

CONGRATULATIONS TO FOREST LAKE HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Forest Lake Area High School for being named a Green Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education. This award is given to schools that have recognized the environmental impact of their facility, promote health, and ensure high-quality environmental education programming that prepares students with sustainability skills.

Forest Lake Area High School is among only 35 schools, 14 districts, and 4 postsecondary institutions across the country to receive this award. I look forward to welcoming the honorees to Washington, D.C. in September for a ceremony to recognize their wonderful achievement.

Congratulations to Forest Lake Area High School for the Green Ribbon School award.

THE GROWING RACIAL WEALTH GAP IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the crisis that is the growing racial wealth gap in the United States.

A recent report from the Institute for Policy Studies noted that the median wealth for Black families, adjusted for inflation, declined from \$7,323 to \$3,557 between the years 1983 and 2013.

Mr. Speaker, if these alarming trends continue, the average Black household is on track to own \$0 in wealth by the year 2053.

This stands in sharp contrast to the average wealth of White households, which increased by nearly \$14,000 during the same period, to an average of \$137,000 by the year 2053.

Zero dollars for the Black families, \$137,000 for the White families by the year 2053.

The wealth disparity between Black and White families persists across nearly all levels of income and education.

White middle-class households have almost eight times more wealth than a Black household in the same income bracket.

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Mr. Speaker, even a 4-year degree cannot remedy these disparities. A 2014 census survey found that a Black family whose head of household has obtained a master's degree owns an average \$37,600 of wealth, compared to an average of \$181,220 in a comparable White household, a difference of nearly \$150,000.

Mr. Speaker, the racial gap in our Nation must be addressed, as it is a critical concern for all of our Nation.

The barriers between Black families and White families must be addressed. The barriers preventing Black families

from accumulating wealth drive up poverty rates and stifle America's economy.

This is not just a Black issue; this is an American issue.

The inability to secure your future no matter how hard you work runs contrary to our basic American principles. We must do more in this House of Representatives to alleviate this critical issue, this crisis, and we must continue to make our Nation, these United States of America, the land of opportunity for all of its citizens.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB MISSOURI STATE YOUTH OF THE YEAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Boys & Girls Club 2019 Missouri State Youth of the Year, Ms. Jazzmine Jones.

Jazzmine is a member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri's Cole Camp Site, where she serves as a junior staff member. In her position, she helps run programs and mentors the younger club kids.

Earlier this year, Jazzmine was named the Missouri State Youth of the Year at a 2-day event in Jefferson City, Missouri, marking the first time a student from the Boys & Girls Club of West Central Missouri was awarded this title.

Last week, on July 18, Jazzmine represented Missouri at the Boys & Girls Clubs of America Midwest Regional Youth of the Year competition. She made Missouri proud with her speech highlighting the importance of a healthy lifestyle, education, and the impact of one's actions.

I am so thankful to have such a talented young individual in Missouri's Fourth Congressional District working hard to be the best person that she can be and sharing her knowledge with younger kids as a mentor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Jazzmine for her hard work and dedication in using her actions to inspire others. I also want to wish her well in her future endeavors as she begins her freshman year at the University of Missouri.

Go, Tigers.

FAYETTE OPTIMIST CLUB

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Optimist Club of Fayette, Missouri. This club, founded on December 13, 1968, celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. For half a century, they have helped to support youth, and cultivate an overall stronger community in Fayette.

The Optimist Club relies on their dedicated volunteers to raise funds and complete projects that impact the lives of kids in their community.

The Optimists promote youth involvement in Fayette by hosting a summer recreation program, a youth appreciation banquet, and a fishing

derby every year, as well as numerous other activities that promote local programming for young people throughout the community.

It is organizations like the Optimist Club that create the backbone of our small towns and help preserve their treasured culture.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Optimist Club of Fayette, Missouri, for their hard work and dedication to the youth of the community for the last 50 years.

COMO FIRE CHIEF RANDY WHITE

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Columbia, Missouri, Fire Chief Randy White on his retirement.

Since joining the department in 1998 as a firefighter, Chief White has dedicated his life to the safety of mid-Missouri families. He has saved countless lives and led his department to new heights.

During his time as fire chief, Randy's department became one of only 258 in the world to achieve accreditation through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. His hard work and leadership have been a blessing to the Columbia Fire Department and a true role model for other departments to follow.

I join with many Missourians, families, and friends to wish Chief White a fulfilling retirement. I hope Randy enjoys the days he has worked so hard to earn and wish him continued health and happiness in this new phase of life.

WE ARE A COUNTRY OF BRAVE AND BEAUTIFUL CITIZENS AND IMMIGRANTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, let me set the record straight. The way President Trump talks about women, minorities, immigrants, and pretty much every American who does not look like him is fueling hate in our great country.

Last week, in a series of tweets, President Trump attacked four Congresswomen, all of whom are American citizens and women of color. The President doubled down on his attacks and singled out one of my colleagues from Minnesota in a rally, during which the crowd chanted, "Send her back," which he seemed to relish.

Mr. Speaker, watching that clip made me sick to my stomach, and I am concerned about the direction President Trump is leading our country.

Mr. Speaker, President Trump appears to be encouraging Americans to assume patriotism by the color of one's skin and not the content of one's character. This is, in fact, the opposite of what American heroes like Congressman JOHN LEWIS, Dolores Huerta, Cesar Chavez, and Dr. King fought and bled for.

Mr. Speaker, make no mistake: our President is stoking the flames of hate and division in our great country.