

As a result, acreage that would normally be privately owned and generating tax revenue to help fund local services is instead locked away by the Federal Government.

In 1908, President Teddy Roosevelt signed legislation ensuring that impacted communities will receive 25 percent of the receipts for timber harvests occurring on Forest Service lands. Because Montana has some of the most abundant forests, this commitment to robust timber harvesting also helped to provide jobs for thousands of families in my home State.

Sadly, timber harvests have plummeted by 90 percent in many areas due to out-of-balance Federal policies. Montana was previously home to 30 mills. It is now home to just seven. This means far fewer jobs for Montanans.

The Secure Rural Schools program has provided short-term relief, but revitalizing our timber industry is the only permanent solution to the problem President Roosevelt recognized 100 years ago. This is my number one priority as a member of the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands. I look forward to championing this issue.

CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS RUN L.A. PROGRAM

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I just want to literally take a minute to congratulate all of the runners and the families and the supporters of the Los Angeles Marathon. But the unique and beautiful thing about the Los Angeles Marathon is that close to 3,000 young people on this past Sunday finished 26.2 miles—26.2 miles. In preparing to do that, millions of miles were walked and run by the children of Los Angeles.

I'd just like to say thank you to the Students Run L.A. program because they literally got my daughter off the couch last October. And Alina Cárdenas ran her first marathon, and never before had she run a marathon or been a runner; so did her little cousin, Kyle Herrera, as well.

So I just want to congratulate and thank all of those young leaders for doing a wonderful job and all of those men and women who helped them get there.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF ANDY ATHENS

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a great American and a dear friend, Mr. Andy Athens, who passed away last week at the age of 91.

Since coming to Congress, Andy's counsel and wisdom have been invaluable to me in my role as cochair of the

Hellenic Caucus. His presence will be greatly missed by my colleagues and me on Capitol Hill.

Andy was a veteran of World War II, the chairman of Metron Steel, the first and longest tenured president of the World Council of Hellenes Abroad, and the founder of Orthodox Christian Charities.

Andy's contributions to the Greek Orthodox Church must also not be overlooked. He was a tireless advocate for the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and his devotion was an inspiration for all of us in the Orthodox Church. He was truly an example of how Christ instructed us to live.

Mr. Speaker, the Hellenic and Orthodox communities have lost an unparalleled leader, but we can rest assured his dedication and love for America, Greece, Cyprus, and the Orthodox Church will continue in the many lives he touched. May his memory be eternal.

CELEBRATING THE HONORABLE LORETTA L. WOOTTEN

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

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the many life achievements of the Honorable Loretta L. Wootten, one of Delaware's most devoted public servants. This March as we celebrate the remarkable contributions women have made throughout our Nation's history, I'm proud to recognize Loretta, someone who has broken ground for women in Delaware.

Loretta emerged as a strong leader early in her political career by helping Delaware's own JOE BIDEN win his first bid for the United States Senate in 1972. Since then, she has been a trusted adviser for many Delaware leaders.

In 1986, Loretta became the first woman elected as Register in Chancery in Delaware, a position which she held for four consecutive terms. After retiring in 2000, she once again answered the call of her community by serving as Kent County Clerk of the Peace, which she continues to this day.

In addition to her numerous professional accomplishments, Loretta is a devoted wife to her husband of 51 years and a loving mother and grandmother. She is someone who has earned the respect of everyone in our community and helped make Delaware a better place for future generations. It's a privilege for me to call her a friend and work with her.

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BALANCING THE BUDGET

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, the American people saw today that their House

of Representatives is serious in dealing with our crushing debt and deficit.

We took some big steps toward that today. Just minutes ago, we passed a budget that balances within 10 years and yesterday rejected plans that were offered that would never balance a budget. Just minutes ago, we approved a spending plan for the rest of the year that puts us on a path toward balancing that budget.

Mr. Speaker, American families for the past few years had to tighten their belts. Since the beginning of the year, they had to tighten their belts an extra 2 percent with that payroll tax increase in January, and it's about time we did the same belt-tightening in Washington. That's what we did today.

IN RECOGNITION OF ERIN DIMEGLIO

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

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago, Erin DiMeglio was a freshman at South Plantation High School. She was a manager, a water girl, and a trainer's assistant for the varsity football team.

Last spring, Erin was invited off season to work out and earned a spot on the varsity football team. Then something historic happened. Erin's number was called, and she became the first girl in Florida to ever play quarterback in a regular-season varsity high school game.

She's been featured on TV and radio shows all over the country, but that's not all. Erin, who was a senior in high school, received the Florida Achievement Award from the National Commission on the Status of Women, a designation meant to empower and recognize women statewide for their achievements.

Erin is breaking barriers and inspiring girls and a new generation of trailblazing women. She said that she's trying to prove that girls can do anything that guys can do. She's right. If you want to do something, go and chase your dream, follow your passion and work hard.

On this Women's History Month, I want to recognize Erin and the strides that women have made.

END GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, recently the government came out with a 106-page regulatory and safety reform plan for ceiling fans. I did not know ceiling fans were such a hazard to America's health, but apparently they are.

So what's going to happen? That \$40 ceiling fan that you've been buying and putting on your back porch will now go to \$400 because we have to keep these