

designated as prisoners of war or missing in action. On September 16, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we recognize their heroism.

Some of these great Americans are honored at memorials like the Northwood Gratitude and Honor Memorial in my home community of Irvine. I have proudly voted to invest in the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, which helps fulfill our Nation's promise to leave no servicemember behind.

This key agency is responsible for returning the remains of our troops to their loved ones and to a grateful Nation. Supporting our Orange County veterans and their families is how we honor their service. We cannot and will not forget our troops' sacrifices.

Mr. Speaker, I will continue working to protect their legacy.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LEON WALLACE

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

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my constituent, Leon Wallace, who recently passed away at the age of 85, and to share with the Nation his contributions to our community and country.

Leon was a native Staten Islander who grew up in West Brighton and Mariners Harbor, attended P.S. 18, and graduated from McKee High School in 1956.

Leon enlisted in the U.S. Air Force where he served as a jet mechanic while stationed in Guam and later returned to service with the Army National Guard's 117th Calvary. He put his life on the line for our country at a time when our country did not afford him equal rights as an African American. That shows you how truly special he was.

Not only was Leon a dedicated member of our military but he was a steward of outstanding service to our community. After his time in the Air Force, Leon dedicated his time to helping individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. He was also a member of the NAACP, USIVO, and the 369th Veterans Association, as well as St. Philips Baptist Church, and recently, even completed the New York State chaplains' course to minister to other vets in need.

To many across our community, he was referred to as Uncle Leon. He was well-known for his uplifting sayings and positive perspective. Whenever you asked him how he was doing, he would smile and say, "I am too blessed to be stressed."

I was proud to call Leon a friend. This is our last photo together from June. I know I speak for so many in our community when I say that his presence will be missed.

#### A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. I rise today to defend a woman's right to choose. I rise to say that I am totally, completely, and absolutely opposed to Senator GRAHAM's bill.

I rise to say that Senator GRAHAM's bill would deny a woman the right to choose, that it is a bill that is antithetical to the best interests of women.

I stand with the women. I support their right to choose. A woman ought to have the opportunity to consult with those who are closest to her, including her physician, to make this medical decision. Senator GRAHAM would deny this.

I stand with the women, and I stand for a woman's right to choose.

#### THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORT HOOD

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fort Hood on their 80th anniversary marked this week.

Recognized as "The Great Place," Fort Hood has a rich history and is composed of great patriots who selflessly and honorably serve this country.

This largest Active-Duty armored post has answered the call to serve throughout our country's military history and has been an invaluable installation for Army soldiers, advanced weaponry, and the local community.

Whenever I am asked where the next generation of greatness is and leaders will be, I say: Go with me. Go to Fort Hood. That is where they are.

Fort Hood is a special part of Texas' 25th District, and it is my distinct honor to represent them in Congress and fight on behalf of the brave soldiers and their families each and every single day in Washington.

Congratulations to Fort Hood for 80 years of exceptional service to the United States Army and dedication to defending our freedoms at home and abroad.

In God We Trust.

#### SUPPORTING WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

(Mrs. TRAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, 81 days. That is how long it took for Republicans to change their position from abortion as a State issue to supporting a nationwide abortion ban; 81 days to put their hypocrisy on full display for every American—every woman—to see.

Mr. Speaker, this is what it looks like when lawmakers show their true

intention. Their intention is to go beyond the Supreme Court's disastrous decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Their intention is to go beyond the horrific State laws that have already stripped millions of women and young girls of their reproductive rights. Republicans backing this new proposal want to ban every woman in America from seeking abortion care—no exceptions.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker. If Republicans get their way, women's lives will be at risk, and many will die from delayed or denied care.

For our daughters, we cannot—we will not—let them win.

#### BORDER CRISIS

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to the human tragedy that is President Biden's border crisis.

From day one, the Biden administration has blatantly ignored U.S. immigration laws and policies that are designed to keep America safe. The consequences from the human trafficking, the sex trafficking, and the drug trafficking are devastating.

Under the incompetent administration of Biden and his Border Czar, the Vice President, and DHS Secretary Mayorkas, savage drug cartels now control our U.S. border and are sending massive amounts of deadly fentanyl illegally into our communities, including mine in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Worse, they are now smuggling rainbow-colored and candy-flavored drugs across our border in an effort to target our children.

Biden's disastrous open border and amnesty policies have made this crisis worse every single day, but he is blind to see the chaos at our border. Americans are justifiably outraged by his failed leadership.

Border Czar KAMALA HARRIS recently said that the border is secure. The only thing that is secure is the cash flow to the drug cartels so long as Biden's border crisis continues.

#### LOWERING HEALTHCARE COSTS FOR AMERICANS

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

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, I know the American people are feeling the effects of higher prices. That is why Congressional Democrats continue our work to provide relief to America's working families who are struggling to make ends meet by putting people over politics and passing the Inflation Reduction Act. This historic life-changing legislation significantly lowers healthcare costs for America's seniors by enabling Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices and by capping Medicare out-of-pocket expenses to \$2,000 every year.

The Inflation Reduction Act tackles rising costs and inflation by ensuring big corporations pay their fair share of taxes which will, in turn, reduce the national debt. The legislation also makes the largest investment ever in fighting the climate crisis by investing in clean and secure energy production and manufacturing, while creating good-paying American jobs for the future.

Congressional Republicans are too busy trying to score political points rather than working with us to solve today's challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join us in working for the people.

#### BIDENFLATION IS A TAX ON ALL AMERICANS

(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, inflation is at the highest in over 40 years. Yet, by passing the inflation expansion act, Biden and the Democrats are further plunging American families into debt and destroying jobs.

Signed into law by President Biden, the Congressional Budget Office reports this bill will increase the deficit through 2026 and cost working families an additional \$60 billion.

Families are paying 14 percent more at the grocery store, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics—the largest 1-year jump since 1979. Eggs are up 40 percent. Milk is up 17 percent. Bread is up 16 percent.

Since Biden took office, inflation has surged 13 percent, while wages have only risen 8 percent over the same period. The inflation crisis has cost the average American worker over \$3,000 in annual income.

Bidenflation is a tax on all Americans.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism moves from a safe haven in Afghanistan to America.

God bless victory for Ukraine.

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#### RECOGNIZING FRANCES TIAFOE

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, there is always time to celebrate extraordinary Americans, which is why I rise today to recognize American tennis star and proud son of Maryland's Fifth District, Frances Tiafoe.

Last week, he became the first American man to reach the U.S. Open semifinals since 2006 and the first African-American man to do so since Arthur Ashe in 1972.

Indeed, Tiafoe is one of the only three African-American men in the history of tennis to advance out of the rounds and into the finals of the U.S. Open.

Of course, we have been very proud to cheer Serena Williams and Sloane Stephens, who together won 4 out of the last 10 women's titles in the U.S. Open, not to mention an extraordinary young woman, Coco Gauff, who made it to the U.S. Open quarterfinals.

Tiafoe's accomplishments in the men's tournament are especially impressive, Mr. Speaker, considering his extraordinary story. Born in Maryland's Fifth District—mine—to immigrant parents who fled civil war in Sierra Leone, Frances grew up living in a spare office at the Junior Tennis Champions Center in College Park, Maryland, where his father worked as a custodian. Indeed, earlier, his father had been part of the construction crew that built that tennis center.

Noticing young Frances' upbeat attitude and love of the game, the coaches and staff of the center took him under their wing and helped him train to become one of the most promising American tennis players in recent memory. How proud they must be.

We saw that training bear fruit last week when he made it to the semifinals by defeating one of the greatest tennis players in history, Rafael Nadal, from Spain. Although Frances ultimately didn't win the title, he showed the world that the future of American tennis is bright indeed.

I had the opportunity of talking to Frances just a few minutes ago. I am inviting him down to the Capitol, and I want all the Maryland Members to meet him. But I am going to invite all of you to meet him, as well, Mr. Speaker.

He is an extraordinary young man. I congratulate him, I congratulate his family, and I congratulate those coaches who saw a promising young man and took him under their wing not because he was paying them but because they saw great promise in Frances Tiafoe.

Boy, were they right.

#### HONORING PATRICIA ZAJAC OF UTICA, NEW YORK

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patricia Zajac of Utica, New York, who passed away earlier this year.

Patricia was born on February 1, 1947, and spent her entire life in Utica except for a brief period when she attended Golden West Community College in California. Upon her return to Utica, she worked as a nurse's aide at Faxon Hospital in Utica.

Affectionately known as the Mayor of Frances Street, Patricia was notably active in the Utica community. She was a graduate of the Utica Police De-

partment's very first citizen's police academy, was a strong supporter of block associations, and was also active in local politics and projects that advocated for the betterment of her West Utica neighborhood. Patricia was also an active parishioner of Holy Trinity Church and a vital volunteer with the American Red Cross.

Patricia was also known for her efforts to care for homeless animals and pets and her strong support of our Nation's veterans. She was extremely proud of her daughter Mary's service in the United States Air Force.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Patricia so much for her lifetime of compassionate service to our wonderful community. Her memory will live on forever. I extend my sincerest condolences to friends, neighbors, and, of course, her loving family, whom she left behind.

#### RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE OF IAEA

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

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of the International Atomic Energy Agency, commonly known as the IAEA, and to urge Congress to continue its support so it can continue its mission to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

The primary task of the IAEA is to verify that countries comply with their commitments to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty by monitoring and upholding standards for nuclear safety and security.

But it is more than that. Earlier this month, we witnessed shelling and damage to the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Station in Ukraine, the largest nuclear power plant in Europe. The persistent fighting in the area and the occupation of the nuclear plant by Russian forces have raised concerns about the safety and the dangerous conditions that plant workers face.

So, who are you going to call? The IAEA. Its response to the situation in Ukraine demonstrates the crucial importance of its mission.

The IAEA stands as a trusted and stabilizing influence and reduces the danger of potential nuclear disasters worldwide.

#### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DEPUTY JAMES LEE

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of one Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Deputy James Lee, who tragically passed away on July 9, leaving behind a legacy of service to Jefferson County.

Deputy Lee was a former marine. Maybe I should say is a marine because once a marine, always a marine. Deputy Lee was one who started with the