

HONORING MARION SLACK

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, just under 1 year ago, I stood in this very spot to recognize the outstanding work of Mary's Cupboard, a food pantry in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. It is with a heavy heart that I rise today to mourn the passing of one of the founders of Mary's Cupboard, Marion Slack, who passed away at the age of 96.

Marion, a longtime resident of Midletown Township in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, lived a life of devotion to her family, to her community, and to her Catholic faith. Marion truly embodied what it meant to live out one's faith each and every day.

Inspired after meeting Mother Teresa, she established Mary's Cupboard more than 40 years ago in Levittown, an emergency food center. A parishioner at Queen of the Universe Parish, Marion was previously recognized as Catholic Woman of the Year by the Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Speaker, our entire community stands by her children: Mary Ellen, Maureen, Eileen, and Ann Marie, along with the entire Mary's Cupboard family.

Marion is now enjoying her eternal reward for a life of service, and her legacy of service to Bucks County will last for generations.

TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS ALLIANCE

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I had the pleasure of meeting with advocates from the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance here in Washington, D.C., last week. It was great speaking with them to express my strong support for the continuation of funding for the Tuberous Sclerosis Complex Research Program in the fiscal year 2020 Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Tuberous Sclerosis Complex, or TSC, is a genetic disorder that can cause tumor growth in vital organs in the human body. It occurs in approximately 1 in 6,000 births.

I am proud to share the story of the Miller family, constituents of mine from Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Nearly 5 years ago, Lindsey and her husband, Dave, welcomed their daughter, Ellie, into the world. While Ellie was born with TSC, she has not let it stop her from being just like every other kid. She is developmentally on track, she enjoys preschool with her friends, and she sees her doctors regularly at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

However, there is no way to currently gauge how TSC will affect Ellie in the years to come. That is why funding for the Tuberous Sclerosis Complex Research Program is so vitally important.

This program has my full support, and I encourage all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it as well. I thank my colleagues, Mr. MULLIN from Oklahoma and Mr. LOEBSACK from Iowa, for their leadership on this issue.

Again, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in this very worthy cause on

behalf of all dealing with this across our Nation.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 41 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Rabbi Claudio J. Kogan, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine, Edinburg, Texas, offered the following prayer:

God, source of all living things, we ask Your blessings upon these representatives of the people who have devoted their lives to our welfare. Strengthen them with Your courage; inspire them as they answer the Prophet Isaiah's call to feed the hungry and to clothe the naked, to lift up those in this land and in all lands who cannot stand on their own.

Bless them with the capacity to hear and to listen. May this body, which hosts rigorous and robust debate, embrace diversity without division, unity without uniformity. May this House promote justice, moral clarity, ethical living, righteousness, and acts of kindness.

As an immigrant who came to this country 20 years ago and became an American citizen just 7 years ago, I join this House in a prayer of profound gratitude and deep appreciation for the blessings we, the people of the United States of America, are privileged to enjoy.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SCHNEIDER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was commu-

nicated to the House by Ms. Mariel Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

WELCOMING RABBI CLAUDIO J. KOGAN

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GONZALEZ) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend, Rabbi Claudio J. Kogan.

Rabbi Kogan has devoted his life to being a spiritual leader in the Jewish faith and a leader in our community.

Rabbi Kogan is currently the director of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine's new Institute for Bioethics and Social Justice. Since June 2018, Rabbi Kogan has led the School of Medicine's efforts on ethical and social issues that affect south Texas and the Nation.

Rabbi Kogan is a physician and an ordained rabbi. He earned his medical degree from the University of Buenos Aires School of Medicine and a master's of bioethics from the University of Pennsylvania.

Rabbi Kogan has also spent time as a member of the Institutional Review Board at the Yale University School of Medicine.

Previously, he served as rabbi at Temple Emanuel in my district in McAllen, Texas, and continues to serve as a chaplain for various law enforcement agencies and hospital systems in the area.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to have Rabbi Kogan and his family join us here today in the people's House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

MAKE FULL EQUALITY A REALITY

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, no American should face legal discrimination because of who they are or who they love.

As a Nation, we have made stunning progress toward realizing this dream of full equality and acceptance for our LGBTQ family, friends, and neighbors. But despite our success, including repealing Don't Ask, Don't Tell and achieving marriage equality as the law of the land, there is more work to do.

In many States across this country, LGBTQ individuals remain vulnerable to discrimination, with little recourse. Unlike other groups protected by civil rights laws, LGBTQ Americans can be fired from their jobs, evicted from their apartments, or refused service at

a restaurant simply because of who they are.

The current patchwork of State laws is not enough.

That is why I am proud to join with my colleagues to again introduce the Equality Act to ensure protections already extended to other protected classes are equally available to LGBTQ Americans.

It is time we prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in education, employment, housing, credit, Federal jury service, public accommodations, and the use of Federal funds.

Let's make full equality a reality for all of us.

CONGRATULATING CRANE SYSTEMS

(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. Madam Speaker, in honor of National Vending Day, it is appropriate to celebrate the millions of Americans who get beverages, snacks, and unlimited items from vending machines.

Crane Merchandising Systems of Williston, South Carolina, managed by Rich Tucker, is a leading full-service vending solutions provider and employs over 700 associates. Crane is one of the largest employers of the Barnwell County region, and I am grateful for their success creating jobs.

The automatic merchandising industry in America promotes an economic impact of nearly \$25 billion with 150,000 employees. Not only does the industry meet the needs of consumers around the world, it also contributes \$7.21 billion in wages to the economy and pays \$3.5 billion in taxes.

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

ROBOCALL TELEMARKETING AND SPOOFING

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, thank you for allowing me to speak against robocall telemarketing and spoofing.

Our constituents, whether Republican, Democratic, or independent, are tired of being harassed by telemarketers and spoofers. People deserve to have their privacy and to be left alone. However, robocall scams are at an all-time high.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 1575, to crack down on abusive, annoying, and illegal robocalls.

Data shows that, in 2017, the FCC reported more than 4.5 million robocall complaints, an increase of more than 1 million from the previous year. More than 300,000 complaints were registered in the State of New Jersey alone.

This act helps protect consumers by ensuring that robocallers and scammers are prosecuted to the full extent of the law. That is why I ask for support of H.R. 1575.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

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

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise here today in recognition of National Agriculture Week.

Back home in Georgia's 12th District and across the Peach State as a whole, agriculture is the number one industry. This week is about recognizing farmers and ranchers nationwide who sacrifice their blood, sweat, and tears to secure the safest, most abundant food supply in the world.

I grew up on a farm, and since being elected to Congress, I have had the distinct honor of serving on the House Agriculture Committee. I could not be prouder of what we have accomplished, especially getting the 2018 farm bill over the finish line.

It is without a doubt that agriculture touches all our lives in one way or another.

Many farmers in my district and across Georgia are hurting from the recent devastation caused by Hurricane Michael. I am doing all I can to ensure that they receive necessary and adequate financial assistance ahead of the upcoming planting season. I know my Senate colleagues are working to get this done as well, but the urgency of this simply cannot be overstated. Rural America needs us to act now.

Madam Speaker, again, I thank all our farmers who work hard every day to feed and clothe this great Nation and the world.

AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE IS A RIGHT

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to tell the story of three very special young men from my district.

Edward Roman and his twin brother, Edwin, were diagnosed with a heart condition that has put them through multiple surgeries. Both worked at the Village Trattoria restaurant in Summit, New Jersey, where they met Quinn Butler, a senior at Summit High.

When Quinn learned of what they were going through, he set up a GoFundMe site that raised \$119,000 in 2 weeks.

It is a story of good people coming together to say they will not let a neighbor down, but it is also a story of how our healthcare system lets us all down.

A community should not have to raise \$100,000 to keep someone from

going into debt due to a medical condition. Two young men worried about staying alive should not have to worry about negotiating with hospitals and insurance companies to stay solvent.

Every American deserves the security of knowing that affordable healthcare is a right that will follow us wherever we go, wherever we live and work, whatever misfortune may befall us.

Madam Speaker, our friends and neighbors will always do what they can. Now it is up to the Congress to do what we must.

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight a fatal disorder that has been impacting deer populations in 24 States, including Pennsylvania, chronic wasting disease.

Chronic wasting disease is progressive and always fatal. Deer, elk, mules, and moose are impacted by this disease. First, they have difficulty moving, and the most obvious and consistent sign is significant weight loss over time.

Madam Speaker, I made an amendment to the 2018 farm bill that gives priority status to chronic wasting disease under the research portion of the bill, and I will be introducing legislation to help identify and address the root causes of chronic wasting disease.

This past Saturday, my colleague and friend, Congressman JOHN JOYCE, and I were at the East Freedom Fire Hall with 300 hunters. At this event, chronic wasting disease was at the forefront.

While the science is developing, a cure is still years away and needs considerable funding to make it a reality. It is my hope that, through research, we can successfully cure chronic wasting disease.

TRUMP BUDGET AND GATEWAY

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I wonder if President Trump intended for his budget to be a joke. After all, he entitled it "Better America" but proposed massive cuts to education programs, the Special Olympics, Medicare, Medicaid, and AIDS programs.

Nothing about that will make America better. In fact, it will make life worse for millions of Americans.

Trump also likes to call himself the Builder President, but his budget includes not a single penny to fund the country's most critical infrastructure project, the Gateway project.

Gateway is a nationally significant project to replace the crumbling tunnels that run under the Hudson River