

The walkability of cities and towns in Carver allow its residents to skip the car ride and use their own two feet to get to the grocery store or shop; and with countless parks, playgrounds, and trails, there are plenty of places for Minnesotans to enjoy the outdoors.

Congratulations to the residents of Carver County for grabbing the top spot once again and setting a great example for the rest of our State to get out and get active.

RECOGNIZING BUCKS AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES' EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize those in Bucks and Montgomery Counties who serve in emergency medical services. Just recently, we celebrated National EMS Week, a time to honor the contributions and service of emergency medical technicians.

All too often, the service of EMTs goes unnoticed, despite the risks of their profession and the lifesaving actions they perform. Late last month, the Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad hosted an event with local officials to celebrate National EMS Week and to discuss the current issues faced in our community.

As an EMT myself, I can say, without a doubt, that this profession truly embodies public service, and I thank all EMTs in Bucks and Montgomery Counties for their dedicated service to saving lives. I would especially like to extend my gratitude to Dr. Gerald Wydro, the medical director of Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad, and to the Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad Chief, Andrew Foley, for their leadership.

NINTH ANNUAL RIDE FOR THE HEROES

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Central Bucks Rotary Club, who will host its Ninth Annual Ride for the Heroes, where motorcyclists from across Bucks County ride from Lower Makefield to Bedminster Township to raise money for local veterans' organizations.

Organized by Rotary member Mark Glidden, this event has grown from 200 bikers in its initial year to anywhere from 500 to 700 participants, yearly. Originally intended to provide financial assistance to nonprofits in the community, Ride for the Heroes became focused on helping military families at the inspiration of the Travis Manion Foundation in Doylestown.

Founded by retired Lieutenant Colonel Tom Manion and his late wife, Janet, in honor of their son, the Travis Manion Foundation's mission is to "empower veterans and families of fallen heroes to develop character in future generations."

In doing this, the Travis Manion Foundation seeks engagement between

veterans and families of fallen soldiers with the local community. The foundation brings young people together with veterans so that they can learn our Nation's values from heroes who have put those values into action in the United States military.

I applaud the vision of the Travis Manion Foundation and appreciate the work of the Central Bucks Rotary Club and those who will ride for those who served.

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS OF THE SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a group of students in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, who recently collected 2,150 pounds of food, paper products, and personal care items for those in need.

The Souderton Area School District, comprised of nearly 6,500 students, recently held its annual food drive and quarter collection. This event collects items for the Keystone Opportunity Center, also in Souderton, which operates a homeless shelter and offers literary education classes in Montgomery and Bucks Counties.

To diversify the goods donated, each school was assigned a certain item to donate, from peanut butter and jelly at Indian Crest Middle School to detergent and soap at Oak Ridge Elementary School. Additionally, Salford Hills and Vernfield Elementary Schools thoughtfully donated crops from their community gardens to the Keystone food pantry.

I would like to commend these students, along with their teachers and parents, for teaching them the virtues of charity and generosity. I would also like to thank the staff and volunteers at Keystone Opportunity Center for their service, especially President Arlene Daily for her outstanding leadership.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 27 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Rabbi Aaron Krupnick, Congregation Beth El, Voorhees, New Jersey, offered the following prayer:

Our God and God of our ancestors:

On the long road to freedom from Egypt, You led 12 diverse tribes, instructing each to march under their own banner. They did not always see eye to eye, but they could, nonetheless,

walk shoulder to shoulder. In spite of their disagreements, they had sworn an oath to You to be one nation under God.

Dear Lord, help the Members of this Congress to be ever mindful of the fact that the right to disagree is fundamental to our democracy. Foster in them the art of disagreement that the Jewish people have been practicing for millennia. Enable them to grant their adversaries moral respect; to give those of opposing opinions the intellectual benefit of doubt; to have sympathy for their motives and listen with empathy to their lines of reasoning.

Grant all the Members of our House of Representatives insight into this art of disagreement. Endow them with discernment and wisdom, patience and understanding, kindness and compassion. Let them walk humbly before those who they serve and thereby bring us all that much closer to You and to one another. God, bless this great Nation and those who lead it.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. STEFANIK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING THOSE KILLED OR WOUNDED IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

The SPEAKER. The Chair asks that the House now observe a moment of silence in honor of those who have been killed or wounded in service to our country and all those who serve and their families.

WELCOMING RABBI AARON
KRUPNICK

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. NORCROSS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to welcome our guest chaplain, Rabbi Aaron Krupnick of Congregation Beth El in Voorhees, New Jersey.

The congregation has been part of our South Jersey community since 1920, when it was originally founded in Camden City.

Now it offers a spiritual home for hundreds of Jewish families in South Jersey.

Rabbi Krupnick came to our community in 1994 from Montgomery, Alabama. There, he helped lead interfaith services with leaders like Martin Luther King, III, and Rosa Parks.

As you heard in his prayer, he often discusses patience, understanding, kindness, compassion.

In a world where religion too often creates so much conflict, Rabbi Krupnick focuses on togetherness. He knows there is more that connects us than divides us.

I have been fortunate enough to attend services and seder at Beth El. I have witnessed firsthand how the community is welcoming, loving, and supportive of all.

Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to welcome Rabbi Krupnick to the House of Representatives and I thank him for his offering of this morning's prayer.

His compassion, his teachings, his strong leadership have helped foster a vibrant Jewish community in our region, and I know it will stay that way for years to come.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAVIDSON). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RELEASE PASTOR ANDREW
BRUNSON

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the ongoing plight of Pastor Andrew Brunson, a Christian missionary from my district in western North Carolina who has been held as a prisoner of the Turkish Government for the last 20 months.

Prior to being arrested by the Turkish Government in October of 2016, Pastor Brunson had lived peacefully in Turkey for decades. He had opened a church, raised his family, and made a life in the country.

That all changed in 2016, when the Turkish Government arrested Pastor Brunson on a series of bogus charges. He has been detained ever since.

Last month, I sent a letter to the Turkish President, signed by a bipartisan group of 154 lawmakers, calling on their government to release Pastor Brunson. It is a long time in coming, but I hope and I pray that Pastor Brunson will be released so that he can be reunited with his family here in the United States.

IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Trump administration's shameful new policy separating parents and children at our southern border. This policy is even being applied to those legally seeking asylum here while fleeing violence in their home countries.

The current system of prioritizing criminal prosecution of those seeking protection rather than assessing legitimate asylum claims has to stop.

These are not our Nation's values. Our country is better than this, our people are better than this.

But we have a chance to get something right. We are currently within just a handful of signatures of forcing a vote on a series of immigration proposals, including the bipartisan USA Act, which pairs a resolution for our Dreamers with smart investments in our border security.

June, this month, is Immigrant Heritage Month, a time to reflect on the history of immigration that so many Americans share. We must live up to our heritage by ending this cruel policy of family separation, securing Dreamers a permanent future here in the United States, and finally formally reforming our broken immigration system.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL
JEFFREY BANNISTER

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

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional patriot and military leader, Major General Jeffrey Bannister, who recently passed away.

General Bannister served as the 10th Mountain Division commander and senior commander at Fort Drum in my district.

I am proud to have gotten to know General Bannister and his family during my first term in office, when we worked closely together to successfully prevent devastating personnel cuts from taking place at Fort Drum.

Whenever I visited Fort Drum, Major General Bannister was always a wonderful host. It was clear he commanded the greatest respect from the men and women stationed on post, and I know his greatest interest was their well-being.

I remember running into Jeff with his family at the Cream Cheese Festival in Lowville after he returned from a recent deployment. He was casually wearing his baseball cap and eating at a picnic table with his wife, and they both gave me a warm hug.

He was truly dedicated to our country and our community.

The hearts of our entire Fort Drum community go out to the family of Major General Bannister, his wife Trese and his daughter Lindsey during this difficult time.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, there is nothing that demonstrates the deeply held American value of living a retirement with dignity than the promise of Social Security and Medicare. These are benefits that America's seniors have earned after a lifetime of hard work so they can enjoy their retirement years with dignity and economic security.

But yesterday we learned the Medicare trust fund will be depleted in just 8 years, 3 years earlier than expected. The Social Security trust fund will run dry just 8 years after that.

A few months ago, our Republican friends passed a huge tax cut for the wealthiest Americans and most powerful corporations. And how do Republicans want to pay for it: by cutting Social Security and Medicare.

That is a bad deal for the American people. They deserve better.

When Democrats take back the majority, we are going to deliver A Better Deal for the American people. We are going to put working people first and we are going to ensure a secure retirement for everyone who works hard in this country. Most importantly, we are going to return the promise of America.

NORMANDY: JUNE 6, 1944

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the cold, damp, dark rain of morning, thousands of young American soldiers sailed across the treacherous English Channel. The day was June 6, 1944; their destination, Normandy, France; the mission, not conquest, but liberation of Europe.

Operation Overlord, or D-Day, called for a massive ally invasion of the continent during World War II. Securing the brutal Omaha and Utah beachheads inch by bloody inch, our boys finally declared victory, forcing Hitler to begin his long retreat into oblivion.

That victory did not come without cost, however. Today, 9,387 white crosses and Stars of David overlook the silent beaches of Normandy, marking