

family savings or forcing individuals into long-term debt and even bankruptcy.

The nightmare of unplanned medical billing has gone on far too long. Working alongside the White House and President Trump's leadership and my fellow members of the House Doc Caucus, I am proud of the solutions we have developed that would put an end to the unfair practice of surprise billing.

I am encouraged by the widespread agreement in Congress to address the issue and am optimistic we can agree to commonsense policies that President Trump is eager to sign into law.

We should all be able to agree on sensible reforms that address surprise billing. Specifically, patients should always be protected from surprise medical bills when receiving emergency or nonemergency care. Patients should only pay in-network rates for emergency care, and claims should be settled between healthcare providers and the insurer without roping in the patient.

In the 21st century, we should expect that consumers have a right to accurate, transparent information about providers and their network with real and honest cost estimates before they make healthcare decisions.

When referring a patient to another specialist as a physician myself, I always told my patients to check their health plan's provider directory, but also encouraged them to double-check with the physician's office directly in case the information was not up to date.

This process can be confusing, time consuming, and unnecessary to physicians' offices as well as the patients, and it is my priority to fix it. These solutions have been more than a year in the making, and I am optimistic we are very close to accomplishing our shared goal of lowering the cost of healthcare and ending surprise billing once and for all.

#### RECOGNIZING STEPHANIE SIGLER

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, later today, a Kansan from my district will be honored at the Next Generation 911 Institute's Annual 911 Honor Award Showcase to recognize emergency response heroes and leaders from across the country for their excellence in emergency response.

Stephanie Sigler works as a 911 phone operator for the Rice County Emergency Communications Center in Lyons, Kansas, and will be honored as a 911 public safety professional for her superior response efforts on the job.

In April of last year, Stephanie received a 911 phone call reporting the shooting of a Rice County sheriff and undersheriff, which led to an hours-long standoff involving numerous law enforcement agencies. Thanks to the swift and professional job done by Stephanie, many lives were spared.

Hundreds of millions of 911 callers, every year, rely on the dedication and cooperation of our public safety profes-

sionals like Stephanie. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Stephanie Sigler for dedicating herself to help Kansans in need.

I would like to also recognize Rice County Sheriff Bryant Evans and Undersheriff Chad Murphy, who were wounded in the shooting, as well as those who were heroically responding during this situation.

#### HONORING REVEREND OTIS LIVINGSTON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Reverend Otis Livingston, a decorated veteran and lifelong resident of Decatur, Illinois, who passed away a few weeks ago at the age of 90.

With the exception of his military service, Otis spent his entire life in Decatur. He graduated from Decatur Public Schools and spent 33 years working as a lead operator at A.E. Staley's.

During the Korean war, Otis served as a combat medic in the 15th Medical Division and the 1st Cavalry Division. For his bravery, Otis was awarded a Bronze Star and a medal from the President of South Korea.

Otis was strong in his faith and dedicated himself to serving God and his neighbors. He served in numerous church and community positions, including chaplain for the Macon County Jail.

It was in this role that he and his wife were inspired by the need to minister to the incarcerated. They founded Reach Prison Ministry, which has served central Illinois communities for decades.

Otis was a very well-loved part of the Decatur community for years. He was a true example of public service, and he led others to faith by his faith. I know the impact he has left on Decatur, and I know that he will be truly missed.

#### HONORING CRAIG LINDVAHL

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Craig Lindvahl, a native of my hometown of Taylorville, who passed away earlier this year after a 4-year battle with pancreatic cancer.

Craig was an award-winning educator, filmmaker, composer, and author. He was a teacher in the Teutopolis School District for 34 years. He followed his parents, Ron and Ann, who taught me in the Taylorville schools. My prayers go out to both of them.

Craig started the Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities program in Effingham, a yearlong course for high school students designed to utilize partnerships that provide an overview of business development and processes. Today, over 200 schools offer the program that Craig created for their students.

Craig was dedicated to his students. He served on the Illinois State Board of

Education, and, in 2015, Craig was honored as the Effingham County Citizen of the Year. He also won an Emmy Award.

As many know, Craig's mantra for himself was: "Who will be better because of what I do today?" I think it is safe to say that everyone who knew Craig is better for it. He impacted so many throughout his life, and he will not be forgotten.

#### 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 57 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCGOVERN) at noon.

#### PRAYER

Dr. Lance Watson, St. Paul's Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we gather today in this House of Representatives, in the people's House, to acknowledge that You alone are sovereign. Thank You that we share in a nation where life, liberty, and happiness are inalienable rights, rights which we hold as self-evident.

We praise You for the responsibility we have to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. Give us the power to find needs and meet them, find problems and solve them, find hurts and heal them.

For every elected official, we ask the blessings of civility, truth, wisdom, and grace. Even amid diversity, enable us to embrace unity. Open our hearts in courage and imagination that we might envision a better tomorrow where Your purpose will prevail on Earth as in Heaven.

Let Your grace and favor rest upon us. In the matchless, marvelous, magnificent, majestic name that is above every name, we pray and give thanks.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.