

months with absolutely no supplemental disaster funding, no serious action on the part of Congress to help the victims of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, the Carolinas, and even the California wildfires.

Every time I am in Florida, I discover new destruction. That debris has become firewood and is leading to massive wildfires. One just took out 700 acres. That debris is also clogging our stormwater system, and flooding will be our next disaster.

One of the strongest hurricanes in the history of the United States ravaged Florida and left a path of destruction across the South, and yet, here we are with only 3 legislative days before Easter and no relief in sight.

The Senate again failed to pass a disaster bill this week, and the House appears to have given up. This is shameful. The lack of action is a disgrace to the American people.

Madam Speaker, American citizens are hurting. We must pass a disaster relief bill and do it now.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SHERIFF'S DEPUTY PETER JOHN HERRERA

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

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a father, son, and public servant, Sheriff's Deputy Peter John Herrera, who passed away at the age of 35 on Sunday, March 24, after being fatally shot at a traffic stop.

A lifelong El Pasoan, Sheriff's Deputy Herrera proudly served the El Paso County Sheriff's Office for 11 years. His leadership was exemplary. He was widely commended by his fellow officers for always wearing his badge with pride. He was the epitome of a public servant who loved his community and demonstrated it every day.

He was highly respected, supported, and loved by many as a devoted father, husband, brother, and friend. The community of El Paso mourns his untimely death, but we are endlessly thankful for his unwavering service and contributions to our community. It was a privilege to stand alongside so many El Pasoans last week as he was laid to rest.

Sheriff's Deputy Peter Herrera's memory will live on among us for dedicating his life to protecting and serving with integrity and purpose.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ED WESTCOTT

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an east Tennessee icon, Ed Westcott.

Those who knew Ed would tell you that his ability to capture a story through images was evident at an early

age. At just 20 years old, Ed became the 29th individual hired by the Clinton Engineer Works to begin to capture images at Oak Ridge. Ed was the sole photographer of the Manhattan Project—the Manhattan Project, now well known, then a secret.

His images lifted the veil off the secret city and gave Americans a glimpse into the lives of those who helped our Nation win World War II.

From the alpha racetrack at Y-12 to the images of daily life, we had Ed to thank for over 15,000 photographs. His work is proudly displayed in east Tennessee and in Washington at the National Archives.

To honor his contributions, I joined with my colleagues in the Senate to nominate him for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

On March 29, Ed Westcott passed away, but his legacy will live on through his images.

MOVING FORWARD TO PROTECT WOMEN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, today, we finished one stop of a journey, and that is the journey to pass the Violence Against Women Act.

I have had the privilege to see and shepherd this bill throughout my congressional tenure, having stood alongside senior Members many years ago in the first reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. This bill was started today in 2016. We began to work and reach across the aisle to do what is right for the victims of so many horrific crimes.

We wanted children to be protected, immigrant women to be protected. We wanted to make sure that Native American women were protected.

We wanted law enforcement and prosecutors to have the tools. We wanted to stop the backlog in rape kits that had not been processed.

We did that today with a collective group of Republican and Democratic Members on a bill that should be non-partisan.

We worked hard, and I was gratified that we wound up giving a bill to the Senate and that they must ask the question: Are they not going to support a bill that was bipartisan?

Madam Speaker, I thank Monalisa Dugue, Milagros Cisneros, Joe Graupensperger, Amy Rutkin, and Chairman NADLER. I thank KAREN BASS and all those women who worked together, including the outstanding work that was done on the MTR with DEBBIE DINGELL.

Madam Speaker, we are thanking them because we are moving forward to protect women in this country, including against sex trafficking, which was in the bill.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA WESTERN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable women's basketball team from the University of Montana Western in Dillon.

The Bulldogs recently captured the NAIA Division I national title to close out a stellar season. The team's convincing 75-59 victory over the nine-time national champion, Oklahoma City Stars, brought the national title to Dillon, Montana.

The school's first national title in women's basketball brought well-deserved recognition to senior Brianna King, a two-time All-American and NAIA National Player of the Year.

Ms. King, however, was not alone on the court. Fellow All-American Britt Cooper won the tournament's Hustle Award and Tori Anderson made All-Tournament First Team.

The Bulldogs' head coach, Lindsay Woolley, led the team to the national title and was named the 2019 NAIA Coach of the Year.

Congratulations to all the players and coaches. Your school and State are proud of you.

All Montana is Bulldog Nation.

SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING

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

Mrs. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, as mother of four, the wife of an educator, and the daughter of a teacher, I know that we should never underestimate the power of a high-quality education.

In the nearly 40 years since the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was passed, the Federal Government has not fulfilled its funding promise to our special education students. Not once.

This failure leaves our schools with extreme budget cuts that impact every student and forces them to turn to our communities to bear the burden through local tax levies.

That is why I am so proud to work with Representative JARED HUFFMAN and Minnesota Congressman PETE STAUBER on a bipartisan basis for IDEA full funding, to make sure that every student, including those with special needs, receives a high-quality education in their neighborhood.

Providing a high-quality education to all of our students is something that we can all agree on, and we must work together to get this done on behalf of our communities.

TEXAS TECH HEADS TO FINAL FOUR

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Red Raiders of Texas Tech and a new standard of excellence in west Texas.

Sports teaches us a lot about the game of life. It teaches us that anything worth doing is worth working hard for. It teaches us the virtue of competition, the value of setting ambitious goals, and the necessity of making sacrifices to achieve them.

Through sports, we learn how to work as a team, how to be resilient in the face of adversity, and how to display grace in victory as well as defeat.

No one embodies these traits better than Coach Beard and the Texas Tech men's basketball team who have earned their first trip to the Final Four.

Coach Beard says the tough times pass, but the tough people last. Let me tell you, these Red Raiders are as tough as west Texas.

To the team, listen to the coach: Four to one, four parts mental, one part physical.

To my fellow Americans, get your guns up because Texas Tech is in Minneapolis, and we are coming home with the national championship.

Go Tech.

CELEBRATING REAUTHORIZATION OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

(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, I rise to celebrate the bipartisan reauthorization today of the Violence Against Women Act.

In 2013, this legislation was one of the first votes I took as a new Member of Congress. This year, I was proud to be an original cosponsor of the bill to ensure survivors have access to essential services and justice.

It is a sad fact that VAWA remains critically important. Despite some progress, the rate of domestic violence remains far too high.

I recently acquired a painting created by a survivor of domestic violence. It is a beautiful scene of a woman standing in a field of sunflowers with a blue sky. But upon a closer look, you see the broken chains at her feet, chains representing her former prison of domestic abuse.

While the woman in the painting was fortunately able to break free, so many others cannot. Today's legislation helps both groups.

I am particularly glad that this year's bill makes improvements to help the victims of dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and increases resources available to vulnerable populations, including Native American women and the LGBTQ community.

In our communities, there are many local organizations doing amazing work to help women escape situations of domestic violence and rebuild their

lives, including A Safe Place in my district. I commend their work and the work of all groups like this across the Nation, and I hope this legislation will provide additional support and resources for their important mission.

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HUMANITARIAN CRISIS AT SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, this week, as the humanitarian and security crisis at our southern border worsens, my colleagues across the aisle have failed to act. Instead, House Democrats chose to focus on issuing illegal subpoenas for the Mueller report, including its underlying evidence, investigative sources, and grand jury materials. House Democrats are effectively demanding that Attorney General Barr break the law.

For nearly 2 years, Democrats misled the American people about the special counsel's investigation. Now that it is clear that there was absolutely no collusion with Russia, my colleagues across the aisle are grasping at straws and completely ignoring the crisis at our southern border.

Daily border crossings at our southern border have hit levels that we have not seen in decades. Adding to the complexity and gravity of this crisis is the dramatic increase in the number of unaccompanied children and family units.

Customs and Border Protection apprehended more than 100,000 family unit aliens in 2018. That is up 600 percent since 2013. The overwhelming surge of migrants has stretched our facilities to a breaking point.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues across the aisle end the partisan showmanship and work with us to address this crisis.

HONORING REV. DR. ROBIN WEINSTEIN

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to honor an outstanding member of south Jersey. Rev. Dr. Robin Weinstein is a true believer in human potential and harnesses that power through extensive work and his community involvement.

In addition to being an associate professor at Wilmington University, he started the M25 Initiative to find ways to alleviate suffering, feed the hungry, end poverty, reduce crime, and revitalize the community.

Dr. Weinstein is also a cofounder of the Cumberland County Code Blue Coalition, which provides emergency winter shelter to those who are very much in need.

On top of all of these things, Dr. Weinstein serves as the founding pastor

of Bethany Grace Community Church in Bridgeton, New Jersey. Under his leadership, the church has started a weekly soup kitchen, monthly food pantry and clothing closet, showers for the homeless, and many other programs that provide for the people of south Jersey who so desperately need them.

His tireless efforts make an impact on the community that is felt far and wide.

The people of south Jersey appreciate all you do, Dr. Weinstein.

BORDER SECURITY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight some pretty disturbing numbers released by Customs and Border Protection that help put our border crisis into perspective.

In 2018, Customs and Border Patrol agents and officers seized more than 1.7 million pounds of narcotics, including 1 million pounds of marijuana; 280,000 pounds of cocaine; 248,000 pounds of methamphetamine; 6,500 pounds of heroin; 2,400 pounds of fentanyl, which is enough doses to kill everyone in the United States; and 139,000 pounds of other illicit drugs.

It is also a humanitarian crisis. Border Patrol agents rescued from trafficking 4,300 men and women near the border last year. There is no telling how many more have been caught up in human trafficking that slipped through the cracks.

Border Patrol says nearly every sector across the Southwest border has exceeded their capacity. Each day, nearly half the agents on the Southwest border are diverted away from border security missions to instead care for, transport, and process family units and unaccompanied children.

Even former Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson of the Obama administration said that we have a crisis with these huge numbers.

Madam Speaker, we need to do our job and get this border crisis solved.

HONORING STEPHEN "POPS" CULVER

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

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life and legacy of Stephen "Pops" Culver.

Pops, as he was fondly known, lived his life to serve his country during the Vietnam war; his students as an elementary schoolteacher; and his community as an advocate for suicide prevention and awareness, something that was personal to him after the tragic loss of his son.