

Every other major storm and disaster received a supplemental appropriation, but for some reason, victims of Hurricane Michael remain waiting.

The Air Force, expecting an appropriation, began the process of rebuilding Tyndall Air Force Base. This morning, the Air Force put out news that they have run out of O&M funds.

What does this mean? It means that, as of this morning, we have deferred 61 required facility projects at bases in 18 States across our country.

It means that, on May 1, we will stop work on Tyndall Air Force Base, failing to meet our obligations to rebuild.

It means that, on May 15, the Air Force will cut aircraft repairs, potentially endangering our pilots' safety when flying and limiting their training capacity.

Ultimately, it means that, on September 1, we will cut 18,000 training flying hours.

This is unacceptable in the current global environment. We must act now to ensure that the men and women serving in the Air Force are furnished with the tools to accomplish their missions.

This is our job as the Congress, and we need to do it immediately, since there are very few legislative days remaining before the Easter break.

WORLD WATER DAY

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate World Water Day, just celebrated on March 22.

Water sustains life on Earth. It is critical to health, sanitation, food production, and the economy at large.

Tragically, over 2 billion people around our world lack access to safe drinking water, a humanitarian crisis. Some live in our country.

Limited access to freshwater is an ever-increasing risk to our national security as nations go to war over this precious resource. Meanwhile, terrorist organizations seek to control water resources to finance their destabilizing activities. That is why we must fully fund U.S. diplomatic leadership, to ensure that the looming conflicts over water can be nipped in the bud.

My own constituents in northern Ohio are acutely aware of how precious access to clean water can be. In the summer of 2014, fertilizer runoff led to massive clusters of harmful algae blooms in Lake Erie, compromising water supplies to over half a million residents of Toledo. Flint, Michigan, shortly thereafter, endured its own water crisis.

As the Appropriations Committee's Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee chair, I can assure you that our committee is working tirelessly to fight for improved infrastructure, environmental protections, and access to clean water.

Together, we will meet this crisis in our country and abroad and allow the

vital human right for freshwater to belong to everyone.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF BARBARA RICCA

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

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of a dear friend and a model public servant from my district, Ms. Barbara Ricca of Newbury Township in Geauga County. Ms. Ricca passed away peacefully on Saturday morning, March 23, at the age of 95.

Barb proudly served as the legal secretary for Geauga County for over 30 years. She worked under five different prosecutors from both parties. In fact, when I became prosecutor, Barbara was my very first secretary.

She worked tirelessly until her retirement, but Barb did not retire from life. She worked just as hard as a volunteer at University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center and could be found baling hay on their family farm.

For relaxation, she played in the Great Geauga County Fair Band, of which she had been an original charter member since 1938. Most recently, I had the honor of pinning Barb at the Geauga County Fair to commemorate her 80th year of playing in the fair band.

Barb will not only be missed by her loving family and friends but by the entire Geauga County community.

May Barbara Ricca rest in peace.

CONGRATULATING FULLERTON COLLEGE BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, to my right is a picture of champs. I congratulate the Fullerton College men's basketball team for winning the State championship this last weekend.

This victory marks Fullerton College's fourth State championship title, but the first since 2006. This awesome performance is thanks to Coach Perry Webster and tournament MVP Lance Coleman, sophomore Rodrick McCobb, and the rest of the talented players.

I am honored to recognize these fine young men. These players are going to be role models, and they are going to be leaders in our community. These men have learned a lesson, which is that hard work and determination pay off.

These are our State champions. Congratulations to Coach Webster and the Hornets. They have earned this victory.

Go Hornets.

CONGRATULATING LAKELAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL TEAM

(Mr. SPANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lakeland Christian School Mock Trial team for winning second place in the Florida High School Mock Trial Competition.

The team previously won first place in regionals and went on to win not only second place among all teams in Florida but also the Stephen Shenkman Professionalism Award and the Best Attorney award, which was granted to Abby Branham.

In addition to Abby, the team included Ama Fosu, Annie Bolter, Trent Curtis, Keaton Walding, Jace Gravitt, Faith Nagy, Emily Branham, Lucy Bolter, Seth Martinez, Tag Hunt, Riley Rhoden, Carter Sawicki, Haley Caylor, and Aline Peek.

These students dedicated many hours of hard work and preparation to learn the facts of their case and present them thoughtfully in the competition. I am confident the knowledge they gained will help them become active members of our community in college and beyond.

Their success comes not only from their own hard work but also from the mentors who guided them through the process. The talented students were coached by Chasity Branham, professor of criminal justice at Polk State College, and Judge Melissa Gravitt, who recently assumed the bench for Florida's 10th Judicial Circuit.

These women took many hours out of their busy schedules to impart their passion for justice to these students. I appreciate all that they do. Our next generation is made better by their service.

HONORING THE CAREER OF JUDGE RAMON GARCIA

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

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and service of a gentleman, the Honorable Ramon Garcia.

Judge Garcia recently completed his third term as the Hidalgo County judge, serving with honor and distinction during his tenure. Judge Garcia was first elected in 2002. At the end of his tenure in 2006, Judge Garcia left Hidalgo County in the best financial position it had ever been in, in its history.

Judge Garcia returned for a second round as Hidalgo County judge, being elected for a second term in 2010, and a third term in 2014, having served until this year in 2019.

His leadership and fiscally responsible policies have paved the way for Hidalgo County to construct a much-needed county courthouse. The Hidalgo County Commissioners Court officially named the courthouse's law library the "Hidalgo County Judge Ramon Garcia Law Library," paying homage to his positive contributions to Hidalgo County.

Ramon Garcia was born in 1948 at the old McAllen General Hospital, the current location of McAllen City Hall. He graduated with honors from the University of Houston, Bates College of Law, in 1972, and passed the State bar the same year.

He began practicing in 1973 with Joe B. Evins, who was an attorney at the time but would later go on to be the State district judge in our county.

Recently, Judge Garcia formed a coalition of community leaders to plan for the 2020 Census and ensure that Hidalgo County is accurately counted. The coalition's work is recognized statewide and by other city and county governments that are facing similar situations.

Today, Hidalgo County continues its fight for representation and entitlement funds, and they owe many thanks to Judge Garcia for his tireless work.

Madam Speaker, Judge Garcia is a pillar in our community. There are many reasons to admire the work of Judge Garcia. I personally thank the judge for his exemplary work in government, but I most admire his trial and advocacy skills that he has used to advocate for south Texas.

He has challenged the status quo as a litigator and as our county judge to the benefit of south Texans. It is a privilege to represent resilient, hard-working individuals like him.

RECOGNIZING CINCINNATI MOELLER CRUSADERS

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

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, the Cincinnati Moeller Crusaders have done it again, back-to-back Ohio Division I basketball champs 2 years in a row.

The Crusaders defeated the strong Akron Saint Vincent-Saint Mary team over the weekend, 52-44, to take the championship.

Moeller was undefeated this season going 29-0. In fact, going back to last season, it is their 49th win in a row in a league and a State known for great high school basketball teams.

As a graduate of a Greater Catholic League rival school, La Salle, I have to acknowledge that Moeller is strong in just about everything. In fact, my senior year at La Salle, Moeller was the only team to beat us in football, even with me anchoring the La Salle defensive line.

To Moeller's players, especially the seniors who will be graduating, the coaches, parents, teachers, and fans, congratulations. I wish them all the best in the future—unless, of course, they are playing my alma mater, La Salle.

REPEALING AFFORDABLE CARE ACT WOULD HAVE HARMFUL PERCUSSIONS

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

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, today, I want to share the story of a family in my district. In 2015, the Cerrato family was in the NICU, fighting for the life of their son Ethan. At just 10 days old, he had undergone two major surgeries, had been the subject of dozens of procedures, and had spent the first days of his life traumatized and struggling through pain.

After only 10 days, the Cerrato family had accumulated a hospital bill of over \$250,000. While little Ethan was fighting for his life, Christine and Matthew Cerrato were grappling with the thought of filing for bankruptcy.

At this moment, the question became: What could they rely on? The answer was the Affordable Care Act, which was passed into law this week 9 years ago.

Earlier this week, the Department of Justice called on the Federal courts to overturn the ACA in its entirety, the latest attack from this administration on the affordable healthcare of millions of families, including many in my State of Colorado and in my district.

These relentless efforts to repeal this law would have harmful impacts on families across the country, like the Cerrato family.

We cannot move backward on the progress we have made to provide affordable healthcare to American families. Instead, we must move forward to lower drug prices, to lower the cost of healthcare, and to ensure that Colorado families and families all over America can get the care they need.

HONORING CHER KONDOR

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

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, March is Women's History Month, and I am proud to honor some remarkable women in my district.

Today, I am recognizing Ms. Cher Kondor, who I had the honor of meeting just recently. Cher is a Gold Star mother. Her son, Martin Kondor, was a U.S. Army specialist killed in Baqubah, Iraq, in 2004.

Of course, Ms. Kondor was devastated, but she decided to do something in his honor and in honor of all the other veterans who have served, particularly those who have sacrificed their lives for our freedom.

She created a memorial veterans garden called the Gold Star Garden in York County and has raised, since the time it was created, nearly \$1 million for the garden. This beautiful, living monument is a gathering place for those who want to commemorate and remember the fallen and celebrate the lives of our sons and daughters who volunteered to protect this country.

Ms. Kondor honors our Nation's veterans, and it is a privilege to recognize her contribution to our community on the House floor today.

We are thankful for her example and for her continued awareness of the sac-

rifices of those who have fought for us and for our freedom.

I am proud to honor Ms. Kondor.

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BIPARTISANSHIP

(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, I am grateful for the opportunity to speak to the Members of the House. We are all here because the American people made it so.

The diversity of our Nation's political ideals is boundless. That is what made our country what it is today. We are here to represent these vast ideals.

The definition of bipartisanship is of or involving the agreement or cooperation of two political parties that usually oppose each other's policies. It is about cooperation, it is about compromise, and it is about working together with those who don't have the same exact ideals as you.

I am asking for the membership of this House to think on the idea of bipartisanship. It is my belief that we owe it to the American people to work together.

MUELLER INVESTIGATION

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

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, we, our country, over the past 2 years have lived through persistent and daily accusations against our President of Russian collusion in his election, accusations made by many Democrats and the media. Our President was accused of nothing short of high crimes and misdemeanors.

A 2-year, thorough investigation was carried out. Last Friday, perhaps the most thorough investigation in recent history concluded. The investigation enjoyed not only complete, unlimited access to witnesses, but the resources of the entire Federal Government, including the Department of Justice, the FBI, and the intelligence community.

The Mueller investigation reached a conclusion that no Russian collusion took place nor was there any evidence of any participation by any persons in the campaign.

The verdict is in. Nevertheless, our Democrat colleagues continue to talk about a further investigation. Any further investigations would not have the fraction of resources of the Mueller investigation.

I ask: Seriously? Another investigation? This one was not enough? Or are we prolonging for the sake of prolonging this issue?

We owe it to the American people to accept the facts from a 2-year investigation, move on, and do the work we were sent here to do. We owe this to the American people.