

that was put in place by a private forestry company to stop the spread of fire onto their land because public lands are so mismanaged.

Here is what that firebreak looked like. It was a thinned area where the fire came in from this direction. It went down to the ground, and firemen were actually able to put it out and save the forest on the other side.

That is what sound forest management looks like. This is not clear-cutting. It is commonsense, science-based management that works.

Mr. Speaker, now is the time to act—not after the election, not the next Congress, but now. In the Trillion Trees Act, we have outlined policies to implement the most basic forest management practices to the four most critical areas:

The wildland urban interface where fire can start, but where breaks can be created and we can thin;

Energy transportation corridors. We know fires can start from electric arcs;

Transportation corridors, where trains and cars can create sparks and where more humans are near the forest;

And last but not least, in critical watersheds where the damage is felt long after the fires are out.

For the sake of our forests, our environment, and all Americans, I urge Congress to act. Pass the Trillion Trees Act, and let's be the good stewards that the trees deserve.

STAND UP FOR SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we woke up this morning to another 1,000 souls lost to coronavirus and the Western States are ablaze. Our most powerful weapon for combating these threats is rigorous, unbiased science. And yet this administration continues to suppress and misrepresent the work of our Federal scientists.

HHS officials appear to be tampering with public health bulletins to suit their political narrative. EPA is misrepresenting its own analysts' work to absolve polluters. And just yesterday, the President claimed that science doesn't know about the impacts of climate change.

If science doesn't know, who does?

This cannot go on. My committee has been fighting back. Among other initiatives, we have passed the Scientific Integrity Act to make sure that Federal science is not distorted by politics or special interests, no matter who is in the White House.

As we work to make this bill a law, I commend all of our Federal scientists who remain objective, exacting, and transparent in their research: Don't quit. Continue to stand up to scientific integrity. Your country needs you. We all do.

□ 0945

HONORING HEALTHCARE HEROES AND FRONTLINE WORKERS

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our valiant frontline workers and healthcare heroes who have taken care of their neighbors and saved countless lives during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes nurses, doctors, pharmacists, grocery store workers, truck drivers, and anyone who has risen to the occasion to help others during these unprecedented times.

In particular, Jane Spence, Larisa Barnes, Bobbie Sumner, Amanda King, and Lynn Reynolds have exemplified remarkable selflessness and courage as they work to save lives in the Southeast Georgia Health System.

Throughout my time in Georgia's First Congressional District, I have visited and met countless heroes serving at Saint Joseph's Candler Hospital, Liberty Regional Medical Center, Clinch Memorial Hospital, Memorial Health Center in Savannah, Wayne Memorial Center, and Winn Army Medical Hospital. This has allowed me to gain insight into the daily sacrifices they make and their commitment to serving their communities.

Doctors and nurses who serve at our Veterans Affairs Health Systems are deserving of recognition for their outstanding work, as well.

In addition to our healthcare heroes, I also want to honor leaders and local businesses in our communities.

Individuals like Tom and Rita Boland converted their Island Drapes and Upholstery business to manufacture thousands of face masks a week.

I was also encouraged to see the local nonprofits in Georgia's First Congressional District rise up to address the many challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Specifically, the Computers for a Cause movement was formed thanks to the beautiful work of United Way of Coastal Georgia, Keep Golden Isles Beautiful, Communities in Schools, and Coastal Outreach partnering with Coastal Computer Consulting to gather and donate computers for children who don't have access to one.

This allowed countless children to continue their education when schools were closed. These folks were working day in and day out risking their own health and safety and spending time away from their families and friends to serve us.

I want to express my deep gratitude for the work that they do to make America great, and I am honored to call them my friends and neighbors.

HONORING PRESTON G. EXLEY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of Mr. Preston Exley of Springfield, Georgia, who passed away at the age of 81 on September 10.

Mr. Exley was a selfless leader in every area of his life who was loved by many.

Mr. Exley worked for the Savannah Sugar Refinery for 40 years and retired in 1997.

Preston loved the Lord, and his life was a testament to that. Preston was an active member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and served in a variety of roles, including Sunday school superintendent, president of the Men's Group, and a member of the Church Council.

Preston was committed to serving his country through his service with the Georgia Army National Guard for 23 years, and he retired as a captain.

Preston was also dedicated to improving education in his community during his time serving on the Effingham County School Board from 1980 until 1994, and he later went on to serve as Effingham County Chief Magistrate Judge for 12 years.

Included in his long list of pursuits, Preston was a farmer for many years in his home place in Clio.

Impressively, Preston was past president of the Effingham County Young Farmers, a member of the County Board of Directors, and served as the Springfield Chapter President.

Preston was also a loyal family man, who prioritized his family above all else.

I am thankful for the selfless life Preston lived, and I know his legacy will continue in Springfield for years to come. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends, and all who knew him during these challenging times.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 48 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Lord, merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask Your blessing upon those throughout our country who are suffering so much, more each day. Keep safe the firefighters out West. Keep safe those who are responding to the destruction of Hurricane Sally on the Gulf Coast. Listen to the cries of those who have lost so much as a result of these natural disasters, even as the COVID pandemic wreaks its havoc in our communities.

Here in the Capitol, impel with Your spirit the Members of Congress who, more than any others, have the opportunity to address our Nation's needs. Give them the wisdom and courage to do so, working as a united force for good in these times. Lord, have mercy. May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SLOTKIN 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.

RESIGNATION AS PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENTARIAN,

Washington, DC, September 11, 2020.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I am writing to inform you of my retirement as Parliamentarian of the House, effective September 30, 2020. It has been a great honor to serve the House for more than 25 years. I am especially grateful for the privilege of working with a professional and inspiring team of colleagues.

In addition to the daily counsel provided in the chamber of this august body, our office's role in assisting the invaluable work of the House Democracy Partnership is a source of particular pride. The contributions of the HDP to legislative strengthening and democratic reform have made a lasting impact across the globe. The support provided by successive Speakers and the tireless work of Representative Price and the other members of the HDP are manifested in the remarkable strides witnessed in the now 21 partner countries.

I have been humbled to be part of the office's tradition of nonpartisan education and scholarship about the procedures and history of this House—the body closest to the people in our Federal government. From complying with the statutory requirement to publish the parliamentary precedents to hours spent in the Hall of the House with Members, students, and visitors, the office has been steadfast in our commitment to transparency in the “People's House.” This commitment is the bedrock of our democratic tradition.

Finally, I thank my wife and family for their love and support during my tenure.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS J. WICKHAM, Jr.

APPOINTMENT AS PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. With great appreciation to our Parliamentarian, Thomas

J. Wickham, Jr., pursuant to section 287(a) of title 2, United States Code, the Chair appoints as Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives Jason A. Smith to succeed Thomas J. Wickham, resigned.

With congratulations to Jason Smith and thanks and gratitude to Thomas Wickham. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

HONORING JAMES BUTLER III

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

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to remember James Butler III of East Lansing, Michigan.

Lovingly known as the Godfather of Lansing, Mr. Butler lived a life of service that began when he was born into a Navy family in 1943.

His achievements speak for themselves. He was called to serve in the Army, finishing top of his class as a noncommissioned officer at Fort Benning. He served in Vietnam, earning two Purple Hearts and four Bronze Stars for heroism in combat.

However, if you really want to know who James Butler was, listen to the words he promised while serving: “If I make it back, I will give back.”

Well, he made it back, and he spent the next 30 years working at IBM, moving to Michigan and breaking barriers as the first Black man to hold an executive-level position at the company.

Even in retirement, Mr. Butler answered the call to serve, working under former Governor Granholm as the director of the Michigan Broadband Development Authority.

In short, Mr. Butler lived a life of giving back. For his work, he was recognized by too many organizations to list at this time.

But for those who knew him best, Rishan, his wife of 52 years, his three kids and seven grandkids, he was a good and kind man, and he will be dearly missed by all.

CONDEMN LAWLESSNESS AND STAND WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I cannot believe that this week, under the leadership of my colleagues on the Democrat side, under Speaker PELOSI, we are actually going to vote on a resolution condemning people for using the place of origin to distinguish this novel virus. We are going to use our time and the formal declaration of this great body to do that instead of condemning the lawlessness and the violence that is ravaging our once-great American cities.

I think that is unacceptable by all standards. I think we have plenty of opportunity to stand with our law enforcement officers who risk their lives, the law-abiding citizens who are having their rights trampled, and say no more.

I have the David Dorn Act and the Patrick Underwood Act. Both men died, being murdered in cold blood by these violent protesters. This would increase penalties and accountability for the folks who consider even thinking about doing that in the future.

We also have a resolution to condemn this lawlessness. I hope my colleagues can join me on that.

MARKING ADDICTION AND RECOVERY MONTH

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

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, one in seven people will experience addiction in their lifetime.

Last year, over 70,000 people died from a drug overdose. Over the last 3 years, it is over 200,000 people.

Addiction is a national crisis for which we will not find a vaccine.

Last week, I spoke with patients in recovery across western Maryland. The reality of COVID-19 is making recovery much harder.

Today, we are coming together in Congress as Team America for a day of action we are calling Congress Goes Purple.

Together, we are wearing purple to show our support for those in recovery. Together, we are raising awareness to combat the stigma around addiction. And together, we will do everything we can to support those in recovery.

Madam Speaker, to those in recovery, never be afraid to speak up and ask for help.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

This year, an estimated 191,930 men in our Nation will be diagnosed with prostate cancer.

As a survivor of this disease, I know firsthand the challenges families face when they decide which testing, treatments, and coverage options are right for them.

That is why I proudly support legislation like the Preexisting Protections Act to ensure those with preexisting conditions have access to affordable care.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among American men, but the good news is that as innovation and technology continue to evolve, fewer men are dying after the diagnosis.