

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1415

HONORING RAYNA LATIMER

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a trailblazing first responder from Roselle, New Jersey. On December 19 of last year, Rayna Latimer was sworn in as the first-ever woman firefighter in Roselle, New Jersey's history.

She has been called a hero, not just because she is a firefighter, but also because she is paving a path for young girls who might one day become firefighters in their own communities.

Rayna has lived most of her life in Roselle, and she has spent the past 5 years preparing to become a firefighter. That is because helping people has always been her passion, Rayna had told a local newspaper a while ago.

Before setting her sights on the fire department, Rayna was a corrections officer. That gave her a greater appreciation for first responders.

She didn't set out to become the first female firefighter in Roselle. Rayna just wanted to align her passions and her strengths.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rayna Latimer for her service to Roselle, New Jersey, and for inspiring young people throughout her community.

RECOGNIZING ARMAND KUYKENDALL

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

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize one of my constituents, Armand Kuykendall, who was named Putnam County's 50th Annual Spelling Bee winner on January 18, 2019.

Armand is currently in the fifth grade at the Middleton-Burney Elementary School, where he is a straight-A student. During his young life, he has faced many obstacles. Armand has excelled at school with the support of his teachers and family.

In order to compete in Putnam County's spelling bee, Armand spent his free time studying and memorizing over 450 words. His winning word was "apricot."

His family, friends—as I am—are extremely proud of Armand for competing and winning the spelling bee. I would like to congratulate him for his outstanding accomplishment.

Armand now moves on to participate in the First Coast Spelling Bee at Jacksonville University on February 19, 2019. Best of L-U-C-K, Armand.

LIVES CUT SHORT BY GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise for Rodney and Michelle Roberson and their daughter Bianca, who was fatally shot in a road rage incident in June of 2017.

Bianca had recently graduated from Rustin High School in Chester County, in my district. She was coming back from a pre-college shopping trip when she found herself in an encounter with someone who tried passing her in a merge lane and then, in a horrific act, pulled out a loaded firearm and fired a single, fatal shot at Bianca.

Bianca was a beautiful and smart young lady who was, tragically, taken from us too soon because of senseless gun violence.

I rise for the 1,635 other Pennsylvanians whose lives were cut short in 2017 because of gun violence. I am a third-generation veteran, and I support responsible gun ownership. And, like many in my community, I support commonsense safety measures that Congress should act on to curtail gun violence in our communities.

We must act now.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DAVID SOVCHEN

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Mr. David Sovchen, who passed away on January 25, his 72nd birthday.

Mr. Sovchen had an enormous impact in Savannah throughout his life.

In 1985, he joined the Wendy's senior management team, which led him to our community, where he owned nearly a dozen restaurants.

Outside of his exceptional management skills, he was dedicated to growing the arts in coastal Georgia. To that end, Mr. Sovchen worked with the Savannah Book Festival to provide office space and find critical funding opportunities. Now, the Savannah Book Festival is in its 10th year and has brought a total of over 400 authors to our area.

In addition to the book festival, Mr. Sovchen volunteered with the Boy Scouts, the Salvation Army, Savannah Technical College, and the Chamber of Commerce.

I am deeply thankful for all of this work, which has made Savannah a better place to live. Mr. Sovchen's family and friends will be in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

THE TRUE STATE OF OUR UNION

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

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, last night we heard from a President who is clearly out of touch with the true state of our union. His rhetoric of compromise failed to meet the reality of the highly divisive policies he offered.

The President failed to acknowledge that his tax scam has unfairly benefited big corporations, CEOs, and the wealthiest Americans at the expense of working people.

He failed to acknowledge the severe shortcomings of his own administration when it comes to middle class families.

He failed to acknowledge that his administration has ripped away protections for those with preexisting conditions.

The President continued to use harmful rhetoric toward immigrants and declined to acknowledge that his anti-immigrant agenda has torn families apart, put kids in cages, and turned away those seeking asylum and safety.

The President also failed to address one of the biggest crises we face, and that is the impact of climate change on our planet. We are witnessing more intense storms and stronger wildfires as a result of climate change, but instead of acknowledging those facts, the President denied climate science, nominated fossil fuel lobbyists to run the EPA and Department of Interior, and has undone critical environmental protection.

We need a comprehensive agenda to combat climate change and a monumental shift to renewable energy, electric vehicles, and more energy-efficient buildings.

While the President continues to deny science and common sense, I will continue to work with my colleagues on a Green New Deal to protect our planet for future generations.

While the President's State of the Union address was out of touch, I welcome him to join Democrats in working For The People to lower health care costs, end the culture of corruption in Washington, effectively combat climate change, and serve the middle class.

AMERICAN HEART MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, for more than 50 years, we have observed February as American Heart Month.

Heart disease is the Nation's number-one killer, and during this month we reaffirm our commitment to combating heart disease and educating all people about the benefits of a healthy, active lifestyle.

Madam Speaker, before I came to Congress, I worked for nearly 30 years as a rehabilitation therapist and a licensed nursing home administrator. I understand the unique challenges facing individuals who have suffered a