

with no immigrants in them. Consistent with that data, the Congressional Budget Office determined that the Democrats' Dream Act that gives amnesty to illegal aliens and that Democrats recently shut down the government over costs Federal taxpayers \$26 billion. And that \$26 billion net tax loss to Federal taxpayers does not include even larger State and local tax losses.

By any measure, any amnesty, including amnesty for DACA illegal aliens, makes the illegal alien problem worse and, over the long haul, costs American taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars America does not have, has to borrow to get, and cannot afford to pay back. Of course, the leftist mainstream media rarely shares these facts with Americans because it undermines their fake news narrative that Dreamer amnesty pays for itself.

Mr. Speaker, the executive branch must do its job. The executive branch must catch and evict illegal aliens. It is that simple. Further, the executive branch must enforce section 212 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which states that no person may seek admission to the United States or become a permanent resident if the individual, "at the time of application for admission or adjustment of status, is likely at any time to become a public charge."

If the executive branch will simply enforce America's immigration laws, there will be no illegal alien problem and taxpayers will, over the long haul, save hundreds of billions of dollars that could be better spent on debt reduction or American citizens. Unfortunately, instead of insisting that the executive branch enforce the law, Washington's "Surrender Caucus" wants to give up and grant amnesty to illegal aliens, thereby, again, naively rewarding illegal conduct at great cost to American taxpayers.

In so doing, Washington's "Surrender Caucus" betrays American families and taxpayers who must foot the bill for yet another bad mistake by Washington that is motivated by election-year politics, not America's best interests.

DEFENDING FREEDOM OF SPEECH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EMMER). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am always honored to stand in the well of the House.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise as a liberated Democrat, a liberated Democrat who will not only speak truth to power but who will also speak truth about power.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to defend freedom of speech. I rise to defend the freedom of speech of The Hill newspaper. I defend the freedom of speech of The Hill newspaper when it printed these words: "'Morning Joe' host"—I

won't mention his name—"said on Sunday that the Democratic Party should take away funding from Democratic candidates who talk about impeaching President Trump on the campaign trail."

I am such a candidate. I have talked about impeaching the President, and I will continue to talk about impeaching the President.

I am defending The Hill for printing this, by the way. The Hill goes on to say: "Any Democrat mentioning the word 'impeachment' on the campaign trail should have their campaign funds pulled by the Democratic Party."

This is what was tweeted by the host of "Morning Joe":

"I defend The Hill's right to print it, and I defend the right of 'Morning Joe' host to say what he said, and I hope people will defend and respect my right to say what I'm about to say.

"I will not be intimidated. I want the host to know that, if those who have threatened my life couldn't intimidate me, he will not. I want the host to know that I spoke about impeachment just this weekend that passed."

And I am looking to future engagements to speak about impeachment. And I will bring Articles of Impeachment to the floor of the House of Representatives again if conditions require it. I am not afraid. I have no fear of these people who would have me abrogate my constitutional rights. I will stand and defend them, and I will exercise my rights.

The truth is this: We all have a duty to speak up and speak out and stand up. That is what I will do.

God bless you. Happy Valentine's Day.

RECOGNIZING BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF BUCKS COUNTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bucks County, which has served tens of thousands of kids in our community since its founding in 1963.

The Bucks County chapter is unique. Since 2015, they have piloted an expansion of their mentorship program, which pairs elementary schools with high school mentors to include children with autism spectrum disorder. This tailored program caters to the students' unique needs, providing these children with two specially trained high school mentors rather than one to ensure a greater level of stability.

The program has been so successful that Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bucks County is now looking to expand it. Their community mentorship program matches at-risk youth ages 6 to 16 with volunteer mentors. This program provides caring adult role models who consistently spend time with their "littles" to help them make good

choices so that they may become productive, responsible, and engaged young adults.

I want to highlight the story of John Wilson, the board president and an individual who himself benefited from Big Brothers Big Sisters. John's father passed away when he was 5. He was matched with a big brother when he was 12 at a point when, in his own words, he was at a significant risk of heading in the wrong direction. He credits his mentor with having a profound impact on his life, without whom his life could have turned out very differently, in John's words.

John graduated from college, enjoyed a successful career, and now gives back as president of the board. John is still in contact with his big brother and working hard to pay back the investment made in him years ago. To all those involved in Big Brothers Big Sisters, including John, we thank you for your work in helping our youth in Bucks County.

SAVE STONE MEADOWS FARM

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, growing up in Middletown Township in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and as a current Middletown Township resident now representing my hometown in Congress, I have seen my community change throughout the years. The one constant, however, has always been the presence of Stone Meadows Farm, one of the last remaining active agricultural lands in our township. The 168-acre farm has a rich history that connects the present to the past; and, as development continues throughout our region, Stone Meadows Farm reminds residents why we chose to live in beautiful Middletown Township, Pennsylvania. I firmly believe that this is something worth preserving.

In Bucks County, we are fortunate that our local and county leaders continue to make concerted efforts to preserve our open spaces, and here in Congress I am working to support preservation and land conservation efforts nationwide. I stand ready to work with any government official and our citizens, like members of the Save Stone Meadow Farm movement, who share this goal to preserve our quality of life and the character of our community.

Whether in our hometown or across our great Nation, we must stand ready to preserve and protect our open spaces from overdevelopment.

HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DAIRY INDUSTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, yesterday morning, I had the opportunity to attend part of Fulton Bank's 39th annual Agriculture Seminar, which is a day-long informational event that draws individuals from all over the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The event is free and

featured numerous speakers, including agriculture economist Andrew Frankenfield and other industry experts.

Mr. Speaker, as the House Committee on Agriculture prepares the next farm bill, there has been universal agreement that the dairy industry's Margin Protection Program needs to be reformed in advance. To address this, we were able to make much-needed changes in last week's bipartisan budget deal.

The final agreement took a number of actions that will revamp the program to better serve participating dairy farmers. To help the program to be more accurate and responsive during difficult months, monthly margined calculations have been changed to bi-monthly. To help the program better reflect the growth in dairy herd sizes, the new law expands the first tier from 4 million to 5 million pounds. The new law raises the catastrophic coverage level from \$4 per hundred weight to \$5 per hundred weight for the first tier of covered production.

It also reduces premiums for the first 5 million pounds of production, making higher levels of coverage more affordable to provide more protection against low margins. Finally, the new law allows for the development of insurance policies for livestock producers, including for dairy farmers. This change encourages further adequate risk management tools are available the next time they are faced with disaster.

Mr. Speaker, the state of the dairy industry is much different today than it was when the last farm bill was written. Today we see low milk prices that have impacted the dairy industry across the country. The House Committee on Agriculture is not only aware of the challenges facing the industry, but we are working to help bring relief.

Another factor negatively impacting the dairy industry is declining milk consumption. This not only negatively affects dairy farms and farm families across the country but also students and their overall nutrition. Despite the fact that public school enrollment was growing, schools served 213 million fewer half-pints of milk between 2014 and 2016. Children over 4 years old are not meeting the recommended daily servings of dairy in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

We know that milk is a nutritional powerhouse. Given the nutritional value of milk and because students need to be nourished to be at their best, this is a cause for concern. Steadily decreasing participation in the School Lunch Program, coupled with the fact that flavored milk, the most popular variety in schools, must be fat free under the current law, has led to an alarming decline in overall milk consumption.

We have lost an entire generation of milk drinkers, and they have lost out, that generation, on the nourishment and nutrition that comes from milk.

Providing students the option to consume milk with flavor has the potential to positively affect milk consumption trends among children and adults, while supporting the local dairy farmers.

This is why I introduced H.R. 4101, the School Milk Nutrition Act. This bill provides the schools the option of offering low-fat, 1 percent, flavored milk instead of only fat free.

On November 29, 2017, USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue announced a new USDA rule that expands options for milk in school lunches.

□ 1030

Similar to my legislation, this rule gives schools the option to serve low-fat, 1 percent, flavored milk. Thankfully, this rule will be in effect for fiscal year 2018 and fiscal year 2019.

I look forward to continuing to craft a farm bill that puts forth the very best policy for our farmers, our families, and all Americans. I know Secretary Perdue supports the legislation, H.R. 4101, moving ahead to codify what he has been able to do with what flexibility he has and to get that done for our kids and for the dairy industry.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF SARAH JANECEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Sarah Janecek, a friend who passed away unexpectedly and far too soon.

Sarah was one of Minnesota's best political commentators. As a strategist, she understood all sides of the issues and brought humor everywhere she went.

Over the course of her career, Sarah built relationships across the political spectrum. She was known for lending her honesty and wit to every encounter. She commanded respect by becoming a source of political knowledge through her writing, newsletters, and commentary, and she was sought after by local and national media to provide her insights on Minnesota's unusual politics.

Our community has suffered a great loss. Sarah's bright spirit will, indeed, be missed. My deepest condolences go out to her family and loved ones. Sarah had a great heart, and we will all miss her.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF WRIGHT COUNTY SHERIFF JOE HAGERTY

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Wright County Sheriff Joe Hagerty. Joe retires after 33 honorable years of service to the third largest sheriff's office in the State of Minnesota. He has a reputation for honesty and has become someone that we all trust.

Our community has been honored to have a public servant with Joe's level of integrity and accountability. His re-

spect for the rule of law and compassion for his fellow citizens made him an exceptional sheriff.

During his time in office, Joe fostered a relationship with neighboring counties to share a crime lab, which helped solve cases and bring justice. Every single day, Joe put the safety of Minnesotans above all else.

Sheriff Hagerty, I speak on behalf of all Minnesotans when I say: Thank you. We wish you a happy and healthy and well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING CARVER COUNTY SHERIFF JIM OLSON

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Carver County Sheriff Jim Olson for his incredible 31 years of service to the people of Minnesota. In Jim's three-plus decades on the force, Sheriff Olson oversaw some of Carver County's most exciting and turbulent times.

When the Ryder Cup was held in Chaska, Minnesota, in 2016, Jim managed safety operations and maintained a family-friendly environment for everyone. After the passing of Minnesota legend Prince, Jim ensured that Paisley Park in Carver County remained a safe place for Prince's fans to mourn.

Jim has dedicated his life to Carver County, serving as an instructor of the Carver County Citizens Academy to inform the public about the services and role of the sheriff's office. Impressively, he also serves as a member of the Carver County Mental Health Consortium to spread awareness of mental health resources. He has been a faithful, selfless servant leader to the citizens of Carver County.

Sheriff Olson, thank you for your service. We wish you the best in your retirement.

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING BUSINESSMAN BUTCH AMES

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of one of Minnesota's outstanding businessmen, Butch Ames. As chief executive officer and cofounder of Ames Construction, a family-owned and privately held construction company headquartered in Minnesota, Butch has built and grown the industry nationwide.

Ames Construction is known for heavy civil, transportation, and mining construction. With Butch at the helm, the company continues to grow and expand its reach all across the Nation. They have completed notable projects, such as Denver's International Airport, the I-15 corridor reconstruction project in Salt Lake City, the Loop 202 in Phoenix, and the St. Croix River Crossing in Minnesota.

Butch holds his company to a standard of professionalism and safety that is unparalleled, serving this Nation and his industry proudly.

Congratulations, Butch.

RECOGNIZING TORAH ACADEMY

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Torah Academy for entering their 73rd year educating Jewish children in Minnesota. From the