

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRATULATING JUDGE CARYN CANNER SCHWARTZ

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to rise today in honor of Judge Caryn Canner Schwartz upon her retirement from the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court of Florida where she has proudly served since 1993.

Throughout her long and distinguished career as a judge, she has worked in the Civil and Criminal Divisions of the Miami-Dade County Court and as an Acting Circuit Court Judge in the Civil, Criminal, Domestic Violence and Family Divisions of the Circuit Court.

When Caryn is not sitting on the bench, she volunteers her time and experience through many different charitable and educational organizations, including mentoring law students and young attorneys. In fact, for the first 10 years of her career, Caryn taught high school students science and math and worked tirelessly to educate our Nation's youth.

Our south Florida community has benefited substantially from Judge Schwartz's leadership and her public service; and for this I truly thank her.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to join Caryn's family, her friends, and her peers as they honor the many accomplishments of her outstanding career. I wish her and the entire Schwartz family all the best in this new exciting chapter of her life.

PRIORITIZE ISSUES THAT MATTER

(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 recently asked my constituents about their priorities, and we received more than 2,400 responses. Their top issues? Healthcare, gun safety, and the environment.

It is worth noting that on each of these issues this Congress has not only not made progress, we have moved backwards. On healthcare, this Con-

gress spent months fighting a failed fight to repeal the Affordable Care Act, and now the administration continues to cynically sabotage the law to weaken protections for pre-existing conditions and increase premiums.

On gun safety, this Congress sits idly by as senseless gun violence and mass shootings claim lives across the country. In fact, the only gun legislation we passed this year, concealed carry reciprocity, actually weakened our gun laws.

On climate, this Congress has not only not listened to the science that tells us to reduce emissions, and instead the administration, President Trump, recklessly withdrew the United States from the Paris Climate Accord.

It is time Congress put the interests of the American people first. In the coming new Congress, we have a new opportunity for progress. Let's listen and prioritize the issues that matter most to our constituents and our country: affordable healthcare, the safety of their children, and a sustainable planet.

ADK FORTY-SIXERS CELEBRATE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

(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 in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Adirondack Forty-Sixers, an organization in my district whose 10,000-plus members have climbed all 46 peaks of the Adirondack Mountains.

Since their founding by brothers Bob and George Marshall, the Forty-Sixers have been central to promoting environmental stewardship, protecting our natural resources, and encouraging younger generations to enjoy the great outdoors.

The Adirondacks are an essential component of our tourism economy. The Forty-Sixers have done important work giving back to the mountains they love and making the peaks more accessible. They have also prioritized community outreach and volunteerism. Their all-volunteer trail maintenance program is critical to keeping trails available to hikers from across the world and, in turn, protecting our environment.

For the past century, young hikers have been mentored and trained by this dedicated group of environmental stewards, and I know that over the next 100 years, many more will be inspired to experience the Adirondack Mountains.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Adirondack Forty-Sixers on this incredible milestone.

MEANINGFUL GUN SAFETY LAWS NOW

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, this Friday marks the sixth anniversary of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, Connecticut.

On December 14, 2012, from 9:30 to 9:40 a.m., a lone gunman armed with an assault weapon killed 27 people, including 20 kids between the ages of 6 and 7 years old. Five minutes, one shooter, 27 people dead. Many of the kids had several bullet wounds in their bodies when they were recovered.

In the years since that tragedy, we have seen high-powered assault weapon attacks on schools, synagogues, nightclubs, churches, concerts, and in our neighborhoods. With each horrific attack, Congress responds with a moment of silence. We have had 50 moments of silence since Sandy Hook.

Silence is not a response. We need rational voices, congressional hearings, and meaningful gun safety laws now.

TRIBUTE FOR PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH

(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, an extraordinary tribute for President George H.W. Bush was published by Krishnadev Calamur in *The Atlantic*: "Had George Herbert Walker Bush never become the 41st President of the United States, he would still be remembered as one of the great Americans of the 20th century. . . .

"But it was his one-term presidency, from 1989 to 1993, that had a monumental impact on the world. Ronald Reagan, his predecessor, uttered the famous words: 'Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall,' yet it was Bush who presided over its orderly dismantling.

"Bush oversaw the collapse of the Soviet Union, the end of the Cold War, the birth of the post-Soviet republics, and the West's outreach to former members of the Warsaw Pact."

In my service in Congress, I have seen firsthand the expansion of freedom and democracy. Today the largest number of nations in world history are free and democratic, from Bulgaria to Lithuania, inspired by President George H.W. Bush.

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

OPEN ENROLLMENT

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, with only 4 days until open enrollment closes for next year, I want to call on people in my community, across Pennsylvania, and in every part of our country to sign up for coverage on healthcare.gov.

Because Pennsylvania chose to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, low-income individuals and

families in every corner of our district and State can obtain coverage, and nearly 700,000 Pennsylvanians are now covered.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, Americans of every background can choose from a range of plans to find one that works for them and their family free from discrimination over gender, sexual orientation, race, or pre-existing conditions. However, there is still work to be done.

Healthcare is a right, not a privilege. While the Affordable Care Act has brought us closer to universal coverage, we must build on this progress. In the coming months I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to make clear that we need to move away from our profit-driven healthcare system toward a society where affordable, high quality care is the birthright of every single child, woman, and man in this country.

CONGRATULATING THE MCCOMB HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the McComb High School football team for winning the Ohio State Division VII Championship. The Panthers won their second title in school history with a 28-3 victory over Glouster Trimble.

McComb showed great fortitude in reeling off eight straight wins on their way to the title. Including freshmen, the Panthers dressed 27 players, about half the number of most of their opponents.

The Panthers' success can be tied to their stout defense which didn't surrender a single touchdown in the championship game. These student athletes gave it their all and had the backing of the entire school district. They exemplified the best of Ohio small-town football.

I know what the title means to McComb, as my dad played for McComb in the late 1930s. It is great to see the fans rally around these players.

Once again, congratulations to Coach Kris Alge and the rest of the McComb High School football team on a job well done.

RECOGNIZING SPECIAL OLYMPICS HAWAII

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

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, today I am rising to recognize Special Olympics Hawaii celebrating 50 years of service to our community. Since its founding in 1968, Special Olympics has changed lives and served as an indispensable source of strength and empowerment for so many people.

Across our State today, it is serving 4,700 participants with the support of

nearly 12,000 coaches and volunteers delivering 10 Olympic-type sports and more than 50 competitions throughout the year.

They have taken on issues like inactivity, injustice, intolerance, and social isolation by encouraging and empowering people with intellectual disabilities. They have had an impact on our entire community and our State. They are combating negative stereotypes, bringing joy and a sense of achievement and creating a culture of respect and inclusion.

Mahalo to Special Olympics Hawaii and congratulations on reaching this 50th anniversary year.

A TRIBUTE TO SCOTTY BYRNE

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

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of longtime Brewton, Alabama, resident and my cousin, G.S. "Scotty" Byrne Jr., who passed away on November 18 at the age of 92.

Scotty was a veteran of World War II having served in the 351st Infantry Division under General Mark Clark and later went on to serve as sheriff of Escambia County for 24 years.

In college at the University of Southern Mississippi, Scotty was a premier two-sport athlete excelling in both baseball and golf. He was the first athlete to be inducted into the USM Sports Hall of Fame for two sports. Throughout his life, he was one of the most able golfers in our part of the State.

During his tenure as sheriff, he was a vocal supporter of the Alabama Sheriff's Boys Ranch, providing resources for children in need throughout our State. Without a doubt, Scotty was one of the most memorable citizens in Escambia County's long history.

So on behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District, I want to share our condolences with Scotty's family. He will be sorely missed.

2018 FARM BILL

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

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, after months of negotiation and conference, I am proud to come to the floor today to say the 2018 farm bill is now a strong, bipartisan bill which works for families, farmers, and communities.

The bill now avoids disastrous cuts to SNAP, a program which helps put food on the table for 44,000 people in Mecklenburg County alone. It also provides \$10 million in funding for urban agriculture research and mandatory funding for programs that support local food systems.

As co-founder and co-chair of the bipartisan HBCU Caucus, I am particularly proud to have helped secure key resources for 1890 land-grant univer-

sities in the bill. It authorizes \$50 million to create three centers of excellence at 1890s and ensures equity between land-grants by removing provisions that strip away unspent extension funds for 1890s, and it mandates a report that outlines research and extension funds for all land-grant schools.

I thank my colleagues on the conference committee, and I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill when it comes to the floor.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK MACKENZIE

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life of Quincy University soccer coach Jack Mackenzie of Quincy, Illinois.

Hired in 1969, Jack built Quincy University into a college soccer dynasty, guiding his program at all levels of college soccer, from the NAIA division through the NCAA's division II status, and even excelling at the NCAA's division I level.

For 43 years, Jack was at the helm of the Quincy soccer program. He was a pioneer and a legend, leading the team to nine national championships between 1970 and 1982, and amassing 516 victories, putting him 10th on the all-time wins list across all NCAA division levels.

Upon retirement in 2012, Jack remained involved in the Quincy University community and could still be found in the stands at every home game the Hawks played.

As the Quincy University community continues to mourn the loss of Coach Jack Mackenzie, may we never forget the positive impact he had on so many lives, the sport of soccer, and his tireless spirit in pursuit of excellence.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING THE LIFE OF DON KRZYSIAK

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life of Don Krzysiak.

Don and his family are longtime members of the Bay City community. Sadly, he passed away on Friday, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He is survived by his wife, Lois, and their children, Tom, Donnie, and Melanie.

Don founded Krzysiak's House Restaurant in 1979, with just a handful of employees, and grew it into the successful Bay City business that it is today. In fact, the very first event after I announced I was running for Congress was at Krzysiak's. He welcomed me with open arms and made me feel welcome in the neighborhood.

I remember always buying paczkis from Don on Fat Tuesday. Every year,