

We know this is a problem across the country. In Minnesota alone, more than 60,000 Minnesotans are victimized by sexual violence each year, and of this number, 80 percent were women and nearly a third were under the age of 18.

It is a time to educate the public about sexual violence and help communities more effectively prevent it.

It is also important, though, to recognize the victims' rights groups, social workers, healthcare providers, and law enforcement personnel, who are working one-on-one with the victims of sexual violence, helping them seek justice and repair their lives. Important organizations like Breaking Free are helping women escape trafficking, prostitution, and sexual exploitation. And Cornerstone, which is running domestic violence crisis hotlines, is helping victims get the assistance that they need to get back on their feet.

Mr. Speaker, these are some of the organizations we have in Minnesota that are providing invaluable services to the victims at a time when they need it most.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S WAR ON THE WORKING POOR

(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, I have never met a person who wakes up in the morning and says: I want to be poor today. That is just not the reality.

Yet my colleagues across the aisle, and their friends in the White House, keep pushing this false narrative that people who rely on government assistance to make ends meet are moochers who take government handouts and buy drugs.

Mr. Speaker, in my district, 17.9 percent of households rely on SNAP to feed their families. They aren't lazy. They aren't addicts. They are hard-working people, some of them with two and three jobs, just trying to make ends meet.

The United States Government should be making it easier for Americans to maintain a decent standard of living. Let us end this administration's war on the working poor and help make better lives for all of our citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGEONS

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. Founded in 1918 by 29 dentists, the organization has grown to include more than 9,000 members today.

Oral and maxillofacial surgery is the surgical arm of dentistry. These doctors are a critical component of the medical profession. They practice in a variety of settings, including private clinical practice, ambulatory surgery centers, and hospitals. They also provide service in academia, the military, and the research industry. Many of these surgeons reside and provide critical patient care in my home State of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize the members of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons for their work, and I offer my support for their mission to ensure excellence in patient care by advancing, promoting, and preserving the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

INVEST IN AMERICAN WORKERS

(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, according to the Aspen Institute, from 1996 to 2008, the percentages of American workers receiving employer-sponsored training, on-the-job training, as it were, has fallen by 40 percent.

With a growing skills gap, and American businesses unable to fill 6.3 million jobs due to a lack of qualified candidates, it is imperative that Congress incentivizes investments in worker training. That is why I introduced the Investing in American Workers Act last Friday.

This forward-thinking legislation provides a 20 percent tax credit to small and mid-sized companies that increase their investments in worker training over a given year. Eligible programs include apprenticeships, specialized community college courses, and those offered by employers or industry associations. This is a win-win for American employers and employees, helping American companies compete globally and helping workers obtain higher wages and long-term job security.

Our workforce is the foundation of our economy, and we cannot ignore the consequences of failing, as a country, to invest in American workers.

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VIII SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

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

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, the VIII Summit of the Americas was held this past weekend, April 13 and 14. These gatherings of government leaders in the Western Hemisphere are only held once every 3 years. While together, they discuss common policy issues; they affirm shared values; and they commit to address challenges facing the Americas. This year the summit was held in Lima, Peru.

Two years ago, I cofounded the Congressional Caucus on Peru with my colleague from New York, Mr. MEEKS. I launched the caucus to not only strengthen the U.S.-Peruvian relationship, but also because Utah has such a special relationship with Peru. Peruvians are the second largest immigrant group in Utah, and approximately 40,000 are living in our State. Given that Peru is a major player in trade, education, and technology in Latin America, I strongly believe that it is critical that we maintain a strong connection.

As co-chair of the Peruvian Caucus and a supporter of stability in the region, it was wonderful to see these world leaders commit to strengthening democracy, while also fighting against corruption and human rights violations. I look forward to continued cooperation among American nation-states.

I was recently in the region. It is a beautiful place with beautiful people, but they are facing severe challenges, and we want to support them.

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL COMPETITORS

(Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work of the students and coaches from two schools in New Jersey's 12th District, West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North and Princeton Charter School, as they advance to compete in the 2018 National Science Bowl.

Sponsored by the Department of Energy, the National Science Bowl is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge in all areas of science and mathematics. Since its inception in 1991, it has hosted more than 275,000 competitors. These talented young minds from my district will join those ranks, competing for a chance to win funding for their respective schools' science departments.

I wish the coaches and the teams the best of luck as they show off their knowledge, their talent, and their preparation against the country's future science stars.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RUSSELL JIM

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Russell Jim, an elder of the Yakama Nation, who was highly regarded as a champion for central Washington's environment.

Russell had a deep understanding of the Yakama Nation's culture, the region's natural resources, and the Hanford nuclear site. He spent his life and career protecting our environment and advocating for responsible nuclear waste management.

He managed the Tribe's Environmental Restoration and Waste Management program for almost 40 years and served in Tribal leadership for almost 60. Russell was a key player in preventing Hanford from becoming the Nation's repository for radioactive waste, and he received an honorary doctorate degree from Heritage University for his work.

Russell Jim will be remembered for his knowledge and passion for the Yakama Nation and their way of life. My thoughts are with his family at this difficult time, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his memory.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as my colleague has already mentioned, this is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a very important statement for preventing violence against women, men, boys, and girls. I rise today to say that it is still of great concern to all of us, and particularly young women.

One in five women in this country have been raped, and four out of five rape victims are under the age of 25. Girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence, almost triple the national average.

This is the time for us to join together. In a few weeks, I will be introducing the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. It is legislation that has drawn bipartisan support.

I look forward to the support of my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, because it will emphasize critical services such as transitional housing, legal assistance, and supervised visitation services, but, more importantly, working with the police and law enforcement community's preventative measures and working with outreach for boys and men.

Prevention is part of this legislation as well as protecting our survivors, as well as educating people against this dastardly act. I look forward to the introduction of this legislation and those who will join me—men and women—to support the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act for 2018.

THIS IS THE LAST YEAR AMERICANS WILL FILE UNDER OUR OLD TAX CODE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the last year that Americans will ever have to file under our old, outdated Tax Code. Starting next year, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will take full effect. That means the annual hassle associated

with filing taxes will be done away with for most Americans, who will be able to file on a form as simple as a postcard.

Most Americans will also find the new, simpler Tax Code will also be more beneficial to their families financially. For example, the standard deduction will be nearly doubled to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for families, and the child tax credit is doubled to \$2,000.

Throughout this entire process, some of my colleagues have attempted to market this historic tax reform as Armageddon or the increase they are going to keep in their paycheck as crumbs.

Well, people are keeping more of what they have earned and will continue to do so as this bill takes full effect. The flood of bonuses and new investments in employees by companies across the U.S. is evidence to the contrary of that "Armageddon" or "crumbs" talk.

This time next year, the vast majority of Americans will have a simpler, more lucrative tax filing process to look forward to for themselves and their families.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KELSEY MEADOWS

(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, today I rise to remember the life of Kelsey Meadows. Kelsey attended the Route 91 festival in Las Vegas on October 1.

Kelsey was known by her parents as a miracle child. She went into heart failure at 6 weeks old, but survived. Growing up, Kelsey was a tomboy who chose jeans, boots, fishing, and hunting over everything else.

She was a gifted teacher who demonstrated a skill and passion for her career. Kelsey had a sweet spirit and a love for children. She loved country music and was a Denver Broncos fan. Her friends and family will never forget the big smile she always had on her face.

I would like to extend my condolences to Kelsey Meadows' family and friends. Please know that the city of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the whole country grieve with you.

TAX REFORM

(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, tax day is a frustrating day for most Americans because filing taxes is hard. The Tax Code is extremely long and complex, and filing taxes is a complicated mess of forms and paperwork.

American families spend \$378 billion a year on tax preparation. That is enough money to send every U.S. fam-

ily to Disney World. As a Floridian, I think that would be fantastic.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will make things easier next year. This simple system will allow American families to see rising income and more economic opportunity. It will allow businesses to grow and expand and achieve even greater economic potential.

I am proud that the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was passed, and I look forward to the continuing progress of the American people.

D.C. RESIDENTS ARE AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO HAVE OVERPAID FOR THEIR CITIZENSHIP

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, marking the signing of President Lincoln's proclamation freeing slaves in the Nation's Capital, is a local holiday in the District of Columbia. Many D.C. residents worked anyway.

Activist groups in the District of Columbia, including DC Vote, brought residents here, who got more Members to sign on to our D.C. statehood bill to end taxation without representation for D.C. residents, who are number one per capita in taxes paid to support the Federal Government, but with no voting Representatives on this House floor and no Senators at all.

Even more shameful, as this poster shows, D.C.'s war casualties have often outnumbered those of the States, more than 10 States during the Vietnam war, for example.

D.C. residents are American citizens who have overpaid for their citizenship. It is time for Congress to pay back.

COACH CARL IRLBECK INDUCTED TO THE TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the newest inductee to the Texas High School Basketball Hall of Fame, my former coach and dear friend, Carl Irlbeck. Mr. Irlbeck coached for 48 years, had over 1,000 wins, and was the 1994 Texas Basketball Coach of the Year.

But it is not his win-loss record that will be most remembered; it is his ability to shape the character of those he coached. The best coaches teach us how to be successful in the game of life more than any particular sport, and he did just that for almost five decades.

He taught us that preparation and perspiration were 90 percent of winning. He preached the importance of playing as a team, and he modeled grace in victory as well as defeat. I still apply the principles I learned as a Plainview Bulldog under the strong and loving leadership of Coach Carl Irlbeck.