

Colonel Witter was a native of Wausau, Wisconsin. He was the last serving son of 20 children of the late Jerry and Amelia Witter.

Colonel Witter was a veteran of the United States Army, a retired military intelligence officer, and a United States Military Academy professor of social sciences at West Point. He was a decorated military veteran, earning the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze stars, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge. He was preceded in death by his son, Mathew, and all of his 19 brothers and sisters.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, and my second mom, Mary Ellen; two daughters, and my second sisters, Nannette Jordan of Norwalk, Connecticut, and Dorinda Selby of Beaufort, South Carolina. He also had five grandchildren: Ashley Benusa of Hong Kong; Taylor Jordan of Boston, Massachusetts; Zachary Jordan of Waterbury, Connecticut; Senior Airman Mathew Selby of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Arizona; and Thomas Selby of Beaufort, South Carolina.

Funeral services were held yesterday at St. John's Lutheran Church in Beaufort, South Carolina. I will be attending the burial service, which will take place at West Point Military Academy Cemetery on January 24, 2020, at 10 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude with Matthew 25:21: "His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

Beat Navy.

CELEBRATING MONROE COUNTY BICENTENNIAL

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my beloved Monroe County as we enter the 200th year of our county's rich and storied history.

A small rural county in south central Kentucky, Monroe County is home to communities steeped in history and tradition. Whether you are from Tompkinsville, Gamaliel, or Fountain Run, you have a shared Monroe County identity.

If you are a Monroe Countian, you more than likely enjoy our legendary barbecue and probably have countless stories to tell about our county's rich history, especially our political history.

This Sunday, January 19, hundreds of us will gather to celebrate Monroe County's 200th birthday. As we meet at the Tompkinsville National Guard Armory for this proud occasion, I will be

seeing many of the friendly faces that shaped my upbringing and remain good friends to this day.

Monroe County holds a special place in my heart; and now, more than ever, I am proud to serve as a voice for our citizens right here in our Nation's Capitol.

□ 1045

TAKING A STAND AGAINST SANCTUARY CITIES

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern about the upturn of sanctuary cities across the United States and push for action to enhance public safety by further cracking down on illegal immigration.

There should be consequences for not following the law. Local governments that choose not to enforce immigration laws recklessly put lives at risk. Senseless deaths occasionally result from crimes committed by criminal illegal aliens who take refuge in sanctuary cities.

Action is needed to prevent more harm from cities refusing to cooperate with Federal immigration officials. Allowing cities to tie the hands of our brave law enforcement officers and ignore the law should not be tolerated. I am calling on Congress to strengthen the safety of our communities by passing legislation banning sanctuary cities.

But while we continue to await action on this important issue, States are stepping up and making this a top priority. I want to commend the leaders in my home State of Kentucky who are taking proactive action to ban sanctuary cities and strengthen public safety. The leadership they are showing on this issue is an important step toward giving law enforcement more tools to go after major problems like drug trafficking and will benefit all Kentuckians.

DELAYED TRANSMISSION OF IMPEACHMENT ARTICLES

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, as of today, it has been 4 weeks since House Democrats voted, in a historically partisan manner, to impeach President Donald Trump.

In voting to silence the will of 63 million Americans, they made clear that they were not here to work for the American people but to carry out a personal vendetta. Even a few House Democrats realized that impeachment was not in the best interest of our country, joining Republicans to oppose this baseless crusade.

But after their vote, Speaker PELOSI realized they had made a grave mistake. Their sham process and evidence-free case went against the wishes of the American people.

Knowing their case was baseless, Speaker PELOSI and House Democrats sat on these articles for 1 month. After originally claiming that impeachment was an urgent crisis and insisting that President Trump was a threat to national security, Democrats sat on their hands and delayed a timely trial on their own shoddy work product.

But the day has finally come where they are sending their weak case over to the Senate. I look forward to the day where Congress may finally move on from this partisan impeachment process that has wasted an amazing amount of time and resources and distracted from issues that matter most to the American people.

While I am disappointed that we have reached this sad point in this congressional body, I look forward to seeing a more fair and responsible hearing in the Senate.

ROE V. WADE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade was decided 47 years ago this month. Since abortion was made legal, more than 60 million unborn children have had their lives prematurely ended.

This is a matter of conscience, and just like the plurality of American people, I believe that life begins at conception.

In recent years, advances in science and medicine have given us an increasingly vivid picture of what life in the womb is like. A child has a heartbeat at just 6 weeks. A child feels pain at just 20 weeks. Science makes it clear that life exists in the womb, and, therefore, an unborn child is entitled to the most fundamental of human rights, and that is the right to live.

Even the plaintiff in that landmark case, Norma McCorvey, who at that time went by the name Jane Roe, changed her view and worked on behalf of the pro-life movement. She said: I think I have always been pro-life, but I just didn't know it.

Roe v. Wade is not only a human tragedy but a constitutional one as well.

In our Constitution, power is divided among three branches: Article I, Congress; Article II, the Presidency; and Article III, the courts. Congress makes the laws, the Executive enforces them, and the courts apply them.

Courts should not be in the business of striking down acts of Congress or State statutes simply because the individual judges have political disagreements with what the people's representatives have decided. In our constitutional system, judges may strike down laws only if those laws conflict with the Constitution, our country's supreme law.

But that is not what happened in Roe v. Wade. Five Justices created a right to abortion by reinterpreting the Due Process Clause of the Constitution. That clause says that no State may deprive anyone of life, liberty, or property without due process of law.

But even supporters of the decision have cast doubt on this justification. Harvard Law School's Laurence Tribe wrote: "One of the most curious things

about Roe is that, behind its own verbal smokescreen, the substantive judgment on which it rests is nowhere to be found." And even Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg had called the decision "heavyhanded judicial intervention" that was "difficult to justify."

Essentially, the Court went out of its way to commit one of the most dramatic cases of judicial overreach in history. Instead of letting each State decide the issues for themselves, five Justices circumvented the system and created a decades-long human tragedy that continues to this day.

Since Roe, individual States have been valiantly trying to impose some sort of moral and legal safeguards on abortion. They have enacted laws prohibiting racial and gender discrimination in abortions; laws requiring women to see ultrasounds of their babies before committing to ending the unborn child's life; laws prohibiting abortion after a fetal heartbeat has been detected; and laws banning dismemberment abortions, where the doctor would have to physically tear the baby apart. Sadly, all of these laws have been struck down by judges claiming to follow the precedent of *Roe v. Wade*.

The human toll of this tragic overreach is staggering. Not only have over 60 million innocent children lost their lives, but the mothers of these children have had to live with the lasting psychological impacts that these abortions have had on them. Scientific studies have shown that women who have had abortions have a higher risk of mental health conditions like depression.

How could anyone turn a deaf ear and blind eye to the suffering of these vulnerable children and mothers? This issue transcends what it means to be an American and goes to the core of what makes us human.

Complex issues like this one are often fraught with controversy and, yes, heated tempers; but at the heart of that complexity and emotion lies a simple fundamental truth, and that is that unborn children deserve human rights.

I hope that one day soon the Supreme Court corrects their constitutional error so that the American people can reassert their voice in determining the moral question of our time.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND LEGACY OF DR. DEBORAH FRANK

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I am here to recognize the career of a colleague whose work has always been an inspiration, not just to me, but to countless healthcare providers, students, advocates, and patients alike, Dr. Deborah Frank.

Dr. Frank is a woman of many talents and passions. Notably, she has

served as a professor of pediatrics at Boston University School of Medicine.

One of Dr. Frank's most impactful community contributions began in 1984, when she founded the Grow Clinic for Children at Boston Medical Center. The Grow Clinic is an outpatient clinic that produces comprehensive specialty medical, nutritional, developmental, social services, and dietary assistance to children.

She is also the founder and principal investigator of Children's Health Watch, the Grow Clinic's outreach and research arm, which is a network of pediatric and public health researchers who, like Dr. Frank, are committed to improving child health in America.

The Grow Clinic serves a diverse patient population of mostly low-income families from some of Greater Boston's poorest communities. But what made the Grow Clinic an essential part of the community is not just its dedication to the underserved and underprivileged; it was Dr. Frank's commitment to gaining a deeper understanding about the social determinants of her patients' health.

Her patients knew that they could go to her for their needs beyond physical health. She cared about whether they had housing or warm clothing. She cared about whether they had healthy and nutritious food to eat and whether they were getting enough of it. She even started a food pantry at Boston Medical Center to address her patients' needs.

Dr. Frank knew that there is more to health than metrics and vitals. It is also your environment and support system. Part of what makes Dr. Frank's legacy remarkable is that she found a way to become part of that support system.

She came into this line of work with a vision and purpose and, in the process, has changed countless lives in Massachusetts and beyond.

Dr. Frank has testified many times before Congress on numerous occasions, raising awareness on the growing problem of national hunger and its effects on children. She has literally spoken truth to power. Her work will continue to shape the way that healthcare professionals and policymakers understand the correlation between children's nutrition and health.

Whether she is teaching medical students about "failure to thrive," making sure her patients have food, or advocating against the criminalization and stigmatization of addicted mothers, Dr. Frank is a true fighter.

She may say she retired, but, honestly, I don't believe it. Her life's work of enriching the health and well-being of those around her will not only continue through the organizations that she has worked in her entire life and her entire career, but also through the lives of the children and the families for whom she has advocated. I am sure that she will continue to stand up for what she believes in, and I thank her for her service to her community and to our country.

Finally, I also thank her for her friendship. She is one of my heroes. She is an inspiration to me and to so many other people, and she is a believer that we can change the world. With her leadership and her inspiration, I believe we can do great things like end hunger in this country once and for all.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to say to Dr. Frank, on behalf of all my colleagues, thank you for the incredible work that you have done, and we look forward to continuing to work with you and to be guided by your values and your passion.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND LEGACY OF CARL ADRIAN

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, President Eisenhower said: "The supreme quality for leadership is unquestionable integrity. Without it, no real success is possible." Today, I rise to recognize a man of integrity, a friend, and a true community leader.

Carl Adrian has served as president and CEO of the Tri-Cities Economic Development Council for 16 years. During his tenure, Tri-Cities has added more than 35,000 jobs, over 1,300 new businesses, and nearly 90,000 new residents, which is a 30 percent increase in population.

Tri-Cities is a national leader in agricultural food processing and viticulture, cutting-edge science and technology advancements, and energy sector development—in countless ways, due to Carl's advocacy and vision.

From his service on numerous boards, including Visit Tri-Cities and Benton-Franklin Council of Governments, and his efforts co-chairing the search for a new WSU Tri-Cities chancellor to his lasting commitment for the cleanup at Hanford, Carl Adrian demonstrates the best of what it means to be a public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Carl and Rheta on his much-deserved retirement. Our sincere thanks for all of his service to the Tri-Cities.

CONGRATULATING KAYLA BARRON

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, when Kayla Barron, of Richland, Washington, graduated from high school, she attended the Naval Academy, commissioning as a Navy officer, and was among the first class of women commissioned to be a submarine officer.

Now she is one of just 48 NASA astronauts in the Nation and could be the first woman to land on the Moon. Kayla was chosen as one of more than 18,000 applicants for NASA's astronaut basic training program, graduating with her 12 classmates on January 10.

As she works to design the spacesuit for NASA's Artemis program, she and her classmates will prepare to complete the program's mission: return humans to the Moon by 2024 and send people to Mars.