

opening doors, inspiring minds, and connecting community. Now in its milestone year, the library is a testament to the generosity and vision of Senator Grundy and Margaret Grundy and the dedication of those who followed.

The original mission has made this library a vital educational institution, valued by local and regional learners of every age. Grundy Foundation grants carry on the Grundy family legacy by continuing to improve the quality of life for residents of Bristol Borough and people throughout all of Bucks County.

The Grundy Foundation supports the Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Library, the adjacent Memorial Museum, and countless local projects.

On October 6, 2016, the library will hold a public anniversary celebration with a reception and exhibition featuring historic artifacts, photographs, and primary documents.

Heartiest congratulations to all of those involved, past and present, who have carried on and enriched so many lives and will continue to do so for generations to come.

□ 1100

LOUISIANA UPDATE

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

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give an update from home. I represent south Louisiana. A few weeks ago, we had a rainfall event that has been categorized as a 1,000-year storm.

Mr. Speaker, in some areas of south Louisiana we received 31 inches of rain. To put that in perspective, that would take 5 years for the city of Bakersfield, California, to achieve that number. That would take 10 years for the city of Yuma, Arizona, to receive that level of rain. For those Americans that haven't realized they can live in the pleasure of the subtropics and you live up north, to translate that to snowfall, that is the equivalent of a 25-foot snowstorm; a storm that leaves 25 feet of snow. This is categorized, again, as a 1,000-year event: 31 inches of rain in, in some cases, as short as perhaps 36 hours.

Mr. Speaker, we have areas that have never, ever flooded, never seen water, never retained or held water in any way, shape, or form, that dealt with several feet of water in their homes and businesses. In Livingston Parish, Louisiana, it is estimated that 86 percent of the homes and 91 percent of the businesses were flooded. This has been a devastating event for many folks in our community.

Mr. Speaker, as we move forward, certainly the Stafford Act, the Federal disaster law, has a role in helping our communities to recover. But what happened when this storm first came about and the flooding began is that it wasn't the Stafford Act or FEMA that came to

the rescue. It was our neighbors, it was our community, many of which were flooded themselves. They got their own boats and went out and rescued folks and rescued their neighbors to the tune of thousands and thousands of people rescued by what we deem the Cajun Navy. I had a chance to go out there in my own kayak and paddle board and rescue dozens of folks that were trapped in their homes.

Mr. Speaker, it didn't stop there. When shelters weren't open and weren't available, Cajun Navy shelters opened up. People just opened up their own homes and businesses to shelter those that were homeless. We had Cajun Navy chefs, many of which just for the first time deemed or designated themselves chefs, that cooked tens of thousands of meals not for compensation or because they were told to do so. They did it because we had friends and neighbors that were hungry and that were homeless. So we cooked for those folks.

And it didn't stop there. We had a cadre of folks that we deemed the Cajun Army that have come together and helped to gut and de-muck thousands and thousands of homes across south Louisiana, again, Mr. Speaker, not because they were compelled to do so by any requirement or compensation. They were compelled to do so out of their selflessness, out of their generosity, and out of their hospitality.

Mr. Speaker, we are now at a point to where the volunteerism, the hospitality, the generosity of our community is going to be exceeded. The needs are going to be greater than we can volunteer ourselves out of. We have thousands and thousands of homeowners across south Louisiana that are facing this scenario. They have a home that may be worth \$200,000 but, because it was flooded and is entirely gutted now, it may be worth just half that. They may have a mortgage balance that is in excess of the value of the home, which means they are upside down in their mortgage.

But that is not all. They have lost both of their cars, adding tens of thousands of dollars to the equation. They have to rebuild their home, which adds tens or maybe even six figures of liability. They have to replace their clothes, their wardrobe. And in some cases, their employers are under water; therefore, they don't even have a way of making money.

Mr. Speaker, we are not a community that sits around and asks for a handout. That is not what we do. But in this case, I will say it again: as generous, as hospitable, as selfless as our community has been, we are now at a point to where we are unable to address the needs. Again, the Stafford Act works in most disasters. This one is an anomaly. This is an extraordinary disaster.

I am looking forward to working with colleagues on both sides of the aisle moving forward on tailoring a recovery package for this region. This is

estimated or projected to be the fourth most costly flood event in U.S. history. It is an extraordinary event that, unfortunately, has not received the national media attention that most disasters of this nature would.

Disasters are awful. At some point, everyone in this country is going to experience some type of disaster—a flood, a tornado, a hurricane, an earthquake, a terrorist attack, or something else. When you have these catastrophic events, it is time for us to come together as a Nation to offer a helping hand. I am looking forward, again, to working with colleagues across the country to do that.

REMEMBERING JACOB WETTERLING

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Jacob Wetterling and offer my deepest prayers to his family.

Over the weekend, we learned of the tragic details and reached the awful end of this 27-year-long saga filled with grief, with hope, and with pain that moved Minnesota and the entire Nation. It was 27 years ago, Mr. Speaker, that Jacob was taken, kidnapped from a small rural Minnesota community, and went missing.

As a community, we extend our deepest sympathies to Jacob's parents, Patty and Jerry Wetterling. Throughout these 27 trying years, they have remained strong and became tireless advocates for children's safety. Their efforts have resulted in widespread awareness of effective measures to protect children, Federal legislation to monitor known and potential predators, and the founding of the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center to inform and prevent similar tragedies from impacting other families. They channeled their heartbreak to activism for the good of children and their families all across this country even as they grieved themselves. Because of their efforts, countless children have been saved from various forms of exploitation.

Mr. Speaker, while this is not the ending that we had hoped for after all these years, Jacob will never be forgotten, nor will his family's undying love and commitment to protecting our precious sons and daughters.

Jacob, may you rest in peace.

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 11 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.