

advancements and treatment only possible through the patient registry and Dr. Warwick's unwavering commitment to research and excellence in patient care.

In addition to serving his patients, Dr. Warwick honorably served his country for over 30 years in the United States Army Reserve Medical Corps, retiring as a colonel.

His legacy—one of a passionate pursuit of excellence and dedicating his life to helping others—will live on.

DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. GABBARD) for 5 minutes.

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, growing up in Hawaii, I learned the value of caring for our home, caring for our planet, and the basic principle that we are all connected in this great chain of cause and effect.

The Dakota Access Pipeline is a threat to this great balance of life. Despite strong opposition from the Standing Rock Sioux and serious concerns raised by the EPA, the Department of the Interior, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and other Federal agencies, the Army Corps of Engineers approved permits to construct the Dakota Access Pipeline without adequately consulting the tribes and without fully evaluating the potential impacts to the neighboring tribal lands, sacred sites, and their water supply. Just one spill near the tribe's reservation could release thousands of barrels of crude oil, contaminating the tribe's drinking water.

The impact of the Dakota Access Pipeline is clear. Energy Transfer Partners, the company that is constructing the Dakota pipeline, has a history of serious pipeline explosions, which have caused injury, death, and significant property damage in the past decade. The future operator of the planned pipeline, Sunoco Logistics Partners, has had over 200 environmentally damaging oil spills in the last 6 years alone, more than any of its competitors.

Protecting our water is not a partisan political issue; it is an issue that is important to all people and all living beings everywhere. Water is life. We cannot survive without it. Once we allow an aquifer to be polluted, there is very little that can be done about it. This is why it is essential that we prevent our water resources from being polluted in the first place.

Our Founding Fathers took great inspiration from Native American forms of governance and the democratic principles that they were founded on. Their unique form of governance was built on an agreement called the Great Law of Peace, which states that before beginning their deliberations, the council shall be obliged "to express their grati-

tude to their cousins and greet them, and they shall make an address and offer thanks to the Earth where men dwell, to the streams of water, the pools, the springs and the lakes, to the maize and the fruits, to the medicinal herbs and trees, to the forest trees for their usefulness . . . and to the Great Creator who dwells in the heavens above, who gives all the things useful to men, and who is the source and the ruler of health and life."

This recognition of our debt to the Creator and our responsibility to be responsible members of this great web of life was there from the beginning of western democracy.

Freedom is not a buzzword. The freedom of our Founding Fathers was not the freedom to bulldoze wherever you like.

Our freedom is a freedom of mind, a freedom of heart, a freedom to worship as we see fit, freedom from tyranny, and freedom from terror. That is the freedom this country was founded on—the freedom cultivated by America's native people and the freedom that the Standing Rock Sioux are now exercising.

This weekend, I am joining thousands of veterans from all across the country at Standing Rock to stand in solidarity with our Native American brothers and sisters. Together, we call on President Obama to immediately halt the construction of this pipeline, respect the sacred lands of the Standing Rock Sioux, and respect their right to clean water. The truth is whether it is the threat to essential water sources in this region, the lead contaminated water in Flint, Michigan, or the threat posed to a major Hawaii aquifer by the Red Hill fuel leak, each example underscores the vital importance of protecting our water resources.

We cannot undo history, but we must learn lessons from the past and carry them forward, to encourage cooperation among free people, to protect the sacred, and to care for the Earth, for our children and our children's children. What is at stake is our shared heritage of freedom and democracy and our shared future on this great Turtle Island, our United States of America.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN WILLIAM B.J. FORE

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

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of a great public servant on his retirement—Captain William B.J. Fore.

B.J., as I call him, a great friend from Caldwell County, North Carolina, has served in the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office for a number of years. Today, Mr. Speaker, I could rise and go through a litany of different positions

on how he has served that great county, but it would miss the point, it would miss the point of who B.J. Fore really is.

He is a gentleman that not only do I call a friend, but he is someone who has served Caldwell County over and over again, consistently answering the call with the word "yes."

B.J. Fore has not only served the Caldwell County area in public service as a law enforcement officer, but he has consistently been someone who is always there to serve those that are in need. I remember specifically just a few years back where he and I were working together on trying to serve some of those that were in most need during an event at Halloween time. Some would come in, and there he was making sure that not only children and families were recognized for what they had or didn't have, but some of them, perhaps even that day, showed up to get the meal that only they could have provided at that particular event.

It is a heart of a big man, a big man of courage, that I recognize today on his retirement. I wish him the very heartfelt congratulations on a life that has served Caldwell County so well, and I wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

COMMERCE LEXINGTON

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

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Commerce Lexington, the chamber of commerce for my hometown of Lexington, Kentucky, which has been named the 2016 Chamber of the Year by the Association of Chambers of Commerce Executives.

Commerce Lexington won the large chamber category over the great cities of Brooklyn, New York; Jacksonville, Florida; and Tacoma, Washington. This award is recognition of Commerce Lexington's work to promote economic development, job creation, and overall business growth in Lexington and neighboring communities through its many programs and services.

As a member-driven organization, the award is also a reflection of Commerce Lexington's 1,700 members, as well as their volunteers and staff, ably led by CEO and President Bob Quick.

In addition to the Chamber of the Year award, Commerce Lexington also received a Grand Award in Communications for their "Here's Our Proof" marketing campaign during the 2015 Breeders' Cup World Thoroughbred Championships, which showcased central Kentucky and the Bluegrass region as a great place to do business, as well as an ideal location for conventions and tourism. It helped, of course, that American Pharoah did what no other thoroughbred had done in history—win not only the Triple Crown, but also the