

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, from city halls to the Halls of Congress, there is universal agreement that our national infrastructure, once the envy of the world, is eroding around us. It is eroding from simple political inattention and inaction.

We must stop short-term fixes for our long-term infrastructure. We must develop a sustainable funding solution to repair, to restore, and to upgrade our infrastructure.

The remaining question is: How do we solve it here and now? Are we going to do a responsible, long-term funding solution or are we just going to kick the can down the road? Are we going to wait for more bridges to collapse, for trains to derail, and more roads to fall into gridlock?

Mr. Speaker, we must come together to solve this problem. The safety of every American, the efficiency of every business, and the momentum of our national economy depend on us and are at risk.

HONORING FIRE CHIEF BILL MUND OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA

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

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Chief Bill Mund, who retires this week after more than a decade as fire chief of the City of St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Chief Mund is a St. Cloud boy through and through. He not only grew up in the Granite City, but after graduating from Apollo High School in 1977 and serving in the United States Navy, he returned to his hometown. He has dedicated his career to his hometown community, joining the St. Cloud Fire Department 32 years ago.

Before becoming St. Cloud's fire chief, he was the assistant chief to his predecessor, Mike Holman. Now as chief, he has overseen five fire stations and 63 firefighters that respond to approximately 4,000 incidents each year.

Thank you for all you have done for the St. Cloud community, Chief Mund. Enjoy your retirement. You deserve it.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING SIX HEROIC UNITED STATES MARINES

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

Mr. ASHFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember six heroic United States marines who died last week serving our country during a humanitarian lifesaving mission halfway around the world. They were killed in a tragic helicopter crash in Nepal as they delivered badly needed supplies to that nation's suffering earthquake victims.

Among the six are two men with close ties to Nebraska. One of the heli-

copter's decorated pilots, 29-year-old Captain Dustin Lukaszewicz, grew up in Wilcox, Nebraska. Prior to serving in Nepal, he was deployed in Afghanistan. Captain Lukaszewicz leaves behind his wife, Ashley, and one daughter. Ashley is also pregnant and due to deliver next month.

Twenty-two-year-old Lance Corporal Jacob Hug, a decorated combat videographer from Arizona, leaves behind several family members and close friends who live in Omaha and neighboring Council Bluffs, Iowa. Corporal Hug was capturing images of the Marine Corps' relief efforts in Nepal. Prior to deploying to Nepal, Corporal Hug filmed and photographed marines from South Korea, Thailand, Australia, Japan, Guam, and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in keeping these brave, selfless individuals and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL R. MARTIN UMBARGER OF THE INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD

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

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Hoosier, a true patriot, and my friend, Major General R. Martin Umbarger of the Indiana National Guard. He is retiring at the end of this month.

General Umbarger started his career in public service as an enlisted soldier in the Indiana Army National Guard in 1969. Over the next three decades, Marty rose through the ranks and stood out as a remarkable leader. In 2004, then-Governor Mitch Daniels appointed him Adjutant General of the State of Indiana, where he served as the highest ranking military officer in our great State's National Guard for more than 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, General Umbarger is a true Hoosier hero. His shoes will be big ones to fill.

Best of luck in your retirement, sir, and thank you for your incredible service to our State and our Nation.

DEFERRED ACTION FOR PARENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY APPLICATIONS

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, today the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement was supposed to begin accepting Deferred Action for Parental Accountability, or DAPA, applications. It was to be a day of hope, not disappointment, for millions of families across the country. But because of a politically motivated decision by a Texas judge, implementation has been halted. Now 17,000 hard-working men and women in Clark County, Nevada, must wait for relief in fear of being torn from their families.

Mr. Speaker, Nevada is the State with the largest share of undocumented immigrants in its total population—210,000 people, or 7.6 percent, and that is equal to 10.2 percent of our workforce. They are our colleagues, our neighbors, our classmates, and our friends, and they play a vital role in the success of our community.

Congress needs to pass comprehensive immigration reform so families across the country and in Nevada can come out of the shadows, legally work, go to school, and contribute to the only community they call home.

THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I realize, like my friends across the aisle, that we find ourselves in a crisis situation of our own making. The Federal highway trust fund is set to run out of money, and with our current infrastructure needs, the fund's moneys are simply not enough. But instead of addressing the issue during the last several Congresses, short-term fixes have been passed, and Congress has kicked the can down the road. We need more than rhetoric on the importance of infrastructure. We need solutions.

Mr. Speaker, on Thursday I will introduce the Prioritizing American Roads and Jobs Act. This bill will roll back 100 percent Medicaid expansion reimbursement rates to be equal to traditional Medicaid rates, with the savings transferring to the highway trust fund. This bill will add \$15 billion a year to the trust fund and put it back on the path to financial stability for the long term, while freeing up \$150 billion for deficit reduction over the next 10 years.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of continuing investments in early childhood education.

Yesterday marked the 50th anniversary launch of Head Start. Head Start programs give students an opportunity to start out strong and help to close the achievement gap that plagues many low-income communities.

As a mother, grandmother, and retired educator, I recognize that early education provides students with the resources they need in the most critical learning years. More than 27 percent of the people in my district live below the poverty line. Students in low-income families have obvious disadvantages that are exacerbated when they arrive in kindergarten less prepared than their peers.

More than 3,000 children in my district benefit from Head Start programs. These programs give many children the jump-start and the confidence