

to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

SOMETHING MIRACULOUS IS HAPPENING IN CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about something miraculously happening in California.

For the first time in decades, we are on the verge of building new infrastructure for our water. We have been waiting since 1979 to actually build something new.

Last Friday, with the signing, Shasta, a big improvement raising the spillway 630,000 new acre feet of water, and now, next week, passing the WRDA bill, which is actually the New WATER Act financing for Los Vaqueros, Sites, and Temperance Flat, it is time to build things in California and save our number one industry, agriculture.

These are real solutions and real dollars. We are going to get it built.

AFTERMATH OF HURRICANES IRMA AND MARIA

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about an important forum my colleagues and I will be hosting tomorrow.

While this month of September marks the 1 year anniversary of Hurricanes Irma and Maria making landfall in the Virgin Islands as a Category 5 storm, the aftermath of the storm is still an everyday reality. According to the Hurricane Recovery and Resiliency Task Force report summary, total damage is estimated at \$10.8 billion.

Earlier this month, I visited local schools as they opened for the new school year, and the conditions are troubling. The Virgin Islands Board of Education reported a drop of almost 40 percent in student enrollment, and Puerto Rico's Department of Education closed 265 schools last summer in the aftermath of the hurricanes.

Only 19 of the 33 public schools throughout the territory reopened on time, and many of those are in no shape for learning: a lack of school supplies and classroom resources for students; students resorting to either standing or sitting on crates, floors, and desks; libraries with few or no books; and unfinished construction.

Let's not be fooled, however. The level of damage to the schools in the Virgin Islands is due, in part, to the continual cuts over the years to the children of the Virgin Islands' education by funding from this body, the U.S. Congress.

On Thursday, September 27, I and other congressional Democrats will host a forum to discuss the state of public education and related recovery

efforts in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. The forum's most important mission will be to discuss new ideas and plans to speed up the recovery process to place our schools in a better economic state. We must do better.

AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE FLORENCE

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

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, as everyone knows, southeastern North Carolina has experienced one of the most devastating hurricanes to hit our State in recent memory.

The eye of Hurricane Florence made landfall in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, and then proceeded to slow walk down the coast before turning inland, resulting in historic flooding, massive power outages, and devastating destruction to homes, businesses, and farms. Sadly, this storm has taken the lives of at least 35 North Carolinians to date.

What has transpired in my district is truly heartbreaking. But in the face of diversity, we have come together stronger than ever.

I want to make special mention and thank all the first responders; linemen; emergency, military, and medical personnel; as well as the elected officials at all levels, local business leaders, the news media, and all the countless numbers of citizens who are volunteering to help our communities by opening their hearts and wallets to those who need it.

I also thank President Trump and his administration for their rapid response and commitment to helping all those who have been affected. Working together, we will build our communities back stronger than ever, make no mistake about it.

TARIFF CONSEQUENCES

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I have spoken before about how businesses in my district, large and small, are suffering under the President's tariffs that are raising costs and increasing uncertainty.

But the damage of the Trump administration's trade policy goes beyond the business community. Here is one example. This week, I learned a public middle school in my district has to dip into its contingency funds to cover the \$2 million in unbudgeted cost increases for its new addition and remodeling project, caused by President Trump's tariffs.

Let me repeat that. This school or, more precisely, local taxpayers now face \$2 million in additional costs, not for new classrooms, but rather to cover the extra costs of the President's trade war.

I have also heard from seniors in my district worried about tariffs accelerating the cost of prescription drugs, including insulin, antidepressants, MRI machines, artificial joints, and pacemakers, to name just a few.

Put simply, President Trump's tariffs are not working for the American people. It is time to instead end the misguided trade war and enact sensible, enforceable trade policies that support American workers, American businesses, American intellectual property, and our environment.

HONORING A KOREAN AND AMERICAN HERO

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

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the passing of Major General Sun-Ha Lim, who passed away on July 22.

Throughout his life, he defended the Republic of Korea and the free world from communism. As a second lieutenant, he helped form the U.S. Korean Constabulary, a Korean government loyal to the United States.

He then continued his service in the Republic of Korea's Army. His exceptional battlefield leadership led him to be promoted to the rank of major general during the Korean conflict. He commanded the Republic of Korea's 3rd Infantry Division, playing an instrumental role in pushing the North Korean forces back and restoring the 38th parallel.

After coming to the U.S. with his family later in life, General Lim advocated for the recognition of the U.S. Korean Constabulary.

General Lim was recognized on numerous occasions for his inspiring leadership. President Eisenhower honored him with the Legion of Merit in the Commander degree, the highest U.S. military honor given to foreign combatants. He was awarded with the Republic of Korea's Order of Military Merit in the 1st Grade, which is their highest decoration for military valor.

General Lim was a beloved member of the South Korean community here in Omaha, renowned by U.S. Korean war veterans in the metro area, and he was my friend.

SOUL OF OUR COUNTRY IS IN JEOPARDY

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, the soul of our country is in jeopardy and in question. It couldn't be more directly seen than in the Senate on Thursday with the hearings for Judge Kavanaugh.

The two most pressing issues that will be heard are the #MeToo movement and respect for women and their safety from sexual assault, and the

truth and whether or not the truth is something that matters to people anymore or whether it is just spinning lies to get ratings.

The man who has been nominated to the Supreme Court went on FOX News and said he didn't drink illegally when he was 18 years old. Well, he did. The drinking age was 21.

The lady who accuses him has passed a lie detector test administered by a former FBI agent and has told more than four or five different people about this incident over the last 6 years, which has been very difficult for her. She should be given respect, and there should be an attempt to find the truth.

But the third person in that incident has not been subpoenaed by the Senate, because they don't want to know the truth. They fear the truth. They are keeping the truth from the American people, and they are failing in respecting women.

TRUMP TAX CUTS CREATE JOBS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to the tax cuts of President Donald Trump and the Republican Congress, there is unprecedented growth for American families.

The Hill today reported great things for the American people. CNBC reported that consumer confidence rose to its highest level in 18 years. The African American unemployment rate of 5.9 percent is the lowest on record—CNN. Median household income at historic highs—Investor's Business Daily. Middle class income hit an all-time high last year—The Washington Post. The majority of U.S. workers are satisfied with their job, highest job level satisfaction since 2005—USA Today. Youth unemployment at a 52-year low—Wall Street Journal. Small-business optimism, and plans to raise wages are at record highs—Bloomberg. GDP was 4.2 percent, the best performance in 4 years—Reuters. And unemployment is at a several-decade low—New York Times.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Our prayers for Brett Kavanaugh and his family, a judge of integrity.

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BALTIMORE ORACLES

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

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to declare the Baltimore Oracles, my staff's congressional softball team, once again champions, having completed a perfect season, including an impressive 18-3 victory in the championship game.

Captained by Peter Gelman, Katie Teleky, and the equipment manager, Raymond O'Mara, the team's stalwart defense and steadfast offense was unstoppable. Yet roster depth proved to be the team's ultimate advantage.

Mike Pulver, Lucinda Lessley, Paul Kincaid, Jocelyn Kissell, Maddie Bainer, Laura Lubben, Ben Proshek, Rebecca O'Mara, Kate Durkin, Anna Killius, Shannon Frede, and Zach Weber each contributed to form a magnificent infield, while Brian Kaissi, Max Frankel, Andy Allen, Mike VanDan Huevel, James Howard, Stephen Demarais, Jaelon Moaney, and Sam Follansbee worked together to lock down the outfield, as did Jermaine Vincent, who welcomed his newborn son, Jayden, into the world just hours after lifting the trophy.

Tim O'Neil, the team's heart and soul, always kept hope alive with his insistence that the team hit "just a single," while the team's loveable mascot, Winston, wagged his tail in agreement.

Mr. Speaker, the Baltimore Oracles are, once again, champions, and that is truly world class.

RECOGNIZING KAY YORK, 2018 ARKANSAS PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an educator from the Fourth Congressional District of Arkansas who has dedicated her life to teaching the next generation. Kay York, principal of Ashdown High School, was named the 2018 Arkansas Principal of the Year, and it is an honor that is well earned.

Ms. York began her career as a kindergarten teacher and then librarian before going to Ashdown Elementary in 1989 as a school counselor. During a meeting this week, she explained how she has worked to introduce more career and technical education.

Partnering with a local community college, students receive instruction in trade skills and concurrent college credit in order to be college- and career-ready when leaving the halls of high school. It is this innovation in the local school that is helping Ashdown students prepare for a growing economy.

Mr. Speaker, Kay York is a leader in education, and I am grateful for the work she is doing in the Fourth Congressional District.

REAL BIPARTISAN TAX REFORM

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, this week, House Republicans are rushing through yet another tax bill that gives the superwealthy and the well-connected a

big tax break at the expense of working families in my district.

The first Republican tax bill already cost \$2 trillion, exploding our national deficit and setting up huge cuts for Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

The overwhelming number of Americans do not support these massive handouts to the wealthiest Americans and biggest corporations. They have already funneled these corporations almost \$1 trillion in stock buybacks to shareholders—money that is not going to workers.

This week, House Republicans are just doubling down on this deeply unpopular and dangerous tax scam. This latest bill has Republicans scheming to make tax breaks for billionaires permanent, handing tens of billions of dollars to the wealthiest 1 percent. This latest bill will add to our national deficit.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats support real bipartisan tax reform that would give relief to working American families.

CONGRATULATING JOYCE WALKER, 2018 CLERK OF THE YEAR

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Joyce Walker of Lewisville, North Carolina. Last month, the North Carolina Association of Municipal Clerks named Ms. Walker the 2018 Clerk of the Year.

Ms. Walker had already retired when she entered municipal service and started a new career as Lewisville's town clerk in 2000. During her tenure, she has received numerous designations, including North Carolina Certified Municipal Clerk, Master Municipal Clerk, and a certification from the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators.

In addition to her duties and accomplishments, she is known by everyone for being a genuinely sweet and pleasant person, dedicated to serving the community through Lewisville's Student Leadership Committee, the Civic Club's Scholarship Committee, Lewisville Historical Society, and Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Congratulations to Joyce Walker on her award of 2018 Clerk of the Year. Lewisville is fortunate to have her as a pillar of institutional knowledge and outstanding community service.

IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL CIAFARDONI SR.

(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 honor the passing of a great man from California's First District, Michael Ciafardoni, who died at the age of 94.

He was born in Nepezzano, Italy. Michael immigrated to America in 1939.