

sacrifice and lost their lives in the line of duty. We honor their memory, and we stand with the families they left behind whose own sacrifices are immeasurable. Their loved ones answered the call to serve, and we owe them a debt that can never fully be paid.

We also recognize the law enforcement officers who continue to serve with courage and dedication, knowing each day that their calling is the safety and protection of others. In the Sixth District and across the Commonwealth, our officers exemplify that spirit of service.

This is a time of reflection, unity, and gratitude as we honor the resilience, commitment, and steadfast dedication of those who wear the badge.

RECOGNIZING PAM SIMMONS' RETIREMENT

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Pam Simmons for her well-deserved retirement as director of the Rockingham-Harrisonburg Alcohol Safety Action Program, or ASAP, where she served for 38 years.

ASAP works to reduce alcohol-related accidents and fatalities through education and prevention. During her tenure, she strengthened partnerships with law enforcement, providing training and donating equipment, such as Alco-Sensors, funded entirely through ASAP fees, not through taxpayer dollars.

She also worked with local colleges, serving on the board of JMU's community coalition and established ASAP as a field placement site for psychology and health science students, helping prepare the next generation of professionals.

Pam is also proud to have served as president of the Virginia ASAP Directors' Association.

Beyond her official duties, she volunteered on the board and is president of Harrisonburg's First Night, a well-loved, family-centered, and alcohol-free New Year's Eve celebration.

Mr. Speaker, Pam Simmons is an unsung hero whose career was devoted to making our communities safer, and her services undoubtedly saved lives and strengthened the Shenandoah Valley. I thank her and wish her the very best in her next chapter of life.

RECOGNIZING MOUNT JACKSON'S BICENTENNIAL

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the continued celebration of the town of Mount Jackson's bicentennial, as this historic Shenandoah Valley community marks 200 years since its incorporation in 1826. This milestone is not just about celebrating the passage of time, but the incredible story of a town that transformed and refuses to stand still.

Mount Jackson is a master class in how to honor the past while building for the future. The historic 1939 Triplett School has been beautifully reimagined as the Shenandoah County Community Center, now a vibrant 30,000-square-foot hub for residents.

The Nelson Theater, a beacon of Main Street culture, is poised for its own massive renovation that will once

again make it a centerpiece of community life.

Mayor Donnie Pifer highlights that the town's forward momentum is powered by its people and businesses: Holtzman Oil and Propane, Route 11 Potato Chips, and Bowman Andros Products, each contributing to the local economy and carrying Mount Jackson's name across the globe.

As town manager Olivia Hilton put it, they are the authors of the next 200 years, and it is time to make them historic. Let us all recognize the town of Mount Jackson as a shining example of Virginia's spirit—a town that honors its heritage and investments in its future.

THE SILENT AND THE SINGERS WILL BE HEARD

(Mr. CASTEN of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, what should we say to angry men in robes?

What are we going to say to men in robes who are angry about the outcome of the Civil War?

What are we going to say to men in robes who are angry about Reconstruction-era amendments to our Constitution that said that anyone born in America can't have their voice or their vote suppressed, regardless of their race?

What are we going to say to men in robes who are angry that Congress finally enshrined those protections into law through the 1964 and 1965 Civil Rights Acts?

What are we going to say to men in robes who are angry that those laws gave voices to people whose voices had been suppressed since 1619?

What are we going to say to those angry men if they believe that their robes, and their robes alone, are going to scare us into silence; that it will let them force their racist and unconstitutional wills on us?

Chief Justice Roberts has said that we now live in a color-blind society, to which I would ask you all: Does your answer to those questions depend on whether that robe is white or black?

Make absolutely no mistake, the agenda of this Supreme Court and the agenda of the Klan are far too similar.

This court decided in Shelby that Congress couldn't supervise State elections that had a history of discrimination.

They decided in Calais that it is okay to design congressional districts to suppress minority voices.

They will do that all, confident that their robes are going to scare us all into silence.

I ask you again: What are we going to say to all of these angry men in robes?

Because we do have a voice in this body. We have the legislative authority to slash their jurisdiction, to take away their ability to decide what cases to hear.

We have the power to defend this co-equal branch against their encroachments, to defend the Constitution, and to defend every American who yearns for a country that is better than this.

Now, some of you are no doubt going to favor silence. But the best among us in this body right now are going to lift every one of our voices and sing. We are going to sing a song that is full of the faith that all of that dark past has taught us but is rich with the hope that this present has brought us. Make no mistake, every one of us, the singers and the silent, are going to be heard.

HONORING CHIEF RUSSELL ROARK

(Mr. NORMAN of South Carolina was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a true public servant, Chief Russell Roark, whose life has been defined by dedication, by integrity, and by exceptional service to the people of Union County and the entire State of South Carolina.

Chief Roark first began his career in public safety in 1962, over 64 years ago, when he joined the City of Union Fire Department. Just one year later, he joined the Union City Police Department. Through hard work, professionalism, and steady leadership, Chief Roark quickly advanced through the ranks, becoming assistant chief of police in 1975, then chief of police in 1982.

In 1983, he played a pivotal role in the merger of the Union City Police Department and the City of Union Fire Department into a single unified agency, known as the Union Public Safety Department. He became its first director, and under his leadership, the department earned South Carolina law enforcement accreditation, becoming the first law enforcement agency in Union County to achieve such a distinction and honor.

Chief Roark also made lasting improvements to the community fire service division, emphasizing advanced training and the importance of strong fire prevention efforts. Thanks to his leadership, the department earned a class 2 ISO rating, which is the Insurance Services Office, an achievement that enhanced public safety while reducing insurance costs for the residents and businesses all across Union County.

After 40 years of service, Chief Roark retired from the Union County Public Safety Department in 2003, but his commitment to serving others did not end there. He returned just 2 days later to work with the Union County Sheriff's Department, where he served as a patrol deputy and the civil process deputy.

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In 2021, South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster awarded Roark with the Order of the Palmetto, which is the State's highest civilian honor.

Chief Roark officially retired from law enforcement in November of last

year after 63 years of public service. This is an outstanding achievement. His career represents a lifetime devoted to protecting others and strengthening the community he so proudly called home.

His legacy is not confined to the number of years he has served, which is no doubt historic, but it is immortalized in the many lives that he touched, the standard that he continually set, and example that he leaves behind. Chief Roark's dedication, his faith, and his integrity have made a lasting impression on everyone in Union County and will continue to inspire future generations of public servants to follow in his footsteps.

I am proud to recognize Chief Russell Roark and thank him for his lifetime of extraordinary service and commitment to the people of Union County and to the entire State of South Carolina.

GREENHOUSE GAS RESOLUTION

(Ms. RIVAS of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, last September, the Trump administration announced that it would roll back the EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program, or the GHGRP.

I led 29 of my colleagues urging the EPA to preserve the GHGRP. I also introduced a resolution to protect it from the Trump administration's attacks.

Since 2010, the GHGRP has collected and tracked greenhouse gas emissions from more than 8,000 sites, including landfills, power plants, and oil refineries. Federal agencies, State and local governments, businesses, and community-based organizations rely on this data to keep our communities and environment healthy. Rolling back the GHGRP will leave environmental justice communities unprepared to address the harmful environmental health and economic impacts of climate change.

My constituents in the San Fernando Valley have long lived in a sacrifice zone and a dumping ground for environmental pollution. This has led to more generational health problems and increased rates of asthma and other respiratory diseases than in surrounding areas.

The Trump administration is making it harder to keep our communities healthy and safe from pollution. I urge my colleagues to join me in calling for the administration to protect environmental justice communities and halt its rollback of the GHGRP.

NORTH HOLLYWOOD SCIENCE BOWL

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate North Hollywood High School for placing fifth in the National Science Bowl. Led by North Hollywood teacher and coach Altair Maine, Connor Zhao, Connor Chang, Mingao Guo, Suzuko Ohshima, and Charles Huang, this team proudly represented Los An-

geles and the San Fernando Valley in a nationwide competition of 65 high school teams.

In a crowded and competitive field, the team showed their teamwork and exceptional STEM knowledge by answering complex questions about biology, chemistry, earth science, physics, energy, and math.

I congratulate Coach Maine for leading North Hollywood High School to another strong finish. Thank you for encouraging the North Hollywood High School community to become involved and interested in STEM.

North Hollywood High School's series of top finishes in the National Science Bowl is proof that the best science minds can be found in California's 29th Congressional District.

My office was happy to host the team and give them a tour of the U.S. Capitol when they were in Washington, D.C., this month. It is clear that they all have bright futures ahead.

I want to give a special shout-out to the three seniors on the team, Connor Zhao and Connor Chang, best friends since the fourth grade. They will be attending Stanford. Suzuko, who was a gold medalist in the International Biology Olympiad his sophomore year, will be attending MIT in the fall.

The future of this program, the students on the team, and the faculty who support the team is bright.

CONGRATULATING SYLVIA FAJARDO

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, the San Fernando Valley congratulates Sylvia Fajardo on her retirement as principal of Pacoima Charter Elementary School. After decades of service, leadership, and dedication, Sylvia is a true champion in our community.

Sylvia immigrated to the United States at the age of 13 where she quickly learned English and became a proud naturalized citizen. Sylvia believed in giving back to the country that gave her and her family new opportunities. She enlisted in the United States Marine Corps where she served 8 years before receiving an honorable discharge.

But her service to her community did not end there. Sylvia brought the same discipline, care, and determination into the classrooms of Pacoima Charter Elementary School where she uplifted students and their families. Drawing on her background in civil engineering, Sylvia built a comprehensive STEM program at Pacoima Charter, which opened doors for students of all backgrounds to explore their interests in the STEM field.

Sylvia's steady leadership was on full display when Pacoima became the target of Trump's ICE raids. Sylvia was at the forefront, protecting students, supporting families, and ensuring that none of the Pacoima community faced these challenges alone.

This is who she is as a leader and as a member of our community. It was my honor to invite her as my guest to this year's State of the Union Address.

Sylvia understands what it means to dedicate your life to serving our com-

munity and country with honor. We celebrate Sylvia's incredible career and the lasting impact that she has made in our community, and we thank her.

HONORING JOHN BROWNING, JR.

(Mr. FINE of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. FINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. John Browning, Jr., a distinguished member of the Putnam County community who shows that leadership and civic duty are a full-time job.

During his time in the United States Army, Mr. Browning learned unique skills, such as teamwork and leadership, that has led to his business success.

After earning his associate's degree at St. Johns River State College and bachelor's degree at Florida State University, Mr. Browning began running multiple businesses in Florida, including his family's ranch and the oldest restaurant in Florida, Angel's Dining Car.

He was then appointed by former President George H.W. Bush to the National Council on Surface Transportation and the White House Advance Team.

Later, Mr. Browning became the senior vice president of political affairs for the Goodman Company, headquartered in West Palm Beach. His work aims to support real estate investments that center around commerce and energy grid initiatives.

John Browning, Jr., served Florida with humility, attentiveness, and an understanding of the Florida community, and I have enjoyed working with him since I first got elected to the Florida legislature in 2016. He embodies the very best of American citizenship, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his remarkable contributions.

WE THANK OUR FIREFIGHTERS

Mr. FINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bravery and resilience of Putnam County's firefighters and first responders and the county's tremendous leadership on combating one of the county's worst wildfires in recent years.

I also thank St. Lucie County Fire District for sending their firefighters all the way up to Putnam to help extinguish our fires.

These railroad fires, which started with a spark from a passing train, have been raging for weeks now, destroying roughly 4,700 acres of land. The devastation has strained resources and forced hundreds to evacuate from their homes.

Thanks to the leadership of Putnam County's government and the tremendous hard work of our firefighters and emergency responders, the fire is now 95 percent contained as of today.

We can never ignore the dedication of our emergency responders and the sacrifice they make to our communities. It ensures our neighbors are safe and