

Sadly, in 2018 alone, over 1.7 million Americans will be diagnosed with cancer and more than 600,000 individuals will lose the battle against this dreadful disease.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, Relay for Life is such an important event to raise awareness and funds to help cancer patients and their families in my area of south Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the countless volunteers and local sponsors who are going to make this wonderful day possible, a day filled with activities, games, and fun.

Let us all join together to make a difference in the fight against cancer and make this year's Relay for Life the best one yet.

COMBATING GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, since the tragic events at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, leading American companies, including DICK'S Sporting Goods, Walmart, L.L.Bean, and Kroger, have taken a leadership role in combating gun violence.

Last week, all four companies announced that they would no longer sell guns to anyone under 21.

DICK'S Sporting Goods has demonstrated singular courage as the first company to establish a minimum age for gun sales and also by announcing that it would no longer sell assault-style rifles or high-capacity magazines.

When DICK'S announced these policies, it also challenged Congress to show the same commitment to commonsense gun reform. In his open letter, DICK'S Sporting Goods' CEO Ed Stack implored Congress to ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, establish the age of 21 as the new minimum age to buy a firearm, and secure an effective universal background check system.

The American business community is already acting to combat gun violence. The private sector is ahead of us. Congress must follow suit.

PERMANENT STATUS FOR LIBERIANS IN DEFERRED ENFORCED DEPARTURE

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my support as a cosponsor of the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act, which gives Liberians in deferred enforced departure permanent status.

Thousands of Liberians came to the United States to escape civil war, seeking a better life and a safer environment to raise their families. For the last 25 years, many have sought and re-

alized the American Dream through hard work, drive, and determination. They have become small-business owners and leaders in our community. Minnesota is home to one of the largest Liberian communities in the United States, many of whom live in the western suburbs of the Twin Cities.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the distinct pleasure and honor of getting to know many members of the Liberian community personally. I have heard their stories, and I have seen their love for America firsthand. However, they are facing uncertainty today because their temporary period of protection is about to expire, so it is imperative that action be taken to ensure they are able to live here, work here, and continue to offer their contributions as important members of our community.

SUPPORTING DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, 6 months ago, the White House shamefully rescinded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program without having legislation in place to protect Dreamers. That is just wrong.

The overwhelming majority of Americans support a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers, yet Republican leadership refuses to let Congress vote on a clean Dream Act.

A few months ago, after ending DACA, the President began rolling back immigration from Black and Latino countries he thinks are s—holes. After that, he went on a Twitter rant to attack the Diversity Immigrant Visa program, which helps people from Africa immigrate lawfully to the United States.

Eliminating DACA without a plan for Dreamers is just another antiminority move. Removing the Diversity Immigrant Visa program is more of the same. The administration has shown itself to be hostile to people of color. Mr. Speaker, racism is not a good policy.

REMEMBERING OFFICER JUSTIN BILLA

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

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Mobile Police Officer Justin Billia. Officer Billia was tragically shot and killed in the line of duty on February 20.

I am not sure my path ever crossed with Officer Billia, but it may have. We take for granted the work our police officers do on a daily basis.

Police officers hug their families good-bye and leave their home each day or night not knowing whether they will come home safe.

Each and every day, our law enforcement and first responders work to keep

us safe and support our communities, but we far too often take their service for granted.

I can think of no better way to honor the life of Officer Billia than to encourage every American to take time to say "thank you" to your local police officers.

Mr. Speaker, I hope Officer Billia's wife, Erin, and their young son, Taylor, take comfort in knowing that they are loved. Justin's service and sacrifice to Mobile, Alabama, and to the United States will never be forgotten.

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YUCCA MOUNTAIN NUCLEAR WASTE REPOSITORY IS AN UNWORKABLE PROJECT

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I am here to once again remind my colleagues why the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository is an unworkable project. There are design flaws that the NRC's own analysis show lead to radioactive waste leaking into the water table, and transportation plans would ship more than 70,000 metric tons of nuclear waste by train and truck through 329 congressional districts for years to come past your homes, your businesses, your schools, and your churches.

Now some of my colleagues want to make this bad situation even worse by busting the caps on the amount of allowable waste to be stored, increasing the danger and invalidating any existing studies.

If the proponents of Yucca Mountain and their industry donors are really serious about solving the problems of nuclear waste storage, they would follow the Blue Ribbon Commission's recommendations and pass my consent-based bill rather than dumping nuclear waste into a State that does not produce it and does not want it.

Nevada is not a wasteland.

POSITIVE EFFECTS OF THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the positive effects the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is already having on individuals and businesses in the First Congressional District of Georgia.

Two weeks ago, I traveled the First District and visited high school students, university students, senior citizens, small businesses, big businesses, and more to get their feedback on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The results from my trip and the benefits that the First District is already reaping were, frankly, astounding.

For example, Lee Container Company in Homerville said that the new tax law has allowed them to purchase at least three machines a year and to fully amortize them, allowing their company to grow at a substantial rate.

Businesses like Lee Container and the large number of individuals in Homerville that they employ are a reason it was so important to pass the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

With the new tax law, businesses can employ more people, increase salaries, invest in their business and communities, and help our economy to thrive.

OUR NATION IS IN THE GRIP OF A GUN VIOLENCE EPIDEMIC

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, our Nation is in the grip of a gun violence epidemic; yet, even in the face of national tragedy, Congress has failed again and again to act.

On January 10, 2018, a student in Denison, Texas, fired a weapon that belonged to an adviser, thinking it wasn't loaded. That same day, a middle school student in Maplewood, Minnesota, fatally injured himself with a gun in a school bathroom.

On January 23, 2018, a 15-year-old student in Benton, Kentucky, opened fire with a handgun, killing two people and injuring 18.

On February 14, Valentine's Day, 2018, a 19-year-old gunman killed 14 students and 3 faculty members at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, using a semiautomatic weapon.

Two months into 2018, its tragedies are too numerous to list.

For too long we have allowed NRA's gun industry lobbyists to pick and choose our guns laws.

I say: No more.

Students across America are demanding Congress enact commonsense gun violence prevention, including universal background checks, limits on high-capacity magazines, and a ban on the sale of assault weapons designed not for a hunting field, but for a battlefield.

We must not fail them again.

RECOGNIZING CLINTON COUNTY'S MISS TEEN UNITED STATES AGRICULTURE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Haili Marie Frank from Mill Hall, Pennsylvania, who has been named Clinton County's Miss Teen United States Agriculture.

Haili is 16 years old and is the daughter of Eric and Clint Frank.

She is a 10th grader at the Sugar Valley Rural Charter School, where she is

a member of the National Honor Society and an officer in the school's FFA chapter.

In 2017, Haili competed in the FFA Creed Speaking competition, placing first in the county and second in the region, which qualified her for the State competition, where she came in 10th.

Haili loves animals and is a member of two 4-H groups. Over the past 7 years, Haili has exhibited pigs, goats, lambs, chickens, and rabbits.

Haili is also an accomplished archer and shoots with one of her 4-H groups. Last August, she competed in the archery competition at State Days in Rock Run, Pennsylvania, and placed second in her age division.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly congratulate Haili on being an outstanding role model for her peers and a representative for agriculture in Pennsylvania.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT

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

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that my colleagues plan to speak in favor of Yucca Mountain tonight and once again attempt to revive the long-dead project that brings nuclear waste to my State of Nevada. They want to make Nevada's Fourth Congressional District, my home, my district, the dumping ground for the rest of the country's nuclear waste.

The Nevada delegation has raised a number of concerns about this project, including its location, which sits less than 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

Nevadans have strongly opposed the construction of this project.

As a State with no nuclear energy facilities, it is exceedingly unfair that Nevada is asked to serve as the dumping ground for the rest of the country's waste.

Rather than throw away millions more of taxpayer money to revive this shortsighted project, this funding could be better spent on infrastructure and job creation.

I will continue fighting tirelessly to ensure the Yucca Mountain project stays dead, and I urge my colleagues to join me in finding better ways to deal with the nuclear waste created in their States.

THE RUSSIAN BEAR IS HUNGRY FOR MOLDOVA, GEORGIA, AND UKRAINE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, after the fall of the Soviet Union, the Russian bear started roaming Eastern Europe with its hungry appetite to gobble and dominate politics and the Governments of Moldova, Georgia, and Ukraine.

Each nation has had a portion of its sovereign territory occupied by the Napoleon of Siberia, Putin. His military is there, too.

I have been in each nation and talked to the speakers of each of the parliaments. Now the three countries are working together in a trilateral bond to thwart Russian interference and also improve their democratic processes.

For as it is written in Ecclesiastes: "A cord of three strands is not easily broken."

I also commend the Atlantic Council for their work with these nations in promoting democratic ideals, combating corruption, and increasing personal freedom.

The United States should encourage and support this trilateral union to prevent the hungry bear from eating up each nation and returning them to the old days of Russian oppression.

And that is just the way it is.

PI KAPPA ALPHA'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor tonight to recognize and honor my fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha International Fraternity.

I came from Alpha Omicron Chapter in Georgetown, Texas, Southwestern University.

Pi Kappa Alpha is an international fraternity, a values-based men's fraternal organization with more than 225 chapters across the United States and Canada, approximately 16,000 undergraduate members, and over 290,000 lifetime members.

In 2018, Pi Kappa Alpha celebrates its 150th anniversary from its founding on March 1, 1868, at the University of Virginia, when six young men joined together and resolved to form a fraternity for the establishment of friendship on a firmer and more lasting basis.

Their commitment to the high ideals of scholarship, leadership, and gentlemanly behavior remains strong to this day, which is the reason why I not only pledged my support to the fraternity, but why I support them today.

APPOINTING JUDGES TO THE FISA COURT

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

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States should have the power to appoint judges to the FISA Court. This would lead to a more ideologically diverse court, more transparency in oversight, and better FISA outcomes.

Mr. Speaker, this isn't just my argument. It is the argument of the gentleman from California, the ranking