

For the first time since 1993, the Dallas Mountaineers made it all the way to a Pennsylvania State championship.

Back in 2016, Dallas football went 2–9, with 12 freshmen on the team. Three years later, these players led their team to a championship season.

Under the leadership of the one and only coach Richie Mannello and his great assistant coaches, Dallas was strong on all sides of the ball, with a great gang-tackling defense, a super-solid offensive line, an electrifying passing game, and a backfield I will never forget.

The Dallas Mountaineer parents, student body, band, and cheerleaders were a huge part of the Friday night victories, and they made the games an awful lot of fun. The entire community, restaurants, fire department, all the residents of the Back Mountain were all part of this great season.

We are going to miss these boys wearing Dallas blue under the Friday night lights, but we know the Dallas tradition, long established, will live on.

□ 1130

#### RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLUE DOG COALITION

(Mrs. MURPHY of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Blue Dog Coalition, a caucus of pragmatic Democrats I have the honor to help lead this Congress.

Since February 1995, the Blue Dog Coalition has been working to bridge partisan divide and deliver bipartisan results. While the makeup and size of our coalition has changed over the years, our focus on fiscal responsibility and a strong national security has never wavered.

Blue Dogs recognize that our constituents expect us to be good stewards of their hard-earned taxpayer dollars and that a skyrocketing national debt is a threat to our national security.

Over the last 25 years, Blue Dogs have helped deliver balanced budgets, end government shutdowns, grow the middle class, and pass commonsense laws, such as pay-as-you-go.

This Congress we are leading the fight on election security, infrastructure, and job creation, and we are pushing Congress to be better by ending partisan gerrymandering and proposing No Budget, No Pay.

Most importantly, Blue Dogs remain focused on our founding principles of fiscal responsibility and a strong national security.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Blue Dog Coalition's 25th anniversary this month.

#### CELEBRATING MARY McLEOD BETHUNE

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

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate one of the most prominent African American women in my community and our Nation's history, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune.

At an early age, Dr. Bethune took an interest in the power of learning and promoting civil rights. In 1904, Dr. Bethune opened the Daytona Literary and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls in Daytona Beach, which later merged with the Cookman Institute for Men in Jacksonville to form Bethune-Cookman College, now University, where she served as president.

As Dr. Bethune worked to build the school she founded, she also became a national leader on issues related to civil rights, women, and young people, even providing counsel to U.S. Presidents.

In 2018, the Florida legislature passed and the governor signed legislation to place a statue in her honor representing Florida in the National Statuary Hall collection here in the Capitol.

Dr. Bethune knew education is the key to a quality life and a better life, and it is my honor to recognize her contributions on the floor here today.

#### DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE TRAGEDY UNFOLDING IN IDLIB, SYRIA

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

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, as chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I rise to draw attention to the tragedy unfolding in Idlib, Syria.

The regime backed by Iran and Russia continues to target civilians. They target hospitals and other civilian infrastructure. Just drop bombs. They are levelling whole neighborhoods, which is indicative that the regime does not want people to return to their homes. They are killing innocent men, women, and children for no reason.

Over half a million people have been displaced in the last 2 months. There must be a humanitarian response from the world, and it must start here in the United States. There must be accountability, and we must show the Syrian people that we have not forgotten them. How can we stand idly by and allow this to continue to happen?

I call on the President and all Members of both houses to have a forceful response to the regime in Syria to say that we will not tolerate the targeting of civilians, the wholesale killing of children and women and all civilians. We need to stand on the side of justice, and we must show the Syrian people that we have not forgotten them.

#### CELEBRATING OREGON'S 161ST BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, on February 14, Oregon celebrates her 161st birthday. As a lifelong Oregonian whose ancestors came there by wagon train in 1845, I may be a little biased, but I can confidently say there is no place like Oregon.

She boasts of so many unparalleled wonders and sights from the mighty, powerful Columbia River and the winds of the Columbia River Gorge to the majestic Painted Hills to the rugged landscape of the Umatilla National Forest, the clear, deep blue waters of Crater Lake, the deepest lake in North America. Then think about the great Cascade Mountains or Steens Mountain or the Wallawas or the Blues, and then all the way down to the depths of Hells Canyon.

The late great Republican Governor Tom McCall said it best. He said, "Oregon is an inspiration. Whether you come to it, or are born to it, you become entranced by our State's beauty, the opportunity she affords, and the independent spirit of her citizens."

Madam Speaker, I wish a happy birthday to Oregon. She truly does fly with her own wings.

#### REMEMBERING SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL SHOOTING

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, it has been 2 years since the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

In those 2 years, the surviving families and students have turned their pain into power. They stood up to gun companies. They testified before Congress. They helped craft and pass legislation. They worked with the Federal Government. They worked with the State government. They won school board seats. They made beautiful, moving art. Students have lifted their voices, written songs. They have walked out and they have marched. That is what the survivors of my community are doing.

But there is so much more that Congress and the President can do to save lives from gun violence. There is so much more we can do to honor the lives that were lost at Stoneman Douglas: Alyssa, Scott, Martin, Nicholas, Aaron, Jaime, Chris, Luke, Cara, Gina, Joaquin, Alaina, Meadow, Helena, Alex, Carmen, and Peter.

### RECOGNIZING SWEETWATER SOUND

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

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share one of Fort Wayne's great American success stories, Sweetwater Sound.

Founder and CEO Chuck Surack's dream started over 40 years ago with a recording studio housed in a Volkswagen van. It has since evolved into one of the Nation's leading retailers of professional recording and music equipment.

Madam Speaker, Sweetwater's total sales in 2018 were record breaking at \$725 million. And just recently we found out that in 2019 it was another record year with sales of \$805 million, up 11 percent from 2018.

The total sales only tell part of the success story, though. Sweetwater has recently hired 159 new employees and has given back to Hoosiers by providing middle school students with free instruments.

Hoosiers are thankful for Sweetwater Sound's big contributions to northeast Indiana, and I look forward to watching them continue to succeed moving forward. In this record-setting economy, I look forward to seeing more American success stories just like this one.

### THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CANNOT AFFORD TO TURN A BLIND EYE TO THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN SYRIA

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I stand today with the chair of our Foreign Affairs Committee who just spoke here, Mr. ENGEL, as he makes a plea to this House for us to take a look at and get involved with what is going on in Syria.

Millions of folks are dying. They are being killed with the help of Assad and Russia. They are killing civilians, millions of civilians. They are killing the children. And for those who are injured that find their way to the hospital, it does no good because they turn around and bomb the hospitals. This is an outrage.

The United States of America cannot afford to turn a blind eye to this humanitarian crisis. We must get involved. We must pay attention. The families, the children, the people of Syria deserve better than this.

I want to thank Mr. ENGEL for the attention that he is paying to this issue and the way that he is trying to educate us and get us involved in saving those poor people who are being overrun, who are being killed by Assad and, of course, with the help of Russia.

### RECOGNIZING ABC LIFE CENTER

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the ABC Life Center, a pregnancy center in Franklin, Pennsylvania in Venango County.

The Life Center offers pregnant women a wide variety of resources, including no-cost pregnancy tests, consultations for women with unexpected pregnancies, adoption referrals, counseling for women who have had a pregnancy end in miscarriage or abortion, and more.

The Life Center recognizes that being pro-life means supporting all life. The center itself encourages women by letting them know that their story, their life and their babies' lives matter. The center also dispels the notion that to be pro-life is to be antichoice.

In fact, pregnancy centers such as Life Center offer a great deal of choices and resources to women who find themselves unexpectedly pregnant.

Pregnancy centers like ABC Life Center encourage and empower women all around the country. I am proud of the work that they do every day to enrich the lives of women and children, and together they help spread the message that life really is a better choice.

### CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE SOUTHERN BORDER OF THE UNITED STATES—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-99)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Armed Services and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the southern border of the United States declared in Proclamation 9844 of February 15, 2019, is to continue in effect beyond February 15, 2020.

The ongoing border security and humanitarian crisis at the southern border of the United States continues to threaten our national security, including the security of the American people. The executive branch has taken steps to address the crisis, but further action is needed to address the humanitarian crisis and to control unlawful

migration and the flow of narcotics and criminals across the southern border. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Proclamation 9844 concerning the southern border of the United States.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 13, 2020.

### IMPORTANT ISSUES OF THE DAY

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to be able to stand in this hallowed Hall and address some things that have occurred that are worthy of attention.

Of course, there was applause in the gallery today on the passage of trying to restart the ERA. It is an amendment to the Constitution, and it was started back in the seventies. The amendment to the Constitution had a deadline as part of the amendment. The amendment did not get the required 38 states. The time lapsed. There was, as I recall, an attempt to extend the time, but some States that had been in favor of the ERA backed off.

□ 1145

So it is very clear to anyone who pays attention to the Constitution that, when an amendment to the Constitution by its own wording has a time deadline and that deadline is passed, then that amendment has not been ratified, is not part of the Constitution, and any efforts to change the amendment itself, including the deadline for ratification, would require beginning again.

There is no more iconic liberal judge on the Supreme Court, not in history, than the former head, as I recall, of the American Civil Liberties Union. She was there back when the American Civil Liberties Union cared deeply about civil liberties and even took on some clients and some causes of people that most of us thought were not worthy of a lot of attention. But they were so committed to civil liberties back in those days, they were more concerned about civil liberties than they were the client. That was in the old days.

Now, if it is not a liberal, then they are not concerned about civil liberties and abuses, since the Obama administration was the administration that so far appears to be the most abusive of the FISA courts, committing fraud upon the FISA courts.

But in fairness to the administration, it appears the FISA court judges did not have sufficient integrity or pride in their position that they were offended by having fraud committed upon them, because, apparently, the disdain for Donald Trump, then President Trump and his administration was such that it was okay. They were okay to be defrauded as judges, which sure brings