachers, Mr. Vincent Taylor from Cedar Hills Elementary School in Jacksonville, Florida, on being named the 2025 Duval County Teacher of the Year.

For 27 years, Mr. Taylor has been a guiding force in Duval County Public Schools, inspiring students as a teacher and math coach.

His impact extends beyond the classroom. Through his mentorship, professional development work and—how about this—10 professional books published, including "If Instruction Isn't Engaging, I Quit!"

Though he once envisioned a different career, Mr. Speaker, his path to teaching is a gift to our students and our community.

Today, we celebrate Mr. Taylor's unforgettable dedication and thank him for shaping the future one student at a time.

GREAT BILLIONAIRE TAKEOVER

(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, it has been another week of the attempted great billionaire takeover of our Federal Government, being led by DOGE, which actually stands for destruction of government by Elon.

They have shut down the agency protecting Americans from fraud and predatory lending. They are gutting funding for medical research. They are targeting at-risk and special education programs, all without a single vote from Congress.

Where do we go from here?

I know some Republicans support these objectives. I get it, but this is not the way. Congress must act. The Constitution requires it.

Our Founders were clear, but too many in this body are looking the other way, fearing political backlash. Our system of government only works if we all do our jobs. This isn't about left or right.

To my friends across the aisle, I ask: Would they want a future Democratic President to act without guardrails, to act without any checks or balances? The situation they are allowing is dangerous. The choices we make now will shape our Nation for generations. They should do better.

HONORING BOBBY TYNER

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

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bobby Tyner, who passed away peacefully at his home in Surfside Beach, South Carolina, this week.

Bobby was a faithful steward of the Palmetto State and dutifully served our country as an engineer in the U.S. Army.

Following his service, Bobby became an advocate for those impacted by Agent Orange chemical exposure during the Vietnam war, helping to share the stories of veterans and their loved ones and advocate for good public policy.

Our country would not be where it is today without the sacrifices of Bobby and men and women like him serving on the front lines to ensure our Nation's freedom.

South Carolina's Seventh District will certainly miss Bobby. We will miss his grit. We will miss his passion. We will miss his humor. We will forever cherish the lives he touched as a husband, a father, and a veteran.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF DREAMERS

(Mr. CORREA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to remind my colleagues who Dreamers are. Dreamers and DACA recipients came to this country as young children by no fault of their own. They follow the law and pay taxes. They are nurses, teachers, police officers, and police chiefs.

There are Dreamers like Dr. Oliver Lopez, a professor of mathematics at Chapman University in my district. What America needs are more STEM degrees. What America needs are more STEM instructors. We need more people like Dr. Oliver Lopez.

Dreamers are also people like Officer Mitchell Soto-Rodriguez, a police officer in Blue Island, Illinois. She dreamed of being a police officer all her life. She achieved her dream because of DACA.

Officer Soto-Rodriguez and Dr. Lopez are essential pillars of our community. They are Dreamers, and they deserve an opportunity to earn the American Dream.

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STOP FEDERAL OVERREACH

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, in one of the many eleventh-hour actions by the Biden administration, the EPA handed California unprecedented power to enforce extreme vehicle regulations, giving them the green light to ban new gas-powered cars by 2035 and impose crushing new emissions standards on heavy-duty trucks, and also using the ever-increasing price of fuel to price people out of being able to drive or into these vehicles they don't want to be in.

This wasn't about cooperative federalism. It was about one State backed by Washington, D.C. bureaucrats forcing its agenda on the rest of the country.

The EPA's waivers let California dictate the future of the auto and trucking industries, driving up costs for regular consumers, squeezing small businesses, and putting even more strain on an already struggling supply chain, at the same time that they are now trying to put in a high-speed rail system whose costs quadrupled what they told the taxpayers just 15 years ago.

Instead of letting Congress weigh in, the Biden EPA let California call the shots for everyone across the country, bypassing the legislative process we hear so much complaining about here, and pushing policies that could force everyday Americans to pay more and get less for their hard-earned money.

That is not how this country is supposed to work. We are about having choice, choice of automobiles, choice of trucks, and what have you.

This Federal overreach needs to be stopped.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOSEPH BERNAL

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

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Joseph Bernal, a veteran, educator, and pillar of San Antonio and Texas politics who passed away on January 25.

Born on San Antonio's westside during the Great Depression, Dr. Bernal graduated from Lanier High School before enlisting in the U.S. Army where he supported postwar reconstruction efforts in Japan.

Upon his return to San Antonio, he earned a bachelor's degree through the GI Bill, which was soon followed by a master's degree and a Ph.D.

As a young teacher, he witnessed the grave inequities facing Hispanic students, an experience that would lead him to elected office in the Texas Legislature and the State Board of Education, where he fought to repeal laws that banned speaking Spanish in public schools, championed the State's first bilingual education law, and led efforts to create the University of Texas at San Antonio and the UT Health Science Center.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to celebrate the life and service of a trailblazer who will be long remembered in my hometown and across the State of Texas.

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE AMERICAN FAMILY

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have already spoken on the very significant hearing we had in the subcommittee regarding what is normally called welfare on Tuesday. There is another point I would like to make.

In that hearing, it came out that, while it varies from couple to couple, there are about 90 programs which largely make up the welfare safety net, which if somebody were to get married, a single parent would get married to someone with an income, they would lose the benefits of those programs.

We heard testimony from Robert Rector that you could easily come up with hypotheticals in which someone would lose \$28,000 if getting married.

In the 1950s in this country, the rate of children born without a mother and father at home was only 4 percent. We are now at 42 percent. This didn't happen by mistake. It is something that the radical feminists and the Marxists have always wanted: the destruction of the American family, particularly not having a man in the American family.

As we work our way through the budget process and reconciliation process, I hope we all remember that it is not anticipated that America would be a country without families and get rid of these perverse incentives.

DREAMERS

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

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about an urgent issue facing our Nation, and that is a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers. These were children who were brought to our country oftentimes as infants. Mr. Speaker, you have already heard about them.

It has been almost 13 years since President Obama announced DACA. Since then the program has provided needed relief for Dreamers, including work authorization and temporary relief from deportation.

However, more than a decade later, Dreamers still do not have permanent protections. As the program continues to be challenged in the courts, Dreamers are left stuck in limbo.

For so many Dreamers, again, this is the only country they have ever known. They came as children and infants. They grew up here. They studied here. They worked hard here.

As you heard, Mr. Speaker, they are nurses, teachers, businessowners, and they are beloved members of our communities. This is their home.

Congress must finally come together to make a real difference for our Dreamers and our families, our businesses, and our communities. We have to get this done. It is the right thing to do.

I also believe in the family.

Why are we not allowing these families to stay, Mr. Speaker?

It is the right thing to do. We are good-hearted people as Americans. Let's get this done.

THE DESTRUCTION OF USAID

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, so we now know what a \$280 million-investment in a Presidential campaign will give you: the opportunity to totally destroy one of America's most important soft power, and that is the United States Agency for International Development.

Mr. Musk and Mr. President, before you set about destroying USAID and the work that it does to provide necessary support for people, refugees and starving children around the world, I want you to hold in your hand a starving child. Look at their extended belly, look at their eyes, and understand what you are doing to hundreds, indeed millions, of people around the world when you take USAID and put it in the wood chipper.

Reverse it.

Have you any sense of humanity?

Do you have any compassion?

If you do, you will reverse the policy of destroying USAID.