

Growing up through McHenry public schools, home schooling, and then Christian Liberty Academy, Weiss met his wife, Beth, through the youth program, Awana.

Weiss leaves behind a wife and two children, Lucas and Susan, and extended family and friends. They remember him as brave from a young age, a shoulder to lean on in difficult times, and a caring, loving brother, husband, and father.

The family Christmas celebration will be muted this year, but we are forever grateful for Mose's service and sacrifice.

COACHELLA MOSQUE FIRE

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, on December 11, 2015, the Islamic Society of Coachella Valley mosque was firebombed, with four people praying inside, 9 days after the San Bernardino terrorist mass shooting. The perpetrator is being charged for a hate crime.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly condemn violence toward innocent people, whether they are victims of terrorism or victims of hate crimes, whether they are randomly chosen or targeted for being Muslim. I strongly condemn the hate speech from politicians who capitalize on the fear of the fearful and the hate of the hateful for political gain.

As Americans, we believe in justice, the rule of law, and freedom of religion. Destroying terrorists and protecting law-abiding Muslim Americans are not mutually exclusive, and we must do both because we believe in justice, sentencing the guilty, and protecting the innocent.

That is why I stand with my local priests, pastors, rabbis, imams, and law enforcement to denounce the violence, pursue justice, and strengthen our humanity.

MEALS ON WHEELS

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

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise during this Christmas season to speak about a public-private partnership that creates real impact in the communities I represent: Meals on Wheels.

Today, a national army of 2 million volunteers is preparing and delivering about 1 million meals to America's most vulnerable, hungry, and isolated seniors.

I am very proud of the Third District of South Carolina for many reasons, but I am especially proud of programs like Pickens County Meals on Wheels in Liberty, South Carolina. This is just one of thousands of Meals on Wheels programs across the country that provides more than just meals. Meals on

Wheels provides nutritious meals, safety checks, and friendly visits on a daily basis, which allow seniors to age in their own homes with the independence and dignity that they deserve.

The precious and powerful combination of nutrition and socialization has proven to improve health, reduce falls, avert unnecessary visits to the ER, and reduce hospital admissions and readmissions. This, in turn, saves billions of dollars in Medicaid and Medicare expenses. In fact, a Meals on Wheels program can provide a senior with meals for an entire year for less than the cost of 1 day in the hospital or a week in the nursing home.

I call on my colleagues to learn more about these vital programs, the seniors they serve, and the grave and growing and expensive problem of senior hunger, a problem that will undoubtedly worsen if left unaddressed.

Merry Christmas, America.

AMERICAN OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT

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

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the fact that the American opportunity tax credit is going to become a permanent law as part of the tax extenders package. I introduced, as the prime sponsor, this legislation many years ago as part of the economic recovery efforts.

It has provided well over \$20 billion to millions of families, a \$2,500 tax credit in which 40 percent is refundable. Over the next 10 years, the Congressional Research Service suggests that well over \$60 billion will be provided to families to help meet higher education costs.

So I want to just take a minute to pause and reflect on the fact that the work that we do here can, in fact, impact many, many lives. I want to thank my colleagues for their initial support of this program and for, today, our efforts that will be successful to make it permanent, along with the earned income tax credit and a number of other very important tax credits for American families.

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HONORING VALOR CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL'S VARSITY GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the girls varsity softball team at Valor Christian High School in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, on winning the 2015 Colorado 4A State championship game on October 25, 2015.

The students and staff who are part of the winning Eagles team deserve to

be honored for finishing what had already been a fantastic season by winning the State championship for the second time in 2 years.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the season, the girls of Valor Christian High School's softball team proved that hard work, dedication, and perseverance are the recipe for champions. The team was led to the championship title through the tireless leadership of their head coach, Dave Atencio, and his staff.

It is with great pride that I join with the families of Highlands Ranch, Colorado, in congratulating the Valor Christian Eagles on their second straight championship.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2029, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016; PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 19, 2015, THROUGH JANUARY 4, 2016; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 566 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 566

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2029) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with each of the two amendments specified in section 3 of this resolution. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except as specified in section 2 of this resolution. Clause 5(b) of rule XXI shall not apply to the motion.

SEC. 2. (a) The question of adoption of the motion shall be divided between the two House amendments specified in section 3 of this resolution. The two portions of the divided question shall be considered in the order specified by the Chair. Either portion of the divided question may be subject to postponement as though under clause 8 of rule XX.

(b) The portion of the divided question comprising the amendment specified in section 3(a) of this resolution shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The portion of the divided question comprising the amendment specified in section 3(b) of this resolution shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

SEC. 3. The amendments referred to in the first and second sections of this resolution are as follows: