

Colgate University community. She is also a core runner for the New York chapter and has recruited a number of members of our community to participate in this great tribute.

The event is a 175-mile run across the State of New York, each mile representing one hero killed who served during the war on terror, including Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation New Dawn.

I would like to thank Kristi Mangine and those involved in this year's run for inviting me to participate in this important event to honor those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in our Nation's longest running overseas conflict.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to also join us, as well as any community members who have a moment to pick up a time slot for one of our fallen heroes and give them a special tribute to their sacrifice.

#### DEFENDING OUR COAST

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

Mr. MCEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve policies that will protect our planet, keep loved ones healthy, and preserve access to clean air, water, and land for future generations.

Lately, there has been a relentless assault on the environmental policies that were crafted to protect us, including the commonsense prohibition of offshore drilling in the Atlantic. Despite the Defense Department stating that offshore drilling may impede and hamper military readiness activities, the American people were told that our oceans were open for exploitation.

Mr. Speaker, this is unacceptable. That is why, today, I introduced the bipartisan Defend Our Coast Act with my friend, Congressman WALTER JONES of North Carolina. The Defend Our Coast Act will prohibit the Department of the Interior from issuing leases for the exploration, development, or production of oil and gas on the Outer Continental Shelf in the mid-Atlantic.

Prior tragedies such as Deepwater Horizon's oil spill proved that drilling accidents can be dangerous, expensive, and life-threatening. Mr. Speaker, I urge you to bring the Defend Our Coast Act up for a vote. Offshore drilling negatively impacts our coastal communities. It is not worth the risk.

Let us commit ourselves to leaving the Earth a healthier and safer place for future generations.

#### RECOGNIZING CASS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES

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

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, every community has peace officers who put

their lives on the line every day to protect their communities, and we don't say thank you nearly often enough.

Today I rise to recognize four very special school resource deputies of the Cass County Sheriff's Office who have been given the Model Agency Award, which is the top honor that is given by the National Association of School Resource Officers.

This award recognizes the work of law enforcement officers who promote safer schools and safer children, and they singled out the Cass County program as "a shining example of the school resource officers program."

The deputies work with students at Kindred, Maple Valley, Central Cass, Northern Cass, and Mapleton Elementary Schools. Supervised by Sergeant Tim Briggeman and under the command of Captain Jesse Jahner, the deputies are Jason Scott, Joe Crawford, Chris Potter, and Dan Hermann. Cass County Sheriff Paul Laney calls these officers the "best of the best."

On behalf of all North Dakotans, I congratulate them and thank Sheriff Laney and his entire staff for the high bar of excellence they deliver in serving all the citizens of Cass County.

□ 1930

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF TARA ROE SMITH

(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 Tara Roe Smith. Tara attended the Route 91 festival in Las Vegas on October 1. She lived in Okotoks, Alberta, Canada, where she was a wonderful mother to her two kids, Lennon and Louis, and was a loving wife to her husband Zach.

Tara was a hard worker who modeled with Sophia Models International, worked as an educational assistant with children with autism, and was about to be promoted to be a manager at a restaurant where she was a waitress.

Tara was very active and loved dancing, swimming, and being at her favorite summer spot, Clear Lake. Going to the Route 91 festival was an annual tradition for Tara and her husband. They would be there every year to celebrate their anniversary.

Tara was dedicated to her community, and if she had survived, her husband has no doubt that she would have done everything she could to help those who were victims of the Las Vegas shooting.

She was a very caring spirit who greeted everyone with a friendly face. I would like to extend my condolences to Tara Roe Smith's family and friends. Please know that the city of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the whole country grieve with you.

#### REPEAL FEDERAL EXCISE TAX ON HEAVY TRUCKS

(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 to speak on behalf of a bill I have introduced, H.R. 2946, which would repeal the burdensome 12 percent Federal excise tax on heavy trucks, known as the FET.

It was first created to help fund World War I—that is right, World War I, 100 years ago. The antiquated FET is the highest excise tax levied by the Federal Government today. The financial and regulatory burdens created by the FET hurts truck retailers, drivers, and businesses across the country. It depresses the market for newer heavy-duty trucks, which are cleaner, more efficient, and everybody in government seems to be clamoring for them to be replaced for those reasons.

A repeal of this outdated legislation would seek to promote the use of more modern trucks on our roads—again, something government seems to want and demand. By incorporating this repeal effort into any future infrastructure funding measure, Congress can rebuild our Nation's crumbling road system while ensuring our commercial truck fleet is both cleaner and safer.

I urge my colleagues to support inclusion of this bipartisan bill and repeal the FET, which only hampers economic growth and discontinues truck replacement, which is what everybody seems to want.

#### BENEFITS OF TAX REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, when I last had the honor to host a Special Order, the House was debating the merits of tax reform, and in that debate, supporters of the tax reform promised higher wages, a stronger economy, greater opportunity, and shared prosperity.

Six months after President Trump signed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act into law, the results are in, and we can now confidently say that the days of a weak and sluggish economy are behind us. America is again a rising Nation. America is again a Nation where families are able to keep more of what they