

in our Nation's defense and those who serve in the 1st Battalion and call our area home.

IN MEMORY OF U.S. ARMY  
CAPTAIN ANTOINE LEWIS

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

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the late U.S. Army Captain Antoine Lewis of Matteson, Illinois, in the Second Congressional District.

I was shocked and saddened to learn that Captain Lewis was among the 157 people killed in the tragic plane crash in Ethiopia on March 10. His funeral was November 9 because his family just received his remains.

This incredible young man had so much more to give the world and constantly gave of himself to others. He possessed an irrepressible curiosity and a desire to make the world a better place.

Captain Lewis was a man of passionate commitment to his family, to the Matteson community, to our country, and to his faith. He was a one-man recruitment team when it came to getting so many in his own family to enlist. An honorable man, he represented the very best of America whenever he served in uniform or wherever he traveled in the world.

Captain Lewis was a patriot who proudly served his country. He had been stationed in Afghanistan, South Korea, and Canada.

He had an adventuresome and free spirit and was filled with wonder and curiosity about other people and cultures. While he was raised in Matteson, he belonged to the world.

He, like many others, went to Africa to offer hope and opportunity to others through mission work. As called to do by St. James, he put his faith into actions and deeds that uplifted others and worked to build a better world.

As we grieve with his family and friends, we are comforted by the knowledge that he did fulfill his desire to make the world a better place by the love he gave to every person and mission that he encountered.

HONORING AMERICA'S DEPARTED  
HEROES

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Jeremiah Heesaker and Theresa Miller of Ely, Minnesota, for their dedication to our Nation's veterans.

Last week, in freezing cold temperatures, Jeremiah and Theresa led a small group of Minnesotans in laying wreaths decorated with American flags on top of 130 veteran graves in the Ely Cemetery. They laid all the wreaths out before Veterans Day weekend, hop-

ing to bring happiness to all the families who would be visiting the grave of a loved one.

For Jeremiah and Theresa, the care of our veterans is an issue close to their hearts. Jeremiah served in the Army in the 101st Airborne; Theresa's husband is also a veteran.

Mr. Speaker, American heroes deserve to be treated in death with the same amount of respect and admiration that they earned in life. I am grateful to Jeremiah and Theresa for taking action to honor America's departed heroes and their families this Veterans Day.

We must never forget those who have bravely served so that we can continue to live in the land of the free.

AFFORDABLE PRESCRIPTION  
DRUGS FOR AMERICANS

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was World Diabetes Day.

Diabetes is a disease that affects millions of Americans, including my own daughter, Katy, who was diagnosed as a type 1 diabetic when she was 8 years old, almost 20 years ago.

We have to do more to make sure that hardworking families have access to affordable prescription drugs, often, lifesaving drugs.

Sadly, under the Trump administration, the President has rolled back access to healthcare and undermined the Affordable Care Act, raising prices for lifesaving drugs and eliminating protections for those with preexisting conditions. That is the aim of this administration.

One in five Americans are skipping doses, cutting pills in half, and skipping their insulin because they just don't have the money it takes to keep themselves healthy.

It costs about \$5.60 to produce a vial of insulin. Americans sometimes have to pay hundreds of dollars just to have that drug that was brought into this country, invented in the 1920s, and hasn't changed substantially.

We have to make sure to pass H.R. 3, which will make sure that Americans have access to prescription drugs at an affordable price. It is the right thing to do. Congress has to act.

PROVIDING EFFECTIVE COUNSELING RESOURCES TO LEARNERS OF ALL AGES

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Counseling for Career Choice Act, a bill I cosponsored with my fellow Career and Technical Caucus co-chair, Congressman JIM LANGEVIN. The Counseling for Career Choice Act aims to empower students by providing effec-

tive counseling resources to learners of all ages.

Unfortunately, many students go to college without being fully aware of their education and career opportunities and options. According to the Coalition of Career Development, about one-third of high school graduates do not go to college right away and often struggle to find meaningful work.

Additionally, a business roundtable survey found that more than 90 percent of CEOs agree the skills gap is a significant threat to their organizations. There are approximately 7 million unfilled jobs in the United States, but equipping students with the necessary tools to succeed will help us close this gap.

With increased counseling opportunities, students can take control of their professional futures with confidence. Whether students choose the traditional college route or apprenticeships and trade schools, proper counseling can make a positive impact in the lives of students of all ages.

STOP EITC AND CTC SEIZURES

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the earned income tax credit and the child tax credit are some of the most effective, bipartisan antipoverty programs to come out of Congress; yet many hardworking individuals are unable to access well-earned EITC or CTC refunds.

In some cases, the U.S. Treasury has seized an individual's tax credits if they owed student loan debt. These tax credit seizures, in many cases, have pushed families into homelessness. Some have lost their homes; some have lost their cars; others can't even put food on the table for their loved ones.

I am filing a bill this morning that seeks to protect these most vulnerable people from EITC and CTC seizures. It would prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from automatically seizing an individual's EITC or CTC refund for the purpose of paying back student loan debt.

This is the right thing to do. No one should have to decide between paying off their student loan debt and providing for their family.

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APPRENTICESHIPS CAN HELP  
CLOSE THE SKILLED TRADES GAP

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

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, it is National Apprenticeship Week.

We have 7 million unfilled jobs in this country, and many of them are in the skilled trades. We have got to close