

students, teachers, and industrial and retail employees.

Sheriff Rotter's hard work, leadership, and commitment to protecting others have earned him this amazing opportunity to continue serving our State and Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Sheriff Rotter and thank him for his dedicated service to Iowa County and Iowa.

FIGHTING FOR THE AMERICAN DREAM

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the Iowa families who have been priced out of the American Dream.

Across this country, the average first-time home buyer is now 40 years old, an all-time high. In contrast, I purchased my first home as a young captain in the Army at age 22.

Our Nation is short as many as 5.5 million homes. The share of first-time home buyers has fallen by one-half since 2007.

Iowa families feel this every single day. Young couples work hard, save diligently, and still cannot afford a home in the communities they grew up in. Rental prices have increased, as well.

The 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act changes that. It cuts the red tape strangling home construction, so we build more homes and lower costs for buyers and renters alike. It stops big Wall Street firms from buying up single-family homes because Iowa homes belong to Iowa families, not hedge funds. This is the most significant housing reform in a generation, and it is now law.

To every Iowan chasing their first home, help is on the way. The American Dream is worth fighting for, and I will never stop fighting for my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend a birthday greeting to the oldest of seven siblings, Richard Miller.

Happy birthday, Richard.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend birthday greetings to the youngest of my seven siblings, MariEleanor Martino.

Happy birthday, MariEleanor.

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SHOOTING OF LORENZO SALGADO ARAUJO

(Mr. GOMEZ of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, 13 months ago, when Trump's immigration raids began in my district, I warned exactly where this was headed. I warned that if ICE agents were allowed to operate without accountability, the violence would escalate. I warned that people would die.

I didn't want to be right, but here we are. This isn't normal. This isn't law enforcement. This is lawlessness: no due process and no Miranda rights.

Instead, some in Trump's ICE are acting as judge, jury, and executioner.

This is what happens when people who wear the badge are told that rules

don't apply to them. Over the last year, we witnessed ICE become more violent, more reckless, and more deadly. We witnessed masked agents jump out of unmarked vehicles. We witnessed people tackled, beaten, and shot. We have even seen children used as bait to detain their parents.

What has this administration done? What have congressional Republicans done? Not a darn thing: no accountability, no transparency, and no consequences.

Last week, Lorenzo Salgado Araujo left work and never came home. His son, Ronaldo, said something every Member of this Chamber should hear: "He did not deserve to die. He did not deserve to be reduced to a headline of 'Mexican man shot and killed by ICE.' He deserved to live a quiet life as Lorenzo Salgado Araujo, a husband, a father, and a job creator."

Then, yesterday, a little girl in Maine watched her father's lifeless body being carried away by ICE.

Think about that, Mr. Speaker: two fathers and two families are shattered.

In both cases, ICE wasn't even targeting the men who died. ICE claims these men used their vehicles as weapons, but local news video tells a different story. It shows unmarked vehicles following them. It shows what happens before the shootings. It shows that ICE wasn't wearing body cameras, despite its own policies.

This administration is asking Americans not to believe our own eyes over and over again. That is not acceptable.

What is even more unacceptable is that my Republican colleagues have watched this happen and responded by giving ICE billions more dollars.

How many more families have to bury a loved one before Republicans admit that something is deeply wrong? The truth is they know it is wrong. They are just too afraid to say it. They are too afraid of Donald Trump and too afraid of political consequences.

I know, and they know, where this leads. When these raids began in Los Angeles, I flew immediately back from Washington to conduct oversight and protect my communities. When the Trump administration tried to block me from inspecting ICE detention centers, I sued them and won.

I have trained legal observers to document ICE abuses, organized town-halls, and introduced legislation to reclaim Trump's \$175 billion ICE slush fund and put it into housing.

Every Representative here has a choice. They can keep writing blank checks for fear and abuse, or they can join us in saying enough—enough lawlessness, enough brutality, and enough deaths. We warned this country what would happen. We warned that, without accountability, violence would escalate. We warned that people would die.

Now, hear this warning: If you committed a crime, if you violated the Constitution, if you thought your badge put you above the law, you are

wrong. We are watching. The American people are watching. History is watching. No matter who you are or the title you hold, you will be prosecuted.

Accountability is coming.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their comments to the Chair.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PEARLINE COMPTON

(Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a very special and very amazing person, a Bucks County resident, Pearlline Compton, whose 94 years were defined by faith, family, hard work, and a remarkable commitment to serving others.

Born in Kelly, Louisiana, Pearlline grew up with the values of humility, perseverance, and deep devotion to those whom she loved. As a young woman, she moved to Pennsylvania, carrying those values with her and planting new roots in her own community.

Though she began her life in the South, she became a proud Pennsylvanian, building strong and unbreakable ties to her new adopted home.

Pearline worked for more than 33 years as a skilled press operator for Falls Manufacturing in Fairless Hills in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, never missing a day of work. However, Pearlline's greatest legacy was not only in what she did at work. It was how she loved and cared for her family.

In 1986, after the passing of her beloved niece, Eula Mae Hamilton, Pearlline opened her heart and her home to Eula's daughters, Chrissandra and Valerie. She raised them as her own, believing that family is not defined solely by blood, but rather by love, compassion, and commitment. Through her quiet strength and steady presence, she gave those girls the foundation they needed to learn, to grow, and to thrive. That is what they did.

Even in her retirement, Pearlline did not stop serving others. She continued to pour into her community through Children of God Educational Services in historic Bristol Borough in Bucks County. There, she shared her wisdom and her kindness with children and with families, offering support and a powerful example of what it means to live a life rooted in service. Whether through a kind word, a listening ear, or a simple act of generosity, Pearlline made sure that people felt seen, valued, and cared for.

Pearline inspired so many people and supported countless organizations throughout her life, without fanfare and without recognition. She did not seek the spotlight. She simply did what needed to be done day after day, year after year. That quiet, consistent faithfulness is one of the highest forms of public service, and it speaks to her character.

Mr. Speaker, while Pearline began her journey in Louisiana, she became an irreplaceable part of the fabric of Lower Bucks County. Her story is the story of so many who came to Pennsylvania seeking opportunities and helped build stronger, more caring communities for all of us.

Today, we honor Pearline Compton's life and legacy, her legacy of love, her resilience, and her service. She reminds us that one person's kindness, lived out over a lifetime, can transform not only a family, but can transform generations, especially that of our young people.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's First Congressional District, Mr. Speaker, we extend our deepest gratitude for her example and our heartfelt sympathies to all whom she loved and all who loved her so dearly.

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HONORING BEATRICE LUMPKIN

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and work of Beatrice "Bea" Lumpkin, a union organizer, workers' rights activist, academic, and writer who passed away on June 14 at the age of 107 years.

Bea was a fierce defender of working-class people and an active fighter for civil rights. She was called by some the rock of the labor movement, because she grounded us and taught us how to stay committed to the search for justice and equity for those without power.

Bea marched along with Dr. Martin Luther King in Chicago and was an ally of the Black Panther Party. She was present at every key moment of our labor and civil rights movement for nearly 90 years, up to the recent No Kings marches.

Her engagement with the movement began with a factory job when she was 14 years old. She helped organize the Metal and Machinery Workers Industrial Union, a part of the newly formed Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Her persistence and determination were best exemplified when Wisconsin Steel, the plant her husband, Frank, worked at, abruptly closed and 3,400 workers lost their jobs. For 17 years, the Lumpkins led a successful fight for those workers to receive back pay.

As recently as 2024, Bea was focused on intergenerational work with youth activists and joined the Starbucks workers as they began organizing.

As a retiree, she expanded her activism on issues such as climate justice, the rights of retired workers, and consumer protection against overcharges from utility companies.

Mr. Speaker, Bea believed our job is to make the world a better place. She found joy in the work she did and inspired others, including me, to con-

tinue fighting. The labor movement has lost a giant.

Rest in power, Bea Lumpkin.

HONORING ANTONIO "TONY" ORTIZ

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Antonio "Tony" Ortiz, who recently concluded 26 years of dedicated service at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School, including 16 years as president.

For 30 years, Cristo Rey has transformed lives by providing a Catholic college preparatory education, integrated with professional work experience.

Today, the school serves students who are 100 percent bilingual, 90 percent first generation, with a median family income of \$43,000. Cristo Rey has nearly 3,000 alumni, 15 of whom now work at the school. Tony's greatest accomplishment is the culture he built that proudly reflects the strength of my district. The vast majority of students, alumni, faculty, and staff live and maintain deep ties to the Fourth District of Illinois, making the school a strong pillar of the surrounding community.

Under Tony Ortiz's leadership, Cristo Rey Jesuit has become a model of educational excellence nationwide, and his vision has helped the school grow into a national network of more than 40 schools, serving over 13,000 students across the country each day.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Tony Ortiz for his remarkable service and wish him all the best in the years ahead. He has left a lasting legacy in our community.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOTHOUSE

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the HotHouse Center for International Performance and Exhibition, popularly known in Chicago as the HotHouse.

The HotHouse is known for its programming of jazz and world music concerts, multi-disciplinary events, and focus on creating opportunities for artistic practices and performances.

HotHouse has taken the arts into underserved communities, fostering the international exchange of ideas, and serving as a central meeting place for a variety of community groups.

While their physical location at Balbo Avenue closed in July of 2007, the current board continues organizing and programming around Chicagoland.

Over the years, HotHouse has been awarded with many of the top honors in the arts and culture industry, including Best of Chicago, Chicagoan of the Year, and The Abbey, all reflecting its lasting impact in our region.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the HotHouse on this incredible milestone, and I wish the organization many more years of success.

HONORING CLARA MARTIN

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Clara Martin, a beloved educator, broadcaster, and community leader who passed away June 21 at the age of 94.

A graduate of the University of Georgia, Ms. Martin spent 14 years on the faculty at Brenau University, where she launched the school's journalism program and its first radio station.

She went on to own and operate two radio stations in Clarkesville, lead adult education programs at Piedmont College, and later returned to Brenau to direct its journalism and broadcasting programs until her retirement in 2006.

Clara also served as the U.S. Census Bureau administrator and correspondent for several Georgia newspapers. Her decades of work shaped generations of Georgia journalists and broadcasters.

She is survived by three daughters, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, Georgia is grateful for Clara's remarkable legacy of service and education.

RECOGNIZING FRED GRETSCH ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fred Gretsch, a resident of Pooler, Georgia, and to wish him a happy 80th birthday.

Fred is the fourth generation of his family to lead Gretsch, the storied musical instrument manufacturer founded in Brooklyn in 1883 by his great-grandfather, Friedrich Gretsch, a German immigrant.

In 1984, Fred and his wife, Dinah, bought the company back into family hands and built it into the world-renowned name it is today, known for that great Gretsch sound.

Gretsch instruments have shaped American music played by George Harrison, Elvis Presley, Chet Atkins, and Charlie Watts, among many others.

Since bringing the company home to Georgia's First District, Fred and Dinah have generously supported music education, including establishing the Fred and Dinah Gretsch School of Music at Georgia Southern University.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Georgia's First District, I congratulate Fred Gretsch on 80 remarkable years and thank him for his contributions to American music, craftsmanship, and philanthropy.

CELEBRATING MARKET ON THE SQUARE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true hometown treasure in Georgia's First Congressional District, Market on the Square in historic downtown St. Marys, as it celebrates 25 years of serving our community.

Since opening its doors in 2002, after the restoration of the historic Hernandez grocery store building, this family-owned business has become much more than a general store.