

“Let us not re-enact their error,” he told the delegates. “Let us not be the heirs to their shame. . . .

“We face a world problem. Let us fashion a world solution.

“History will not forgive us if we fail. History will not forget us if we succeed.”

Mondale’s speech prompted a standing ovation. More importantly, it prompted many nations to increase the number of refugees they accepted.

The record is clear. The only reason my family and families like ours were given sanctuary and opportunity in America was because of leaders like Mondale, who chose to do what was morally right over what was politically popular.

While history does not repeat itself, it does rhyme. Today, a new refugee crisis has emerged. Millions of families have fled Ukraine in the face of Russian savagery. To date, the response from the international community has mostly been in the mold of Mondale. World leaders have spent political and financial capital to help their fellow human beings.

We must continue to meet the moral moment. We must follow the Mondale model.

Thank God for Walter Mondale. Rest in peace, Mr. Vice President.

COMMEMORATING THE COMMISSION OF THE USS “FRANK E. PETERSEN, JR.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the historic commission of the USS *Frank E. Petersen, Jr.* The brave servicemen and servicewomen of the United States Navy are now in command of an impressive vessel with an equally impressive namesake.

Lieutenant General Frank E. Petersen, Jr., was an all-American hero who served with distinction for 38 years. As the first African-American Marine Corps aviator and first African-American Marine Corps general officer, Lieutenant General Petersen went above and beyond the call of duty as a fighter pilot in over 350 combat missions in both the Korean and Vietnam wars.

For this exemplary service, Lieutenant General Petersen was well decorated, receiving the Distinguished Service Medal, the Superior Service Medal, the Purple Heart, as well as numerous others. His service was exemplary, and the American people are eternally grateful to him and his commitment to our country.

This vessel will be a mainstay of the U.S. Armed Forces and, as its namesake did, will overcome all in the pursuit of excellent. As soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines have done for generations, the crew members will continue to carry the torch of liberty and defend our great Nation.

CONGRATULATING THE PARRIS ISLAND MARINE CORPS BAND

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lowcountry’s best, the Parris Island Marine Corps Band, for their Emmy-nominated original composition called “You Were There.” This piece salutes the first responders who continued to work at the height of the pandemic, honoring their commitment to serve and their dedication to serve.

This piece was inspired by Mrs. Lakin Pellon, the wife of the band director, Chief Warrant Officer Mark Pellon, who worked with COVID-19 patients at the height of the pandemic in Los Angeles, Beaufort, and Hilton Head Island. Her bravery during the pandemic exemplifies the spirit of first responders across the Nation. Mrs. Pellon, as well as so many other first responders from communities just like the Lowcountry, made sacrifices every day for us, and we owe them an enormous debt.

The marines who performed this touching piece are the first responders for the Nation when we have dangers abroad, but it is remarkable to see their tribute to our first responders at home.

Congratulations on this tremendous honor.

RECOGNIZING A TRIBUTE TO FIRST RESPONDERS

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a tribute to first responders in Charleston during National Police Week. Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg partnered with visual artist Kelvin Blufton and numerous current and former law enforcement officials from across the Lowcountry for an unveiling of “ESCAPE.”

“ESCAPE” is an exhibit of original paintings of first responders by Mr. Blufton that is meant to educate young people in the principles of civil service and the subsequent responsibility of serving in our community.

“ESCAPE” stands for East Side Civic Art Public Engagement and is tailored to encourage young people to aspire to be first responders in order to better serve the Lowcountry.

Mayor Tecklenburg and Mr. Blufton are helping to raise the next generation of public servants, and we couldn’t be more thrilled with the progress they are making. Congratulations to them both on this amazing unveiling.

RECOGNIZING BATTERY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Battery Creek High School, a fantastic Lowcountry school in Beaufort, South Carolina, with an excellent wildlife habitat education program that has recently won the South Carolina State championship and will be sending four young men to the national competition in London, Kentucky.

The Wildlife Habitat Education Program is a hands-on environmental education program that provides students an opportunity to test their wildlife knowledge. This knowledge is invaluable

to young people, particularly in the Lowcountry, as they learn important lessons about wildlife management and conservation.

Conservation is an important value we all share in our community, and these young men are helping to lead the charge in conservation efforts throughout the Lowcountry and throughout the State of South Carolina.

This championship has meant a great deal to the Beaufort community, and we couldn’t be more proud of our young students.

Congratulations to Hunter Smith, Diego Vega, Hunter Hollingsworth, Tanner McCracken, and Ms. Beth Ann Melton. We wish all of them the best at nationals in July and August.

RECOGNIZING CHRIS AND SHEILA PORZUCZEK

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the Lowcountry’s businessowners, Chris and Sheila Porzuczek of Tortuga’s Mexican Grill on Edisto Beach.

Last week, Tortuga’s donated a portion of their proceeds from an event which the Edisto Beach Loggerhead Turtle Project held during Cinco de Mayo called Tacos for Turtles.

This event not only helped to raise money, but also helped raise awareness of the importance of turtle conservation and keeping the lights off at night to help prevent confusion for newly hatched turtles on their way into the ocean.

Despite staffing shortages, which are affecting businesses across the Lowcountry right now, Chris and Sheila are known as hard workers and support local nonprofits in the Lowcountry often.

Thank you to Chris and Sheila for their hard work and their contributions to the Lowcountry.

WOMEN’S REPRODUCTION FREEDOM

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support and in defense of women’s reproductive freedom and equal rights to comprehensive healthcare.

The leaked Alito opinion shows the Supreme Court is likely to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the critical precedent that has protected a woman’s right to bodily autonomy for nearly 50 years. Suddenly, millions of women across America are on the brink of being denied their fullness of rights, and America is about to become less free. Undeterred, Republicans are now publicly talking about a national abortion ban, States rights notwithstanding. We are staring down an emergency.

I was a young teen when the Supreme Court ruled on *Roe v. Wade*. That remarkable ruling meant that my generation would not have to suffer the cruel and dangerous world where abortion was illegal.

My generation, and all who have come after, have benefited beyond measure from ensuring that women have control over their bodies and are able to make their personal healthcare decisions in private counsel with their families and their doctors, without having to risk their safety or their lives.

In the House, we passed the Women's Health Protection Act to codify Roe. Across the Capitol yesterday, 51 Senators turned their backs on women's rights and voted against this legislation. It is shameful. I am calling on the Senate to work together to protect women across the country. We cannot afford to backslide. We must preserve access to safe medical procedures and respect women's bodily autonomy.

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MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month.

As President Biden declared in his proclamation this month, each May we raise awareness about the importance of mental health and its impact on the well-being of all Americans, including children, adults, families, and communities across our Nation.

We also give thanks to the dedicated mental health providers whose service and support improve the lives of so many Americans. We stand in solidarity with those who are experiencing mental health conditions, renewing our commitment to providing them with the support they need and deserve.

Madam Speaker, every day Americans bear a tremendous mental health burden, exacerbated by COVID-19. The pandemic has increased daily challenges for all of us and for so many have pushed us to our limits. Frontline workers, seniors forced into isolation, parents juggling work and teaching our kids from home, and especially our young people navigating life's decisions, often without the basic support systems they deserve and need.

We feel the impact of our daily interaction with family, friends, neighbors, and even strangers, and we see the impact in the numbers. Increased demand for mental health services, rising incidents of domestic violence, and far too often stories of people, old and young, losing all hope and dying by suicide.

I have heard from the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago about the severity of the pediatric mental health crisis. Prior to the pandemic, Lurie Children's used to get 50 calls per week for new appointments for mental health services. They are now getting 50 calls a day. Their emergency department treated a prepandemic two to three suicide attempts each month. That number has jumped to two or three attempts each day.

Countless teachers have come to me telling me about the struggles their students are facing and the increasing difficulties they endure simply man-

aging their classrooms. A study found that the mental health of colleges students declined between 2013 and 2021, with 135 percent increase in depression, and 110 percent increase in anxiety.

According to the CDC, during the pandemic 18- to 24-year-olds became 25 percent more likely to report they had seriously considered suicide. In my district, Dylan Buckner, a star quarterback due to graduate with honors in mere months, was lost to suicide in January of 2021, devastating his family, friends, and community.

More recently, my community lost a shining light, Orli Sheffey, to suicide this spring. She was a wonderful young woman I had the privilege of knowing her entire life. Her parents, Steve and Timna, her sisters, Ariel and Ayelet, are heartbroken but are also committed to helping others get the mental healthcare they need. Steve specifically asked that Congress take up the issue of mental health on college campuses.

Another of my constituents lost their son, Washington Metropolitan Police Officer Jeff Smith, due to physical and mental injuries incurred on January 6. Officer Smith's father shared with me that the stigma around mental health and the lack of access to care contributed to his tragic loss.

Orli's, Dylan's, and Jeff's stories, like everyone's, are specific to their individual circumstances, but the tragedy of young lives cut short and the incidence of people of all ages not able to get the care they need reflect our national failure to meet this mental health moment.

As a Nation, we desperately need more mental health awareness, education, and better mental health services. We need more mental health providers and residents available to both adults and to children to address the access gap that so many families confront.

Getting America healthy requires that we get those facing these challenges the resources they need, or if we as a Nation are going to achieve our greatest potential, then we must help the sickest among us get healthy so they can reach their full potential.

In Illinois, you can use the Call4Calm text line. If you or a loved one are struggling with stress related to the COVID pandemic and need emotional support, text "talk" to 552020. It is free, and it is anonymous. Veterans can call 1-800-273-8255 or text 838255. The number for the National Suicide Prevention Hotline is 800-273-8255.

IT IS TIME TO ACT ON SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I am here this morning to talk about Social Security.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD two articles: The first is enti-

tled, "It's time for U.S. Congress to debate Social Security reform in the light of day" by The New York Times reporter Mark Miller.

The second is "The Early Impact of COVID-19 on Job Losses among Black Women in the United States" submitted by Michelle Holder.

IT'S TIME FOR U.S. CONGRESS TO DEBATE SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM IN THE LIGHT OF DAY

(By Mark Miller, May 5, 2022)

(Reuters).—Social Security has never failed to make its benefit payments since the mailing of monthly checks began in 1940, but most Americans these days are worried about the future of the program.

Who can blame them? Social Security's two trust funds are projected to run dry in 2034, and the program would be able to pay only 80 percent of its obligations to retirees and disabled workers at that point. Politicians don't exactly generate confidence when they make irresponsible—and wrong—comments claiming that Social Security is going bankrupt or running out of money.

The result is public skepticism and concern. Forty-two percent of working Americans tell Pew Research Center pollsters that they doubt they will receive any benefits from Social Security. An equal share thinks they will receive a benefit, but at a reduced level.

The Social Security trustees have been projecting this shortfall since the early 1990s, but the U.S. Congress has failed to act. What we need is a full, public debate on reform legislation—and an actual vote by lawmakers. The window is open for that to happen this year—the Democratic Party has developed an internal consensus on legislation that addresses the solvency problem, and also expands benefits modestly. It controls both legislative chambers—at least for now. The Social Security 2100 Act is supported by 202 House Democrats—in other words, nearly the entire party caucus. The bill probably cannot jump the hurdle of a Republican filibuster in the U.S. Senate, but it is imperative to get everyone in Congress on the record with a vote on this issue.

"People have got to know where you stand," said U.S. Representative John Larson, a Connecticut Democrat and chief sponsor of the legislation.

EXPANDED BENEFITS

The Social Security 2100 legislation would close 52 percent of the long-term shortfall, according to an analysis by the Social Security actuaries. It would push the trust fund depletion date back to 2038 by adding new payroll taxes to wages over \$400,000—currently, taxation stops at \$147,000. Earlier versions of the bill restored solvency for 75 years by also gradually increasing payroll tax rates, but that has been eliminated to reflect President Joe Biden's campaign pledge not to raise taxes on people with incomes below \$400,000 per year.

The bill does recognize the need to expand benefits, which can help address rising income inequality, and racial and gender gaps in retirement security. The COVID-19 pandemic has widened those gaps. What's more, Gen-Xers and Millennials are likely to fare even worse than boomers and today's seniors when they reach retirement. This is the result of factors including escalating higher-education costs, staggering student debt burdens, wage stagnation, soaring housing costs and the decline of traditional defined benefit pensions.

Social Security 2100 includes a modest 2 percent across-the-board boost in benefits, and it would shift the annual cost-of-living