

Additionally, I want to congratulate the students at the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District for their 84 percent pass rate on their advanced placement, or AP, exams, one of the highest averages in the Nation. They were included in the prestigious Advanced Placement District Honor Roll. Less than 3 percent of school districts across the country have received this honor.

As a longtime education advocate, it is with immense pride that I stand here able to recognize these schools and their students for their achievements. All of these schools and students are shining examples of academic excellence in the 39th Congressional District, worthy of their national distinction.

I ask my colleagues to join me in offering my sincerest congratulations.

EXPANSION OF 529 EDUCATION PLANS

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

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, for our economy to continue growing, workers need technical skills, the right training, and education funding.

Workforce development is a bipartisan goal, strongly supported by both employers and employees. Small businesses, manufacturers, trade unions, and industry groups are concerned about the shortage of skilled trade workers.

Sadly, many seeking technical training are precluded from using qualified 529 education savings plans, and many apprenticeships are not eligible for 529 plans as well.

To solve this problem, I am proud to have introduced H.R. 4469, the American Workforce Employment Act, and I would like to offer special thanks to my colleagues, Representatives JEFF VAN DREW from New Jersey, RON ESTES from Kansas, and PAUL MITCHELL from Michigan, for coauthoring this legislation.

Our bipartisan bill expands the application of 529 savings plans to include expenses leading to postsecondary credentials, certain apprenticeships, and the purchase of tools and equipment, which is very important.

These programs have been identified as critical by trade unions and manufacturers. Empowering men and women to utilize their own pretax dollars will increase the number of highly trained individuals pursuing high-wage vocations and filling workforce gaps in agriculture, manufacturing, and skilled labor sectors.

I ask my colleagues to support our bipartisan legislation so that Americans can receive education and technical training to pursue their dreams and expand our economy.

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THE SHORTAGE OF SKILLED WORKERS

(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 here today to bring attention to the American Workforce Empowerment Act which I worked on with my friend from Minnesota, Congressman JIM HAGEDORN.

This is a bipartisan solution—and I hope everybody heard the word bipartisan—to address the growing shortage of skilled workers to fill job openings in the technical and skilled trades.

Small businesses are in need of machinists, welders, truck drivers, and an array of other qualified trades and labor-intensive professions. We should do everything we can to incentivize technical skills training and apprenticeships for those who like to work with their hands and see the product of their hard work.

The bipartisan American Workforce Empowerment Act expands these programs eligible for payment by 529 savings plans, and by making registered apprenticeships eligible, we can more easily and readily close the wide gap of good-paying positions that have gone unfilled in our robust economy.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 4469. We need to expand our workforce, and this is a great way to do it.

RECOGNIZING BEDFORD COUNTY SHERIFF MIKE BROWN AND DR. JANET BROWN

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bedford County Sheriff Mike Brown and his wife, Liberty University professor, Dr. Janet Brown, for their tireless efforts to combat human trafficking and human sexual slavery throughout the world.

The Browns founded the Safe Surfin' Foundation in 1998 with the mission to educate youth and teens about the dangers of the internet and social media. In May the Browns were invited to present a program they developed called Cyber Safety While Accessing Technology, or Cyber S.W.A.T., to the Global Sustainability Network at the Vatican.

Cyber S.W.A.T. utilizes the social cognitive theory, a means of education, where students learn by observing and imitating the behavior of their peers. This program was first launched at Jefferson Forest High School in Lynchburg, Virginia, where students received training and designed presentations for their classmates about online threats. The response was outstanding, and since then the program has been implemented in eight other high schools across the country.

Cyber S.W.A.T. has the potential not only to save lives in the United States, but around the world.

I want to thank the Browns for their efforts to protect the next generation by teaching them proper internet safety, and I look forward to watching the continued success of the Cyber S.W.A.T. program.

NATIONAL CHOCOLATE MILK DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 27 as National Chocolate Milk Day. Chocolate milk is adored by millions of Americans nationwide, and it is a favorite among children. Seventy percent of the milk children consume is flavored, with chocolate being the most popular.

Why?

Because chocolate milk is low in fat, high in nutrients, and packed with flavor.

Milk consumption has been declining, however, and when the National School Lunch Program removed the most popular and the most nutritious options from the schools to serve only fat-free milk, the numbers continued to drop. This was partially reversed by the USDA when the decision was made to, once again, allow 1 percent flavored milk back in school lunches.

To build on this momentum, I introduced the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act earlier this year to once again allow whole milk—both flavored and unflavored—to be offered within the program because children can greatly benefit from the essential nutrients whole milk provides.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to celebrate National Chocolate Milk Day accordingly.

FRUITLESS INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

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

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise to reflect on what could have been accomplished in the past 9 months on this House floor.

The list is staggering: border security and illegal immigration reform; lower drug costs and lower premiums and deductibles for families; correcting surprise billing; making the middle class tax cut permanent; passing a robust infrastructure transportation bill; promoting free, fair, and reciprocal trade globally; and passing the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement and other America-first, but not-America-alone, trade agreements, which will grow our domestic industry and agricultural exports.

Democrat leadership has, however, wasted the last 9 months focused on

fruitless investigations aimed at relitigating the 2016 Presidential election. Every one of these investigations has produced the same result: nothing.

The majority party has wasted its own time and, much more seriously, the time of the people who sent us here.

House Democrats are now grasping at one last desperate effort: an impeachment inquiry over a baseless, second-hand account. This farce, which chooses to push a presumption of guilt where evidence is nonexistent, is nothing short of a constitutional embarrassment for our country.

May God continue to bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING DOROTHY HUKILL

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

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, 1 year ago, on October 2, Volusia County, Florida, lost one of its greatest public servants, Dorothy Hukill.

Dorothy Hukill was a servant leader who dedicated more than two decades of her life serving our community, working tirelessly to improve the lives of residents in our area.

She served as a councilwoman of Ponce Inlet before becoming the mayor of Port Orange. She then headed to the Florida House of Representatives. It was there that she fought for education and financial literacy, encouraging high school students to take courses on money management.

Dorothy didn't care about the spotlight. She preferred to be quiet, yet effective. She was always on her A game, and she truly cared about her constituents. Dorothy didn't see people as Republicans, Democrats, or Independents. She understood the need to work with everyone, and she truly cared about her community and the people she represented.

Dorothy would put up welcome signs for people in our community who often planned months in advance to travel to Florida's capitol in Tallahassee.

Madam Speaker, she was a true example of a servant leader. She sought to inspire others to make her community a better place, and she is missed dearly. It is my honor to recognize her on the floor of the House of Representatives today.

BUS DRIVER SAFETY AND SECURITY MONTH

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

Mr. TIPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join my call designating September 2019 as School Bus Safety and Security Month.

Earlier this month, I introduced a resolution to honor and show my appreciation to the more than half a million school bus drivers across the country.

Over 26 million children rely on public school transportation to get them safely to and from school each year, and September is the perfect month to thank these drivers for keeping our kids safe as they return to school.

In rural districts like Colorado's Third Congressional District, many of these drivers find themselves driving great distances facing inclement weather, wildlife, and other hazards that make driving difficult, yet they work tirelessly to ensure safe transportation of our children.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to commend the Child Safety Network for their 30 years of commitment to America's children and promoting this resolution. I am truly appreciative of their advocacy on behalf of school safety, and I thank my colleagues who have joined as cosponsors for this important resolution.

RECOGNIZING TALLADEGA SUPER-SPEEDWAY IN TALLADEGA, ALABAMA

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, today I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Talladega 500 Superspeedway in Talladega, Alabama.

In the mid-1960s, NASCAR founder Bill France, Sr., envisioned a bigger and faster track on the NASCAR circuit. After meeting with local race car driver and fan Bill Ward of Anniston, Alabama, the location was selected for the track, and the groundbreaking ceremony for the Alabama International Motor Speedway—today known as the Talladega Superspeedway—took place on May 23, 1968.

The first race, the Talladega 500, was held on September 14, 1969, with Richard Brickhouse winning that race. I had the good fortune to be in attendance that day with my dad. The race played a major role in NASCAR's history, as many of the top stars of the sport walked out the day before the race due to concerns over tire wear on the 200-mile-per-hour track. Mr. France said the race would go on and recruited drivers from the smaller NASCAR Touring Series, the Bama 400, the day before to replace them.

The Talladega Superspeedway is the most competitive racetrack on the NASCAR schedule, the highest banked, and the longest, as well as the most fan friendly.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the anniversary of the Talladega Superspeedway.

RECOGNIZING EXODIE C. ROE, III

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members have 5 days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedicated public servant and congressional aide, Exodie C. Roe, III, who has been instrumental in helping me serve the constituents of California's Ninth and Eleventh Congressional Districts.

Exodie C. Roe, III was born in Stockton, California, to Exodie C. Roe, Jr. and LaJuana Johnson Bivens. He credits his mother and his nonbiological father, Robert "Bobby" Bivens, Sr., as his inspiration for pursuing a career in public service.

Exodie is a 2002 graduate of Stagg High School in Stockton and a 2006 graduate of Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana. This year he was honored by Dillard University with the "40 Under 40" award for his public service achievements.

Exodie began his service in my Stockton office as a field representative when I was first elected in 2007. In this role he developed the first major congressional foreclosure assistance workshop in the country that helped more than 500 residents and hundreds more through subsequent housing workshops. He also organized dozens of Congress at Your Corner events and several other events throughout my district. For his contributions to the residents of San Joaquin County, Exodie was featured in San Joaquin Magazine's "5 People Under 30 to Watch For" edition as the Change Maker.

After working in my Stockton office for 4 years, Exodie was promoted to legislative assistant and relocated to my Washington, D.C. office in 2011. Exodie was promoted again in 2015 to senior legislative assistant. During his time in my office, he worked on several legislative initiatives and two bills that were signed into law.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Exodie C. Roe, III for his contributions to our community and for his invaluable public service over the past 12 years.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

NATURAL DISASTER PREPARATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I first want to thank the gentleman from California for his courtesy and, of course, that of the majority leader.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a failure of our government to issue a promised and required