Central New York owes John a debt of gratitude for an enduring legacy of doing something that many thought was impossible. I wish John a happy retirement.

MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Military Appreciation Month.

Serving in America's Armed Forces is one of the most courageous and selfless decisions citizens of this country can make. It is a decision we should never cease to honor and celebrate. Too frequently, however, our Active Duty servicemembers and their families do not receive the essential care and support they need and deserve.

Force readiness is contingent on a servicemember's ability to be confident that their family is kept safe when they are called to serve. Too often we find that these families aren't safe. They are living in homes with toxic mold and no recourse. Their drinking water has been poisoned by years of chemical dumps with no recourse.

It is simply unacceptable. As a new member of the House Armed Services Committee, I will always stand up to ensure that those who have so bravely defended our freedoms have access to the essential resources and support they need to thrive.

Military families serve too, and it is time we recognize this and act to show them the appreciation they deserve.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF IRMA H. ROBERTS

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

Mr. KUSTOFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the upcoming 100th birthday of Irma Roberts, probably the most famous high school librarian in the history of Memphis City Schools.

Irma Roberts was the librarian at White Station High School from 1963 to 1986. Aside from being the librarian, she was the school's student council sponsor. She planned the homecoming and directed the annual Queen of Clubs.

Without a doubt, Irma Roberts had a great influence on my life and on so many other students at White Station High School. She is truly an inspiration to a couple of generations of students at White Station High School. She was a tremendous educator.

Dodson, DeAnn, Dabney, Bob, Bill, and Ryan know how terrific their mother and grandmother is as a person. Now, so does everyone else.

Irma Roberts, congratulations on your 100th birthday.

CRUMBLING INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, in the beginning of this week because of the routine inspection by the Department of Transportation in Arkansas, it was discovered that the Hernando De Soto Bridge that crosses the Mississippi River between Memphis and Arkansas had a major crack in a structural beam. As a result, that bridge which carries 50,000 cars across it and much of America's commerce along I–40 is closed, and it may be closed for as much as months—not days or weeks, but months.

Traffic is diverted to a 1949 bridge, the Memphis-Arkansas Bridge, which is currently serving the need, but it is difficult, and it is causing traffic problems in Memphis.

Mr. Speaker, 700 barges are stopped on the Mississippi River—370 going south and 330 going north—which cannot go under the bridge for fear that the bridge could fall and not support its own weight and damage the barges.

I am calling on the Department of Transportation to get involved, to lend its expertise, and to lend money and finances to get this bridge open. This is a national tragedy, and it shows why we need an infrastructure bill immediately.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of National Police Week and to honor the brave men and women in blue who selflessly serve in law enforcement across our Nation.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to the officers back in central Arkansas, throughout the country, and right here in the U.S. Capitol who fearlessly defend our families and communities. Our communities could not run smoothly without the service and sacrifice that law enforcement officers make for us on a daily basis.

The best way to ensure better community-based policing is to support our law enforcement agencies with the proper training and the proper funding that they need. I will always support our law enforcement here in Washington, and I hope that our country can bond where all our communities are proud like I am to back the blue.

Once again, I thank all of our dedicated officers in this important week for their sacrifices and, importantly, their families' sacrifice as they serve all of our families on a daily basis.

RELIEF PACKAGE

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

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a historic piece of the American Rescue Plan: the expanded child tax credit. Prior to this relief package, the child tax credit left behind one-third of all children because their parents earned too little to access the full benefit.

The American Rescue Plan changed that by making the credit fully refundable, increasing the credit to $3,000 per child per year, $3,600 for kids under the age of 6, and providing the credit in monthly payments starting this July. This 1-year expansion was a critical first step, but we must go further to rebuild our middle class. Children don't grow up in just 1 year or 5 years. We must make this expansion permanent.

In Washington State, this is estimated to benefit 1.4 million children and reduce childhood poverty by 40 percent. I will continue fighting to make this expansion permanent and provide all kids with a fair opportunity to succeed.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S INFLATION

(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, Tuesday was a media alarm. The biased Washington Post reported accidentally in The State newspaper that ''Joe Biden's free spending could ignite inflation that would outstrip wage gains.'' The President's $6 trillion spending spree of borrowing and taxing will burden the youth of America with debt and threaten the savings of older Americans with a worthless dollar.

Already, The Post and Courier of Charleston reprinted how lumber costs in the average house have skyrocketed $36,000 this year, undermining homeownership. The Wall Street Journal revealed used cars have hit a record of over $25,000 which denies many the ability to purchase a car.

The New York Stock Exchange suffered a staggering loss of nearly 500 points as inflation was clearly being pushed by the outrageous spending schemes of President Biden destroying jobs.

I appreciate the courageous leaders, like Ambassador Nikki Haley, who are standing up for America. She has sent me a symbol of the consequence of borrowing and taxing which we see in Venezuela: the 100 Bolivar note which is now worth less than a dime.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

IMPROVING LIVES OF WORKING FAMILIES

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, this week I was so proud to announce that $330 million from the American Rescue