

people who are alive today because of FRANK LAUTENBERG. The interesting thing is that not one of them would know who they are.

We have a lot to be grateful for to FRANK LAUTENBERG, and his legacy is something that we should work hard to continue.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

Mr. GARRETT. To the dean of the delegation and to the rest of my colleagues from New Jersey, Washington, D.C., the Senate, the Chambers will not be the same without FRANK LAUTENBERG walking about.

He is and he was a man who lived truly an extraordinary life. You've heard of his humble beginnings that BILL, I guess, knows pretty well, of his growing up in that neighborhood and going on to fight through World War II, as LEONARD points out; and of that extraordinary entrepreneurial spirit. In all of those ways, he lived an extraordinary life that left an extraordinary impact upon the people of his community and the State and on all of those people who benefited from his business acumen—to be able to use that service—to the jobs that he provided and then to take that and bring it here to Washington and the benefits that he provided even far beyond his own humble beginnings back in Paterson, New Jersey, but across the country as well.

So we come here today, joined in the thought that our prayers are with him, his family, his children, and grandchildren. We just hope that through this difficult time that they must be going that they can find some solace in the fact that so many people who have come here today and who are back in New Jersey respect him and appreciate him and thank him for what he did for the State.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIRES).

Mr. SIRES. I want to thank my colleagues for being here today and for expressing the sentiment towards a friend.

I knew FRANK LAUTENBERG for a long time. I was a mayor when I first met him. He never changed. He was a fighter. He was a real product of New Jersey in his coming from Paterson, serving in the service, starting a business. He became one of the best Senators we ever had in New Jersey. He was a man who had a vision, because he was one of the first ones who saw that riding on a plane and having somebody smoking next to you was not healthy. FRANK fought that fight, and President Reagan signed it into law.

So, today, New Jersey is sad. It's sad because one of its own is not going to be with us any more. Right down to the end, FRANK fought. I will remember him fighting Governor Christie. I remember him fighting for the tunnel. So we are all sad in New Jersey today.

To the whole family, we extend our condolences.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. RUNYAN).

Mr. RUNYAN. I, too, want to reflect on all of the kind and gracious words that my colleagues have expressed up here.

I, only being in my second term, can't say that I knew FRANK that well, but I want to point out one thing: that it's unfortunate that sometimes it takes someone's passing to realize all of the great things he did in his life. I've learned in coming here to Washington sometimes that people forget they are people who come here to represent the people back home, and you forget about the good deeds, the hard work. When you look at what FRANK did, working every single day until today, that is something that, I think, we as Americans do—take that work ethic into everything we do every single day. That's what makes us the greatest country in the world.

With FRANK's obviously being that type of role model, I think we are all saddened by his passing. We will miss him. Again, our condolences go out to his family, and I thank you all for taking time out to recognize him as an individual because, I think, sometimes that is lost.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you to my colleagues from New Jersey and in the House of Representatives.

Once again, I stand here in almost over a year with sorrow in my heart. The New Jersey delegation has lost another great member.

Senator LAUTENBERG had been an example to me over the course of his career. I'd seen him in many instances in Newark and in other settings, and he always had a common message to young people. It was that there was nothing special about me that you could not do this yourself. If you applied yourself in school, worked hard, honored your country, and did the things that were right, one day you could be in this position as well.

FRANK LAUTENBERG embodies what a New Jerseyan is. So look at his career. Look at his life. He is a true New Jerseyan. He will sorely be missed in this delegation, in this House, in this Congress, and in this country. My condolences to his family on this sad occasion.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, FRANK LAUTENBERG will be missed. As you could hear from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, it is a great loss for the State of New Jersey. We will have a Special Order next Tuesday to speak even more to his legacy.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today, our country mourns the loss of Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG—a man whose life embodied the American Dream and who dedicated his career to putting that dream in reach for all Americans.

The longest-serving senator in New Jersey's history and the last remaining World War II veteran in the Senate, he served us all with the strength, perseverance, and compassion that exemplifies the greatest generation.

A proud son of hard-working immigrants, Senator LAUTENBERG rose from humble beginnings to meet great success in business and public service. He was an entrepreneur who turned a small business into one of the largest computing services companies in the world. He was a soldier who put his life on the line to protect our country. He was a Senator who helped ban smoking in airplanes and around children, who worked to ensure parents could take time off to care for sick family members, who helped modernize the G.I. bill to ensure today's veterans could benefit from the same opportunity that he received.

Senator LAUTENBERG spent each day fighting to protect and improve the health, security, and well-being of every American. His lifetime of service leaves a legacy we must follow, and an expectation we must meet. We only hope it is a comfort to his wife Bonnie, his children and grandchildren that so many mourn their loss at this sad time.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE MEMORY AND SACRIFICE OF FIREFIGHTERS MATTHEW RENAUD, ROBERT BEBEE, ROBERT GARNER, AND ANNE SULLIVAN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I, along with fellow Members of the Texas and Harris County delegation, stand together to honor and recognize the sacrifice of four fallen firefighters who died last Friday, May 31, 2013, in the city of Houston serving in the line of duty.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to the families and fellow firefighters of those who died and those who were injured.

We are united with the city of Houston in grief over the deaths of Captain EMT Matthew Renaud, Engineer Operator EMT Robert Bebee, Firefighter EMT Robert Garner, and Probationary Firefighter Anne Sullivan, who died last Friday while searching a blazing hotel and restaurant for possible trapped victims.

In the 118-year history of the Houston City Fire Department, this was the greatest loss of life of their members while on duty. Their heroism will not be soon forgotten nor their sacrifice dimmed by time.

In the Firemen's Creed, these words are heard loudly:

But, above all, our proudest endeavor is to save lives of men, the work of God, Himself.

We ask that our colleagues join us now in a moment of silence in their memory.

Mr. Speaker, we wish all firefighters injured last Friday a speedy recovery.

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EXCERPTS FROM THE FIREMEN'S CREED

I have no ambition in this world but one and that is to be a fireman . . . We strive to preserve from destruction the wealth of the world . . . We are the defenders from fire . . . But, above all, our proudest endeavor is to save lives of men, the work of GOD himself.

We ask that our colleagues join us in a moment of silence in their memory.

We wish a speedy recovery for all those firefighters injured during Friday's tragedy.

MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

(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, today the White House held a conference on mental health and the importance of removing the stigma associated with seeking mental health treatment. The conference dovetailed with an announcement by the Department of Veterans Affairs that it had met its goal to hire 1,600 new mental health professionals.

Despite the positive news from the VA, the President appropriately stated:

It's not enough to help more Americans seek treatment. We also have to make sure the treatment is there when they are ready to seek it.

I could not agree more, for a major barrier for individuals seeking care is not just access, but the stigma that is oftentimes associated with seeking professional help—especially for our veteran population.

Thankfully, there is more we can do.

I encourage my colleagues to learn more about H.R. 2001, the Veterans E-Health & Telemedicine Support Act. This bipartisan, no-cost bill expands the number of qualified providers servicing our veteran population and also helps remove the stigma associated with seeking treatment through the expansion of telemedicine at the VA.

CONGRATULATING MARK CROGHAN

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. I rise today to recognize Mark Croghan, the longest serving school administrator from Castro Valley Unified School District, which is in my district, who will be retiring this year after 27 years of service in the East Bay.

Mark was raised and educated in Hayward, California. After a swimming career at Hayward High School, he earned a swimming scholarship to attend the University of California at Berkeley, where he received his college degree.

Mark began a long teaching career after college. He taught kids both in and out of the classroom, coaching a variety of sports, including swimming, basketball, softball, and he even served as the advisor for the ski team.

After receiving his master's degree in 1993, Mark began his administrative career as an assistant principal of Canyon Middle School in Castro Valley. Since then, Mark has served as a principal at both Marshall Elementary and Canyon Middle School.

Over his career as an administrator, Mark has created a positive learning environment and has prioritized the needs of students and their families. His leadership surely will be missed.

But if Mark's past service is any evidence of what to expect of him in the future, surely we have a lot in store for what his public service will bring to our community.

I wish Mark the best in his retirement. It is well earned.

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LINE DANCING AT THE IRS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the taxman has gone wild. The IRS spent \$50 million on boondoggle conferences. At one conference, the agency declined the cheaper government group rate and instead opted for perks including stays at swanky presidential suites, free drinks, and high-dollar tickets to the L.A. Angels baseball game. Now, isn't that lovely?

The IRS spent thousands on touchy-feely speakers, including a \$17,000 lecture about "leadership through art." More like the art of wasting money.

The taxacrats-turned film-makers spent \$50,000 for videos, including spoofs of "Star Trek," "Gilligan's Island," and line dancing to "Cupid Shuffle." Cupid Shuffle? Are you kidding me?

Mr. Speaker, this is corrupt, contemptible behavior. Ironically, instead of tracking our tax dollars, the Internal Revenue Squanderers waste tax dollars.

The head of the IRS says the expenses were inappropriate. Well, no kidding.

When the revenueers find inappropriate behavior by taxpayers, the taxpayers pay more taxes with interest.

The IRS should return the \$50 million with interest to the Treasury, and it's time it audited the taxman.

And that's just the way it is.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Safe Climate Caucus to urge the House to act on climate change.

Last month, scientists recorded atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide at more than 400 parts per million. The long-term consequences of this development are going to get worse in the future, but we're already seeing the immediate impacts today.

The Philadelphia Inquirer has recently reported on the sea level rising along the Delaware Bay and the spring season coming earlier to the Philadelphia region. I will insert these two articles into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

And just last month, the Natural Resources Defense Council released a report on the cost of climate change, showing that the Federal Government spent \$100 billion on disaster relief last year. That's more than we spent on education, transportation, or even non-discretionary spending on health.

And, yet, not only does the Republican majority in the House refuse to address climate change; they're actively pursuing legislation that is sure to make things worse. We must address this problem now.

ALONG N.J. BAY, RISING SEA DRAWS EVER CLOSER

[The Inquirer, Apr. 29, 2013]

[By Sandy Bauers]

The night Meghan Wren got stranded by floodwaters and had to sleep in her car, she knew it was time for a reckoning.

She had been driving to her waterfront home along the Delaware Bay in South Jersey. As she crossed the wide marsh in the dark, the water rose quickly. It became too deep—ahead and behind. She had to stop and wait.

To her, no longer were climate-change predictions an abstract idea. Sea level has been rising, taking her waterfront with it.

"This isn't something that's coming," she later told a group of bay shore residents and officials. "It's here. We just happen to live in a place that will affect us sooner."

Wren lives on tiny Money Island—more a peninsula of bayfront land with about 40 small homes and trailers in Cumberland County.

Just visible across the grassy marsh is Gandys Beach with 80 homes. Farther south, Fortescue with 250 homes. All three are steadily disappearing.

On the Atlantic coast, beach replenishment masks the effects of sea-level rise. But along the low-lying bay shore, veined with creeks, the problems are striking.

With each nor'easter, more of the beachfronts erode. More of the streets and driveways flood. Septic systems, inundated with salt water, are failing.

"We're seeing beyond the normal damage," said Steve Eisenhauer, a regional director with the Natural Lands Trust, which has a