

team for their 11th State championship and this year's national title game in New York City's Madison Square Garden.

Go, Lady Trojans, go.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF JOHN CAVANAUGH

(Mrs. COMSTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the achievements of an individual who has shown his dedication to the future of our Nation through educating our youth.

John Cavanaugh attended Georgetown University, where he received his Bachelor of Science in language and linguistics. He began his teaching career at Georgetown Preparatory School in 1973, and shortly thereafter moved to the Congressional Schools of Virginia in 1976. He has shown an exemplary commitment to teaching over what has now become a 40-year career.

Over the years, Mr. Cavanaugh has taught Spanish, Latin, German, Italian, English as a second language, geography, world history, American history, and government to thousands of students. Currently concentrating on Latin and history, he has shown the same dedication to his students since the first day he walked into the classroom 40 years ago. His knowledge of American history is legendary, and he instills in his students a strong desire to learn, while also encouraging them to explore their own talents.

His hard work and passion for education has led him to his peers nominating him for the Washington Post's Teacher of the Year Award. He has been described as an "icon" and "shepherd" by colleagues and students alike. His unwavering commitment to helping students thrive has been demonstrated through his early morning review sessions and his advisory role to the Yearbook Club and National Junior Honor Society.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to acknowledge Mr. Cavanaugh for his achievements over these 40 years, and I wish him the best going forward. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for touching so many lives as a first-class educator and for his dedication to our youth.

LEGISLATION TARGETING TRANSGENDER PEOPLE

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

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the hateful and discriminatory legislation targeting transgender people that is sweeping through State legislatures.

Right now, there is anti-transgender legislation pending before legislatures in Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Mis-

souri, South Carolina, Washington, and Tennessee.

Tomorrow, Tennessee lawmakers will vote in committee on House Bill 2414, a bill that would require students to go into gender-specific bathrooms that match the gender on their birth certificate. Yet, Tennessee is one of the few States that does not allow a transgender person to change their birth certificate. It is ultimately a lose-lose for transgender people.

This bill would cause very real emotional harm and put transgender young people in physical danger if they are required to use gender-inappropriate restrooms and locker rooms. These anti-transgender bills in the States are rooted in fear, animus, and deeply misguided notions about who transgender people are.

I speak today as a Member of Congress and as a proud grandfather of a granddaughter who is transgender. These laws do not make us safer. These laws stoke misguided fears. They divide us. We must stand up to these laws and promote our values.

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MASTERS WEEK 2016

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, the first full week of April, since the 1930s, America and the world get a peek at the world-famous Augusta National Golf Course for Masters Week.

Spectators gather in Augusta, Georgia, or join family and friends around the television to watch the world's most talented golfers compete for the highly coveted green jacket; and for 1 week each year, the world gets a glimpse into Georgia 12 and the wonderful people who live and work there, the district I have the great honor of representing.

From the pimento cheese sandwiches to the perfectly-manicured grounds, the rich tradition that encompasses the Masters is truly something special. The course, the creation of the great Bobby Jones, has seen the likes of Arnold Palmer, Byron Nelson, Jack Nicklaus, Tiger Woods, and spectators from all walks of life, making it a living history in the game. Jordan Spieth has been a great champion and made a historic effort to repeat as its champion.

Congratulations to this year's winner, Danny Willett, on his victory and the newest addition to his wardrobe, as well as a big thank-you to the members of the Augusta National Golf Club and all those who worked tirelessly to put the tournament on, which means so much to our district.

It was my privilege to welcome all people from around the globe to the world's greatest sporting event, as we now count down the days until Masters 2017.

HONORING COMMANDER KRISTINA DELL'ORCO, UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Commander Kristina Dell'Orco and her service in the United States Coast Guard.

Kristina graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy and was selected to attend Naval flight training, where she trained to pilot fixed-wing aircraft. Kristina earned her wings in 1999 and received the Daughters of the American Revolution award, given annually to the Coast Guard graduate with the highest grades. Kristina would go on to win many more awards, including the Coast Guard Commendation Medal and three Coast Guard Achievement Medals.

Along with these individual awards, Kristina has trained hundreds of cadets in annual flight instruction as a senior company officer.

I serve with Kristina in the Coast Guard Auxiliary and can truly say she is dedicated to her service and this great Nation. It is an honor to recognize Kristina for all she has done for the Coast Guard and this country, and I wish her a happy retirement.

CARING FOR THOSE BATTLING ALS

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that over 30,000 Americans are living with the progressive neurodegenerative disease and condition ALS, or Lou Gehrig's Disease, at any time. That includes dozens in my Pennsylvania district, including Frank Mongiello and former Naval Officer Matthew Bellina.

For those impacted by this disease, the toll is extraordinary, not only on their own well-being, but on their family and their finances. Thankfully for Matt and Frank, individuals like Jim Worthington and members of the Newtown Athletic Club have stepped up to offer emotional support and raised more than \$200,000 for their cause.

While these actions show the commendable efforts of one community, there is more that can be done on their behalf here in Washington. Next week, I will join Matt and Frank in the Nation's Capital to urge not only for essential ALS funding, but for access to experimental drugs. The bipartisan Right to Try Act would remove the barriers to these trial-stage medications for those with a terminal disease like ALS.

The compassion of our communities and the long-term benefits of research must not prevent us from taking every

single step possible in the here and now to care for those battling ALS.

116TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES SUBMARINE FORCE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, just the other day, April 1, marked the 116th birthday and anniversary of the United States Submarine Force. This is the date the U.S. Government accepted the USS Holland, which is SS-1, into the U.S. Navy, again, in 1900.

This was pointed out by a good friend and a great patriot and veteran of the Submarine Forces, Jim Gibson of Redding, California, who has served on several different submarines and is a main organizer of the USS Cuttlefish, a veterans submarine group that does many events up in northern California. He pointed that out to me, and I want to acknowledge, again, the great work of our veterans of those subs and what they mean for the security of our Nation.

So happy 116th to the United States Submarine fleet.

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this is the tale of two cities—not the tale about the cities, but about two examples of America's great embarrassment and failure to treat a brain disease called mental illness, especially serious mental illness. It is also a tale of Congress' repeated failure to address this.

Despite the cries of millions of Americans to do something about it, what we here in Washington tend to do when we hear of another tragedy that has occurred somewhere in the Nation, the tragedies we know by the names of Sandy Hook Elementary School, or Columbine, or Aurora, Colorado, or Tucson, or Santa Barbara, what Washington tends to do is we have a moment of silence. But the people want and Members of Congress want moments of action, not moments of silence.

Let me elaborate on this tale. In this building, the U.S. Capitol, back in the 1990s, two police officers were killed when Russell Weston came into the Capitol seeking a red crystal and ended up shooting these police officers. Under his diagnosis of paranoid schizophrenia, he was pushed, with his delusions and hallucinations, to take action. It ended up in tragedy.

There was also recently, over the break, another man, Larry Russell Dawson, who has been seen around this Capitol and has once, allegedly, disrupted proceedings in this Chamber and, allegedly, also suffers from some level of mental illness. When he was entering the Capitol Visitor Center, a pistol was seen going through the x-ray. When he grabbed that pistol, police officers shot and wounded him.

First of all, it is amazing to me that people did not die. We know that the entrance to the Capitol Visitor Center is a highly secure environment with many, many Capitol Police officers. These brave men and women who put themselves between danger and Members of Congress and the public showed tremendous restraint and judgment at that moment.

I might add that, many times, when a mentally ill person has a conflict, a violent conflict with a police officer, where they may be reaching into their jacket or may be pointing a pistol or approaching a police officer with a knife, it is estimated between a quarter and a half of those mentally ill people involved in a police encounter end up dead. That is a few hundred each year.

Though that is the tale in Washington, D.C., why are we dealing with mental illness as a violent threat instead of in treatment? We deal with it because, in this Nation, sadly, when someone with mental illness has reached that level or they become violent, we call the police.

The rules are, which we will look at tonight: prevent people from getting treatment; we do not have enough providers; we don't have enough places to put people, so we call the police.

Now, I should start off by saying the mentally ill are no more likely to be violent than the non-mentally ill; except when you look at those with serious mental illness such as schizophrenia, bipolar, and other illnesses such as that, they are 16 times more likely to engage in an act of violence than someone who is in treatment.

Again, a person who is seriously mentally ill and not in treatment is 16 times more likely to engage in an act of violence than someone who is in treatment.

On the West Coast, in Seattle, another tragedy was brewing. A man named Cody Miller climbed a tree, a giant sequoia tree in downtown Seattle, and it created something of a furor.

First, I want to read parts of an article that appeared in The New York Times on March 29 that describe this to show you how out of touch we are as a

society when dealing with mental illness.

It said: "For more than 24 hours last week, Cody Lee Miller perched in a giant sequoia in downtown Seattle, pelting people and cars with pine cones and tearing off branches."

Investigators were investigating how much it would cost, using some "complicated formula that goes far beyond the value of natural beauty," the article said.

"A Seattle tree expert . . . said Mr. MILLER caused \$7,800 in damage, according to court documents released this week. Investigators took into account the tree's age, its potential life span and how much of its lush foliage was denuded.

"The formula, created by professional foresters, goes like this. The trunk is 34 inches in diameter at breast height, an investigator's report said. The tree has a '95 percent species rating,' a '100 percent condition rating' and a 100 'percent location rating' . . . The sequoia's pre-damage value was put at \$51,700. But after Mr. MILLER's arboreal escapade, the tree lost 15 percent of its value, the documents show, and is now worth only \$43,900 . . . 'The damage to the tree was extensive,' the report said.

"Mr. MILLER was charged on Monday with first-degree malicious mischief and third-degree assault. He was also ordered to stay away from the tree by observing 'no unwanted contact'—I repeat, "by observing 'no unwanted contact'" with the tree.

Now, the story goes on to describe trees and sequoias, but not until the very end of the article it mentions Mr. MILLER's mother, Lisa Gossett. She said that she had not talked to her son for some 5 years. She saw it on the news and she barely recognized him.

See, what was happening is Lisa Gossett and her daughter sat in their Alaska home watching this clip of the man perched in the tree. With their hearts broken, with tears streaming down their faces, Lisa and her daughter soon came to realize they were watching their son and their brother become the latest Internet mockery of a mentally ill person.

You see, when Cody Lee Miller climbed this 80-foot tree and sat there for 25 hours, he was sporting a bushy beard and ragged clothes, and most Americans were amused by this and they called it #manintree. It was an international viral story overnight. But this was no joke; this was no prank. This was the culmination of untreated mental illness that, once again, our society turned into a joke.

And we wonder why there is a stigma, when newspapers like The New York Times write a mocking story like that towards a man who has a disease. Would they have written an article like that if it was about someone with cancer or diabetes or AIDS or any other disease? My guess is no. But somehow, in our society, it is okay to mock a person who is suffering from schizophrenia.