

not have a place to live, some of them will not have food, and it is because of the policies of this administration.

The Department of Homeland Security must serve the Nation, it must not serve one single President. I maintain that we are going to fight to fix this broken immigration system.

#### RECOGNIZING WEST JEFFERSON'S 33RD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS IN JULY FESTIVAL

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

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the city of West Jefferson in North Carolina's Fifth District on yet another successful Christmas in July Festival. For the last 33 years, the festival has taken place on the first weekend of July to celebrate Ashe County's vibrant and nationally renowned Christmas tree industry.

The dedicated volunteers of the festival committee and board of directors bring together this wonderfully patriotic community around America's independence and the best Christmas trees in the country. As a former Christmas tree grower myself, I can attest to the importance of recognizing this often overlooked, yet highly significant, farming industry, not just during the Christmas season, but all year round.

It is not only an honor to represent these patriots and tree growers, it is an honor for me to share this tradition with them every year.

#### PROTECT HEALTHCARE FOR ALL AMERICANS

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

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Mr. Speaker, 9 years ago, the House passed the Affordable Care Act to ensure that tens of millions of Americans had health insurance.

Thanks to the ACA, over a million Floridians were able to get healthcare coverage.

In these past 9 years, Republicans have consistently tried to repeal and sabotage the Affordable Care Act. As a result, families in Florida are often unable to afford their healthcare.

Today, the President tried once again to repeal the Affordable Care Act. If the President gets his way, more than 1.6 million Floridians would lose their coverage, and insurance companies could charge even more, resulting in higher costs for American families. Women could be charged more than men for the same services, and people living with preexisting conditions could lose coverage.

Floridians cannot afford these attacks on their healthcare. I implore the Senate to pass the bills that we have already sent them to protect healthcare for all Americans.

#### TRIBUTE TO ELSIE WAITES

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Elsie Waites, who passed away on May 28, 2019.

Mrs. Waites was a native Louisianan from Gloster and was born on May 9, 1920. Throughout her life, she was always known as someone who loved and cared for those around her.

Of her many accomplishments, Mrs. Waites was an avid volunteer in her local community, helping young children achieve their dreams. She also took it upon herself to organize a local quartet group, where she sang for several years traveling throughout the State.

While Mrs. Waites lived an extraordinary life dedicated and devoted to service and compassion, her first priority was always her family. She was a loving mother and grandmother to 8 children, 21 grandchildren, 44 great-grandchildren, and 8 great-great-grandchildren.

One of Mrs. Waites' children, Mrs. Barbara Norton, is my good friend and former colleague in the Louisiana House of Representatives.

I wish to extend my sincere and deepest sympathies to all of the family and friends whose lives were blessed by Mrs. Waites. I pray that God's grace gives them comfort during this time, and that they are able to reflect on all the joyful memories that she provided.

Proverbs 31 reminds us that:

A woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Honor her for all that her hands have done . . . Her children arise and call her blessed.

#### INJUSTICE AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the continued injustices at our southern border.

Recent reports have continued to highlight the conditions at DHS detention camps are deplorable, inhumane, and abusive to children. Current and former Border Patrol agents have attested to the horrible conditions these children are being subjected to.

Now that we have provided emergency funding, we must stop this abuse by the Trump administration in its tracks. We need far greater accountability, we need to set required standards for medical care, we need to strictly limit the time spent in detention facilities, and we need to institute protocols to ensure compassionate processing of children and families.

What is going on at our border does not reflect our values. It does not reflect who we are. And the impact on these children will last a lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to work with us to stop this stain on our great Nation's long history of compassion, refuge, and inclusion.

#### AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn President Trump, his administration, and all the anti-life Republicans in Congress who seek to strike down the Affordable Care Act using the judicial system this time. Their callousness would cut off millions of Americans from their affordable healthcare plans.

Today, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit began hearing oral arguments in *Texas v. United States*, a case supported by the Trump administration that would strike down every health benefit afforded to the American people under the Affordable Care Act.

If Republicans strike down the Affordable Care Act, then the protections for 130 million Americans with pre-existing conditions, more than a third of our people, would be erased, including nearly 5 million Ohioans. The uninsured rate would go up by 65 percent. The Affordable Care Act's historic Medicaid expansion, which covers 17 million people, would go out the window. And protections for women that prevent insurance companies from charging them higher rates than men would disappear, as well.

These popular and lifesaving provisions would be repealed.

Mr. Speaker, since its inception, the Affordable Care Act has provided quality coverage for more than 16 million Americans. Let's ensure that high-quality healthcare remains a right for all, not a privilege for just a few.

#### CONGRATULATING JOE DIETTERICK

(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. Mr. Speaker, when Joe Dietterick was told by his guidance counselor that he should join the Vineland High School crew team, the Fighting Clan, he wasn't interested at first. But Joe, a 16-year-old with cerebral palsy, isn't one to back down from a challenge. All he needed was one practice on the lake, pushing his boat through the water with his doubles partner, Jason Wheeler, to immediately fall in love with rowing.

Joe and Jason went on to become Vineland High School's first adaptive boat to row in the Atlantic County rowing championships, and they also went on to compete in the Stotesbury Cup Regatta.

Joe's perseverance and willingness to challenge himself is an inspiration to