

to their patients and clients in Blairsville and Union County, Georgia.

Mr. Barth has provided extensive care for disorders that affect speech, function, movement, and swallowing. His specialization lies in restoring mobility in patients, reducing pain, rehabilitating injuries, and increasing movement and overall health. Mr. Barth's allegiance to his patients highlights the importance of leaders stepping up and caring for patients across Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Barth for all his hard work and for being a trusted and compassionate professional in his field.

#### HONORING NURSE BARBARA HARN

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Barbara Harn, a breast health nurse at Northside Hospital Cherokee, who has won the 2025 James Shepherd Lifetime Achievement Award.

This award honors a hospital employee who has dedicated a lifetime of service to the healthcare field and has made a significant impact in enhancing operations in patient care at their hospital.

Ms. Harn is a longtime Northside Hospital faculty member, compassionately caring for patients for more than three decades. She personifies this commitment through her outstanding and unwavering dedication to her patients, colleagues, and hospital.

Additionally, Ms. Harn is a loving mother, grandmother, and friend to all those around her.

This achievement speaks not only for Ms. Harn's fantastic skills as a professional, but also for her grateful and compassionate attitude.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. Harn for her professionalism, dedication, and commitment to her field.

#### HONORING NURSE HEATHER DANIELS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nurse Heather Daniels, a perinatal services nurse at Liberty Regional Medical Center in Hinesville, Georgia, who has been named a 2025 Hospital Hero Recipient by the Georgia Hospital Association.

This award recognizes the time, talent, and expertise of hospital employees in their respective fields. Ms. Daniel exemplifies this by being dependable, unfailing, and caring in all she does.

In addition to faithfully serving patients, Ms. Daniel has served as director of perinatal services and secretary for the Georgia Perinatal Association, and she worked diligently in reducing morbidity and mortality in pregnant mothers and infants.

Ms. Daniels' passion and dedication for her profession are truly inspirational. This recognition speaks not only to her skill, but also to her compassion and commitment to healing and serving others.

#### RECOGNIZING SEVEN DISTINGUISHED GEORGIA GOLF COURSES

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize seven

Georgia golf courses as being named Golfweek's top 200 resort golf courses in America.

Among these, three were ranked in the top 100: Seaside Golf Course on Sea Island Resort ranked No. 24, The Keep at McLemore Resort came in at No. 25, and Great Waters at Reynolds Lake Oconee tied for No. 73. Additional courses at Reynolds Lake Oconee, McLemore, and St. Simons Island also earned national recognition.

Georgia is home to hundreds of golf courses, but our resort golf courses stand among the very best in the Nation.

These rankings are based on expert evaluations of course design, conditioning, and overall quality, highlighting Georgia as a premier golf destination. This distinction showcases both Georgia's natural beauty and wonder in our State's renowned golf courses.

#### FUNDING CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTERS

(Ms. DEXTER of Oregon was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the proposal Republicans voted on to take money from families in need and divert it to anti-abortion crisis pregnancy centers.

As a medical doctor, I want to be crystal clear. Crisis pregnancy centers are not medical facilities. They do not even have to employ licensed medical professionals.

Women who seek help at these centers routinely report being misled, pressured, or given false information during one of the most vulnerable periods in their lives.

Democrats offered commonsense amendments that would have required facilities receiving these Federal funds to provide medically accurate information. That should not be too much to ask. Republicans rejected those amendments.

The American people deserve to know exactly what that means: Republicans are knowingly funding centers that do not have to uphold basic medical standards, and they are doing it at the expense of families who are already struggling.

Let us not ignore the cruelty of the timing. The day before the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, which Trump gutted, Republicans are making it even harder for women to get honest information to make decisions about their own bodies.

#### HONORING SHERIFF CLINT McRAE AND WALKER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sheriff Clint McRae and the outstanding men and women of the Walker County Sheriff's Office.

For over 20 years, Sheriff McRae has led with distinction and unwavering commitment to the people of Walker County. His hands-on leadership and devotion to community policing set the standard for excellence.

The Walker County Sheriff's Office fulfills its mission each day. From volunteer programs engaging citizens in public safety to responsive patrol operations, these deputies exemplify what it means to serve with honor.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for their tireless dedication and proud to represent them in Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING SHERIFF BYRON LYONS AND POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Byron Lyons and the brave men and women of the Polk County Sheriff's Office for their exceptional service to our community.

Under Sheriff Lyons' leadership, the patrol division of 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, and 15 deputies keeps 1,100 square miles and 1,500 miles of roads safe day in and day out.

Beyond their patrol duties, these law enforcement officials engage our community through innovative programs that build trust and strengthen the bond between law enforcement and the families they protect.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent these outstanding officers who serve with integrity, professionalism, and unwavering dedication to Polk County.

#### RECOGNIZING SHERIFF SAM HOUSTON AND SAN JACINTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sheriff Sam Houston and the dedicated deputies of the San Jacinto Sheriff's Office.

Serving over 27,000 residents across 628 square miles, these law enforcement officers protect our county and keep our families safe every single day.

Sheriff Houston leads with commitment to community and engagement in public safety training programs that make our communities stronger and safer. Beyond enforcement, they build trust with our families and serve with honor.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for their dedication to the people of San Jacinto County.

#### 2025 FINAL PRIORITY RESULTS SURVEY

(Mrs. SYKES of Ohio was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, when I am back home in the district, I make it clear that although my name is on the ballot and I am the elected Member of Congress, when I go to Congress, we all go to Congress.

Instead of assuming that I knew what mattered the most to people in my district, we sent out a survey to ask people in Ohio's 13th what mattered most to them. Thankfully, more than 2,000 people took the time to respond.

What they told us was pretty straightforward. They wanted me to

protect Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare. They wanted me to lower costs and make life much more affordable. They wanted me to eliminate government corruption. That is what I plan to do.

The number one issue by far was protecting Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. People didn't talk about these programs in abstract terms. They talked about their lives, how Social Security is how they pay their bills; Medicare is how they get healthcare without going broke; and Medicaid is how their kids, their parents, and neighbors with disabilities can get the support and help they need.

These aren't government programs to them. They are lifelines promised to them after a lifetime of work and service. That is why I have been and will continue to be hyperfocused on protecting them.

I have worked across the aisle to introduce bipartisan legislation to keep Social Security offices open and services running during government shutdowns because seniors shouldn't lose access to help just because Congress can't get its act together.

I have pushed the Social Security Administration to stop clawing back overpayments when the mistakes were not the fault of the seniors.

I introduced legislation to make sure survivors of domestic violence are not punished under Social Security rules for leaving unsafe marriages.

If you have worked your entire life and paid in every paycheck, Congress should keep its promise in its Social Security program.

The second big issue that people raised was the cost of living and lowering costs. Families feel it everywhere: gas, groceries, housing, healthcare. It just costs too much to live.

□ 1015

People are working just as hard as they always have, but they are falling behind. That is why I have been fighting to extend the ACA's tax credits to lower healthcare costs, especially for our most vulnerable citizens. It is why I voted against the big, ugly bill that is now putting healthcare coverage at risk for millions of Americans while raising energy costs for families.

In fact, just today there is a report that came out that showed over 120,000 Ohioans chose to forgo their healthcare because they simply couldn't afford it. These are real people, and that bill had real consequences. Not only does it impact us in terms of healthcare in my district, it also impacts our number one economy, which is healthcare systems and hospitals.

Additionally, I introduced legislation to crack down on junk fees that would drain family budgets, and I have worked in a bipartisan manner to lower costs and improve clean water infrastructure in communities that need it the most.

I have stood up for homebuyers, pushing back against corporate prac-

tices that drive up housing prices and shut families out of the market.

Instead of staying focused on lowering costs, House Republicans have spent too much time protecting tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires, blocking reforms that would help families, and threatening government shutdowns that only add to more chaos. I would also mention the no tax on overtime that they have so happily touted doesn't really help so many people in organized labor. We do have a bipartisan fix for that, but we haven't been able to get to it because making sure people have more money in their pockets is simply not a priority for House Republicans.

Finally, the third issue people raised with me is they wanted to fight government corruption. People are tired of feeling like the rules are different for those at the top. They want accountability that actually means something. They want ethics laws to apply to everyone, no matter their title or their party. They are seeing that this corruption is raising their costs and making it more expensive. They see the connection between the two.

That is why I have helped lead a package of reforms with a new generation of lawmakers to close loopholes, strengthen ethics rules, and bring some common sense and some integrity back to Washington, D.C.

Public service should be just that: serving the public, not helping yourself. When you look at these survey results, Mr. Speaker, the contrast is hard to miss. My constituents are asking us to protect their earned benefits while the leadership, Mr. Speaker, is keeping them at risk.

They are asking us to lower costs while House Republicans and this President get distracted by the wrong fights. They are asking us to clean up corruption while Republicans enable this President to treat accountability as optional while he is getting richer and everyone else is getting poorer.

That is not what the people sent us here to do, and it is certainly not what my constituents sent me here to do.

Mr. Speaker, listening to your constituents should not be controversial. It is our job. I will keep fighting for what the people of Ohio's 13th Congressional District made clear when they sent me here because this Congress does not belong to party leaders or special interests. It belongs to the people.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF LARRY BATTERTON

(Mr. BAUMGARTNER of Washington was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor another of the bright lights of eastern Washington, but I also rise with sadness as I honor the life of Larry Batterton, a devoted husband, father, and community leader from eastern Washington who passed away on January 16 of this year.

Larry dedicated his life to service—first to his country as an Air Force dependent, and later to his community in Spokane and Stevens Counties. He was active in We Believe, We Vote and active in civics, community, and government in Stevens County. In these roles he led with faith, kindness, and conviction, always working to strengthen trust in our elections and unity in our civic life.

Larry and his wife, Susan, shared 54 years of marriage and built a wonderful family of four children and many grandchildren.

His faith guided everything he did, and Larry's steady leadership left a lasting mark on eastern Washington.

We give thanks for the life of Larry Batterton, his love of family, his enduring service to his community, and our State. When our Founders created this wonderful Republic that we live in, they thought of its foundation of good people like Larry Batterton. He will be deeply missed.

#### IN OPPOSITION TO WASHINGTON STATE'S PROPOSED MILLIONAIRE'S TAX

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the tax proposal in Washington State of Governor Bob Ferguson and his so-called millionaire's tax.

Mr. Speaker, I hear frequently from folks back home that they are very pleased with the work of this Washington and what Republican leadership has done to give our country the largest tax reduction in history. They tell me how much they enjoy and look forward to no taxes on tips, no taxes on overtime, a tax deduction on interest for loans for American-made cars, and new tax credits for education.

All the work we have done here in Washington, this Washington, reduces the cost of living for Americans, but I hear very frequently, as well, while this is going on, in the other Washington, my home of Washington State, that the Democrat leadership there is increasing taxes.

It is time for a reality check about budgets.

In Washington State, the legislative session has just begun, and the Governor has proposed a new income tax that would push Seattle's top earners into one of the highest tax brackets of anywhere in the country. There would be higher taxes in Washington State than even deep blue States like New York and California.

It doesn't stop there.

Other taxes are being considered, too, such as higher payroll taxes and higher business taxes for starters. It is sad. Just 3 years ago, Washington State had a \$14 billion surplus, and instead of saving for a rainy day, the Democrats in Olympia spent recklessly.

State revenues went up by 25 percent, billions of extra dollars, but it was all spent, all to wind up \$12 billion in the red today. That is after last year when the Democrats gave our State the largest tax increase in history, and now they want even more taxes.