

finally considers the Butch Lewis Act. This bill moves America one step closer to restoring its broken pension promises to 1,300,000 pensioners across our Nation.

Today I met with another 50 retirees from trucking firms, candy manufacturers, miners, and others in Ohio whose futures are at risk in their golden years. Their top concern is economic security.

I heard the stresses they have endured since receiving letters threatening pension cuts of up to 70 percent of their earned pensions. Worry between family members, increased suicides amongst pensioner friends, anxiety and growing health concerns. This isn't the retirement hardworking Americans earned.

Valorie Shapler, a retired Roadway Express truck driver, is suffering from brain cancer. She is fighting for her life daily, and why should she have to worry about the pension cuts that she earned?

Vicki Bailey, a widow of a trucker, raised their family but already struggles to survive on her spousal benefits that were cut in half with her husband's passing, and she has her own health issues to worry about.

Jim Baumgartner asked for a prayer. How can Congress ignore the pleas of millions of hardworking Americans?

Pensions have afforded millions of retired middle-class people some economic security in their retirement years. Please let our colleagues join us in broad bipartisan passage of the Butch Lewis Act tomorrow.

#### HONORING DR. DAKEYAN CHA DRE GRAHAM AS FLORIDA'S 2020 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Dakeyan Graham for being selected as Florida's Teacher of the Year. He was chosen out of more than 176,000 teachers to receive Florida's highest award for public educators.

Known affectionately by his students as Dr. Dre, he has long been driven by music. He played the saxophone in the marching band at King High School; and he went on to study music education, earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and a doctorate from the University of South Florida.

He returned to King High School as an educator where he teaches his students music in the same room where he learned to play.

He has worked at the school for more than a decade and now serves as the director of bands and instrumental studies. As part of this award, Dr. Graham will spend 1 year as an education ambassador where he will work to raise public awareness of other exceptional teachers, provide learning opportunities to educators, and recruit future teachers.

Dr. Graham has dedicated his career to serving his students, and this award shows he sets an example not only to his students but to us all.

#### COMMEMORATING PASTOR R. L. ROGERS

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

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Pastor R. L. Rogers, a good friend, a man of God, a community leader, father, and husband. Pastor Rogers transitioned from labor to eternal reward this past weekend.

Pastor Rogers attended high school in south Texas before graduating from the Southwestern Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. Pastor Roger's time in seminary started his journey in faith and helping our community that expanded over five decades.

Pastor Rogers was the founder and the only pastor for 53 years of the Harvey Avenue Baptist Church, a place of worship that is a cornerstone in the Fort Worth community. That was only the beginning of his accomplishments.

Pastor Rogers was also an avid volunteer for important causes like mentoring the youth in our community and serving as a chaplain at the Tarrant County Jail. He was also a nationally known evangelist, a pastor, and Gospel preacher.

Pastor Rogers was a pillar in the community spending his 53 years teaching and encouraging the word of God. It was an honor to know Pastor Rogers and just to know the legacy that he has left behind in our community.

My heartfelt condolences to his family. We thank you for sharing Pastor Rogers with us in the Fort Worth community for so long.

#### RECOGNIZING ED LOMASNEY OF THE BURTCHVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ed Lomasney for his 60 years of dedicated service to the Burtchville, Michigan, fire department.

Mr. Lomasney became a firefighter following in the footsteps of his father, who helped found the Burtchville Fire Department. Over the last 60 years, Ed has served as a volunteer firefighter and has been instrumental in growing the firehouse through his time, resources, and mentorship.

In addition to volunteering with the fire department, Ed worked and retired from DTE Energy. He is a devoted husband to his wife, Mary Nell, and loving father to their three children.

For six decades, Ed has been a mainstay of the department, and he will be

missed by all. Although Ed may be retiring from the fire department, we all know he will remain involved in the community to make an impact on all of Burtchville.

Madam Speaker, I join the Burtchville community in thanking him for his dedication and his 60 years of service and wish him the best in his retirement.

#### MISS NEW JERSEY 2019

(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, a few weeks ago, 28 young, impressive women shared their talents in the Miss New Jersey competition. The competition has been around for almost 100 years and since that time has evolved into a fantastic celebration of some of the best young individuals in south Jersey.

The Miss New Jersey competition was the first to offer a talent category, and this past year the competition focused even more on aptitude and intellect over outward appearance. This year the candidates were able to emphasize their individual styles and their individual passions, and all of the young women spoke about different social impact initiatives that mattered greatly to them.

One of my wonderful spring interns, Alyssa Rodriguez, placed in the top 11 with her platform of social media awareness. She made south Jersey so very proud. Miss Jade Glab of Belmar, New Jersey, was crowned Miss New Jersey with her platform of healthy children, strong America.

We are proud of all the contestants and the intellect and the compassion they bring to all of their communities, and I am most proud of our contestants from south Jersey.

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#### WAYCROSS AREA COMMUNITY THEATER

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Waycross Area Community Theater for all of its work to support local theater while preserving historical structures in the First Congressional District of Georgia. Using local talent to provide live family friendly musicals, this community theater is truly a gem.

Since 1913, theater has played a large role in the social scene of Waycross, with the Ritz Theater hosting operas there. Noted as one of Georgia's "finest theater" structures, the Ritz Theater transitioned over time into showing only movies and then, finally, going dormant.

Now, the Waycross Area Community Theater maintains the historic art