

He also spent much time creating programs for kids: the Junior Deputy Program, substance abuse programs, D.A.R.E. program, and a narcotics unit.

But perhaps his most important accomplishment is evolving this rural sheriff's office to a modern law enforcement agency in one of the fastest growing parishes in the State of Louisiana.

With five decades of service, he has maintained the immaturity of a teenager. I am proud to call him a friend. I want to honor his service to our State and our Nation, and I commend his daughters, Sara and Erin, and recognize the 40 years of marriage to his wife, Linda.

RISING IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL WORKERS

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

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of Federal workers across the country.

Right now, in Dallas, Texas, the American Federation of Government Employees local chapter, or AFGE, is organizing a rally to hold the President accountable for this shutdown.

Today, the President is finally making his first official visit to the Texas-Mexico border. He will be visiting McAllen, a town that I have visited on numerous occasions and have many friends, and I adore and love the town.

In 2018, McAllen saw their lowest crime rate in 30 years. And let's be clear: Democrats care about border security. We care about stopping crime. But we won't roll over because the President is getting frustrated that the majority of Americans don't want his wall, plain and simple.

The President and Senate Republicans are choosing political self-interest over our families. The members of the Dallas chapter of AFGE are real people who are facing two real burdens as a direct result of this shutdown. They are struggling to pay for rent and groceries.

The gut punch is that the President is far more concerned with his base in 2020 than securing the well-being of over 800,000 families.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES NAVY'S NEWEST LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP

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

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the U.S. Navy's latest littoral combat ship christened the USS *Wichita*.

On Saturday, the USS *Wichita* will be commissioned in Mayport, Florida, where she will begin her service to our country. As the third USS *Wichita* in U.S. Naval history, this ship will carry on the proud legacy of representing Kansas' largest city around the globe.

Wichita will be represented on board by Chief Petty Officer Isaac Davis, a graduate of Wichita Heights High School, who will serve as an operations specialist, and Chief Petty Officer Brian Tanner, a graduate of Derby High School, who will serve as an information systems technician.

I am grateful for Chief Petty Officers Davis and Tanner, as well as the entire crew of the USS *Wichita*. I am also thankful for the efforts of so many people in our community who have been supportive of the work of the USS *Wichita* Commissioning Committee.

Thanks in part to these efforts, I know the USS *Wichita* will serve our community and country with pride.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the men and women of the USS *Wichita* fair winds and following seas.

IMPLEMENTING UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise as a proud cosponsor of H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, a bill to implement universal background checks as a critical first step towards ending the public health crisis of gun violence.

Today, I speak up in honor of the Moms and Students Demand Action leaders from Michigan's Ninth District who have inspired me. I speak up because it is unacceptable that far more people per capita are shot and killed annually in our country than in other wealthy nations. And it is unacceptable that in 2016, more than 1,200 Michiganders died from firearms-related injuries.

I speak up because the American people are counting on us to save lives, and this bill is a commonsense way to do that. I feel privileged to cosponsor this bill as one of my first actions in Congress. We owe it to families everywhere to get this done.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF JOE AMBROSE

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend and hobby radio control industry legend, Joe Ambrose, who passed away unexpectedly on Friday.

Joe was a lifelong resident of central Illinois and a graduate of the University of Illinois. He joined Horizon Hobby in Champaign in 2005 as vice president and in 2008 he became CEO, where he successfully grew the business over the next decade. This past

year he led the largest acquisition in radio control industry history through the purchase of crosstown competitor Hobbico RC.

Joe and his company were leading voices for establishing the micro UAS regulations, hosting myself and other stakeholders in June of 2016 for a roundtable on the topic. Horizon Hobby also participated in the FAA's UAS Aviation Rulemaking Committee. That group ultimately developed recommendations for performance-based regulations to allow certain unmanned aircraft to operate over people.

Joe made things happen in this institution. His visionary leadership will be missed, and I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Julie, their four children, and eight grandchildren.

IT IS TIME TO REOPEN THE GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I stand here today on behalf of the hard-working Nevadans hurt most by this recent shutdown: The 3,512 Federal workers in Nevada who are missing out on paychecks; the 34,000 people in my district who could lose their nutritional assistance; the 1.1 million Nevada families whose tax refunds could be delayed; the air traffic controllers and TSA agents at McCarran International Airport who are forced to work without pay.

It is time to reopen the government and stop this shutdown from taking even more money out of their pockets. That is why I voted for bipartisan legislation to end this shutdown on the very first day of this new Congress.

It is time to reopen the government and get back to work on behalf of the American people and the people of Nevada's Fourth.

HONORING COLONEL ERICA INGRAM

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

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Colonel Erica Ingram, who recently became the first African-American female colonel in Arkansas National Guard history.

Colonel Ingram is a native of Wilmar, Arkansas, and a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. She began her military career as a second lieutenant on Active Duty with the United States Army in 1995.

Throughout her two decades in the Army, Colonel Ingram has earned the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, the