

thank him for his outstanding service to the south Florida community.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RIBBLE). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MISS AMERICA SAVVY SHIELDS

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize your new Miss America, our very own Miss Arkansas, Savvy Shields.

On Sunday night, Savvy became the third Miss Arkansas—and the second from the Third District of Arkansas—to win this prestigious title, receiving a preliminary talent award as well.

Savvy will spend her year of service traveling across the Nation as an advocate for not only her charitable platform for “Eat Better, Live Better,” but also the Children’s Miracle Network. In this way, Savvy will continue her work as an advocate for healthy eating as a way to dramatically change health outcomes in our communities.

I speak on behalf of the Third District and the State of Arkansas in congratulating Savvy on representing her hometown of Fayetteville, the University of Arkansas, and the entire “Natural State” so well on the national stage. I would like to also congratulate Savvy’s parents, Todd and Karen Shields, on the beginning of what will truly be a remarkable year.

Savvy will represent all of us with the grace, poise, and confidence that earned her this crown. Congratulations, Savvy, Miss America 2017.

PERKINS CONSIDERATION

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, in July, the Education and the Workforce Committee unanimously reported H.R. 5587, Strengthening CTE—or, its full name, Career and Technical Education—for the 21st Century Act. Later today, the full House will consider it here on the floor.

I am so proud to be an original co-sponsor of this bipartisan bill that reauthorizes important career and technical education programs to reflect the demands of the modern economy. I particularly want to salute and recognize my colleague and partner in this effort, G.T. THOMPSON from Pennsylvania, and also KATHERINE CLARK from Massachusetts, for their efforts. This bill makes important investments in skills, training, and career exploration.

H.R. 5587 expands two of my long-standing priorities: the role of school

counselors in helping students find a career path that best fits their skill and access to work-based learning to bridge the gap between the classroom and the workplace. Students will be able to tailor their classes to learn the skills that they know employers are looking for. It is time to close the skills gap and give students the tools to succeed.

I want to also commend the chairman and ranking member of the full committee and all those who had a hand in bringing the bill to the floor that we will be voting on later today.

THE OBAMA LEGACY: A HEROIN AND OPIOIDS CRISIS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, The Washington Examiner has released the newest part of a series: “The Obama legacy—A raging problem with heroin and opioids.”

Last year, the President announced a new effort to address the new public health crisis. This week, The Washington Examiner revealed:

“ . . . the crisis had been building for five years at that point, and critics say Obama’s reactions were too little and too late. Some say his government even contributed to the crisis by approving painkillers liable to abuse. . . .

“Prescription painkiller and heroin overdose deaths have risen to all-time highs. From 2009–2014, the rate of overdose deaths from heroin abuse increased by 240 percent. . . .

“When you add painkiller overdose deaths to the heroin numbers, the rate of overall deaths increased 25 percent from 2009. . . .

“In 2014, more than 14,000 people died of overdoses, the biggest total since the CDC began collecting data in 1999.”

This is a failing legacy of destruction of families.

I am grateful that Congress acted to address the opioid crisis, passing the bipartisan Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, enabling local communities to develop local solutions.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Congratulations, Miss South Carolina, Rachel Wyatt of Clemson, first runner-up for Miss America.

WE NEED ACTION

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, the water crisis in my hometown of Flint continues: a population of 100,000 people who, a year after this crisis, became well known, became public, and still can’t drink their water.

In Flint—just so my colleagues understand—a year later, people are still

drinking from bottled water because of callous actions by the State government that led to the poisoning of a population of 100,000 people.

Flint is a community in absolute crisis, facing a disaster, and you would expect there would have been immediate action, despite the fact that I have come to this podium time and time again. I have filed legislation. I have spoken to Members. I have spoken to leadership. And what do we get? A couple of hearings, and a lot of sympathy.

We need action. The people of Flint deserve a response to this crisis that is equal to the gravity of the crisis. We have a way to get it done. A bipartisan bill that is moving through the Senate includes help for Flint. We need to take up this legislation, just like we need to take up legislation to deal with Zika and opioids and everything else. It is beyond my comprehension that this crisis could continue and we have yet to take action in the House of Representatives to address it.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH BROOM, GEORGIA NATIONAL GUARD

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Savannah, Georgia’s Specialist Joseph Broom of the Georgia National Guard and a student at Armstrong State University.

Specialist Broom was chosen to represent the entire Army National Guard at the U.S. Army Best Warrior Competition.

I am incredibly proud of Specialist Broom’s accomplishment and could not be more enthusiastic for his final competition, starting September 26. To qualify for the championship competition, Specialist Broom completed and succeeded at the brigade, State, regional, and national levels. Each competition was extremely physically and mentally straining.

During the national competition, participants ran more than 4 miles over rough terrain, completed a demanding obstacle course, and navigated land during day and night.

I rise today to congratulate Specialist Joseph Broom for his accomplishment, and I wish him the best of luck on September 26.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF STEWART LEVY

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and legacy of Stewart Levy, a wonderful and warm humanitarian, a Buffalo civic leader, and my friend. Stewart Levy’s love of family, friends, and community was always on display—clearly evident—and always inspiring.

Mr. Levy first came to Buffalo to work in a local recording industry. He

quickly established himself as a leader and fixture in that industry. He would host at his home, as overnight guests, the likes of Frankie Avalon, Sammy Davis, Jr., and Pat Boone.

Mr. Levy ran for mayor of Buffalo in 1973, as a Republican in a heavily Democratic Buffalo. Though unsuccessful, his campaign tagline, "For the Love of Buffalo," reflected Stewart's pride and civic purpose. He inspired everyone he touched. He was charismatic and kind, interested and interesting, and insatiably curious. His mind and his enthusiasm never aged.

I remember thinking the last time I saw and visited with him that Stewart Levy was gifted with that rare quality—so rare—that made you look forward to the next opportunity you had to see and visit with him again.

To Stewart's wife, Faye, and sons, Jordy and Mitchell, thank you for sharing him with us. Stewart Levy will be missed, but there will always be light and inspiration to guide us from the love and friendship that he gave us.

AMERICA SUPPORTS HELPING FAMILIES IN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

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

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, during a time when our Nation seems so divided, polarized, and unable to come together on any issue, there is one thing on which most of America agrees, by policy, politics, and polling.

In April, a national mental health survey found that 86 percent of Americans support the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act. When it comes to mental health, Democrats, Republicans, and Independents agreed that H.R. 2646 is the answer.

In July, the House followed America's call and came to pass the bill 422-2 to provide more hospital beds, more psychiatrists, psychologists, and reform our broken system. Now, the American people wait for the Senate to join us in passing this badly needed legislation.

Millions of Americans are saying: please do not leave Washington without passing the bill so that the House can concur and we can get it signed into law. Every day they don't, 959 new families mourn the loss of a loved one who suffered from mental illness. And every day, 118 families mourn a new death by suicide. Every day the Senate waits, we delay reform.

Pass H.R. 2646. Where there is help, there is hope.

□ 1215

A BETTER WAY TO IMPROVE HEALTH CARE

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, as any hard-working American knows, health insurance costs and regulations impact all of us on a daily basis. Americans need patient-centered solutions to address our healthcare system's key problems, and House Republicans have a better way than the so-called Affordable Care Act to improve health care.

Our plan gives Americans more control and more choices. It makes sure they never have to worry about being turned away or having their coverage taken away, regardless of age, income, medical conditions, or circumstances. Our plan clears out the bureaucracy to accelerate the development of life-saving devices and therapies, and it protects Medicare for today's seniors and preserves the program for future generations.

This reform can't come soon enough. According to a report by the Kaiser Family Foundation, most North Carolinians are projected to have just one insurer's plan to choose from in the 2017 Federal individual health exchange.

I will not rest until ObamaCare is repealed and we have returned control of medical decisions to doctors and their patients.

THE CLANKING BAGS OF FILTHY LUCRE TO IRAN

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during negotiations with the criminal Ayatollah, the U.S. paid Iran, the world's largest state sponsor of terror, a \$400 million ransom to free hostages. Shockingly, the administration now has made two additional payments, totaling \$1.3 billion.

Speculation is our government may have used underhanded and sneaky tactics, multiple hard currencies, and precious metals to hide the filthy lucre from Americans.

The government's payments of bags of clanking coins to the outlaw nation will not go to build roads and bridges and hospitals. Instead, it is going to Iran's corrupt military and helping radical terrorists continue to spread murder and aggression.

Illusionaries say that the Iranian nuclear bribe deal will help us live together in peace and harmony. Peace is not what the rogue nation wants. They want death to America.

Why did our government pay off the Ayatollah to preach hate and prepare for war? We don't need to pay Iran to hate us. They will do it for free.

And that is just the way it is.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO ADDRESS THE ZIKA PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, here we are debating various issues. Soon we will be going into debate on veterans bills, on tax cut bills. Yet this body has continually failed to act on addressing the Zika health crisis that has already impacted over 3,000 Americans in States like Texas and Florida, and it will only continue to get worse until we put the resources we need into our public health to prepare vaccinations, to deal with mosquito control.

This is the type of issue that doesn't solve itself. And it is amazing that, when people look to the United States Congress for leadership, rather than acting on funding Zika, months after the initial request by the President of the United States, we continue to discuss topics which are not going to become law, bills that would be vetoed if they pass the Senate, won't pass the Senate, and, obviously, don't address the immediate public health crisis that is affecting thousands of Americans and will affect even more until this body decides to address it.

CONGRATULATING THE STATE COLLEGE SPIKES ON THEIR NEW YORK-PENN LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

(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 to congratulate the players, coaches, and staff of the State College Spikes on their 2-1 win over Hudson Valley last night to capture the New York-Penn League Championship.

The New York-Penn League is a Class A Short Season baseball league which includes teams from across Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, Massachusetts, Ohio, Vermont, West Virginia, and Connecticut.

The championship represents the end of a great season for State College. The team set a regular season club record for wins at 50. Tommy Edman, a draft pick of the St. Louis Cardinals in June, also set the Spikes' single season runs scored record with 61.

Earlier this year, I had the chance to meet with the members of the Spikes' management in my office here in Washington, D.C., and I was happy to have the opportunity to learn more about the organization and their players.

I know how much the team contributes to the community and to the economy of State College. I wish them the best of success next year.

CONDEMNING NICARAGUA'S REPRESSIVE ACTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the repressive