

PRAYER

Reverend Darius Pridgen, True Bethel Baptist Church, Buffalo, New York, offered the following prayer:

To the grand architect of the universe, who meticulously and purposefully placed each star and planet into a predestined position in the universe, the results of such methodical placement has caused tranquility in the universe in that Mars does not clash with Jupiter, Venus does not war with Saturn, and the Sun does not compete with the Moon.

As You have done in the universe, You have also done in this House of the people. May those whom You have perfectly placed in these hallowed seats remember they, like the perfectly planned universe, have been placed here by You, not to clash, crash, and war, but to work together for the good of their constituents, the country, the world, and, indeed, the universe.

In the name of the God we serve, amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PITTINGER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PITTINGER 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND DARIUS PRIDGEN

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to welcome Pastor Darius Pridgen to the House of Representatives today from the True Bethel Baptist Church in western New York.

Pastor Pridgen is well known and well respected in our community for his passionate and inspiring leadership. We could all benefit from adopting his style of cooperation and uniting people of different beliefs and ideologies.

His contributions to our region are many. In addition to being a role model, he works through creative ministry to create jobs, to care for those in need, and to influence good in his church and far beyond.

This is most notable by his expansion of True Bethel's reach from east Buffalo into the city of Niagara Falls. Pastor Pridgen is also a family man and

encourages strong families. In addition to his ministry, Pastor Pridgen has served our Nation, as he is a veteran of the United States Air Force, and he currently serves as president of the Buffalo City Council.

Pastor Pridgen is the embodiment of Buffalo's reputation as the City of Good Neighbors, and I am honored to have him here today to represent our community.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FOXX). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WILL GRIER

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

Mr. PITTINGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Will Grier who, as quarterback of the Davidson Day School, led them to three consecutive championships.

Over his high school career, Will threw for 195 touchdowns, averaged 383 passing yards a game, and once threw 10 touchdown passes in a single game. For his exploits on the field, Will Grier was named Parade Magazine's 2014 All-America Player of the Year and was selected as America's top high school football player by Football USA.

He graduated from high school a semester early and is already attending classes at the University of Florida, where he will continue his football career.

While I congratulate Will for his football accomplishments, I also want to congratulate him for remaining focused off the field. At Davidson Day, he chose to be a positive role model, regularly spending time with younger students and always reading to the elementary classes.

Please join me in congratulating Davidson's and North Carolina's Will Grier for his accomplishments and for his commitment to serving others.

T.C. GILLESPIE

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

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend who departed this Earth last week, who I know is headed to glory because of the great things he did in Tarrant County for working men and women.

T.C. Gillespie, who was the president of the Tarrant County Central Labor Council, died after a long battle with lung disease.

T.C. was such a tireless advocate for men and women. Before he was president of the Central Labor Council, he was the treasurer and secretary of the Communications Workers of America.

T.C. just believed in people. He was someone who helped me very early on in my career, before I was in Congress. He helped so many people he believed would do the right thing for so many workers and for so many families in Tarrant County.

Even as I watched T.C. struggle in the last couple of years of his life, I would say: T.C., you don't need to be here; you need to be home resting.

He was having such a hard time walking and breathing because of the lung issue that he was having, and he just wanted to be there for people he believed in.

I want to thank the family and friends he leaves behind. T.C. Gillespie was a dear friend and a great man to so many people in Tarrant County.

KELLIE HINSHAW

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

Mrs. ELLMERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Mrs. Kellie Godwin Hinshaw, who fought and battled cancer until it took her body this week in Dunn, North Carolina. Her spirit will truly live on within all of us.

Kellie was a friend who inspired me in her strength to go forward even on the worst of days. She was a strong, loving, caring woman with an incredible sense of humor. She was a daughter, sister, wife, and mother of two beautiful boys, Kenneth and Kannon.

Kellie had adenoid cystic carcinoma, a rare form of cancer. Despite this terrible disease, Kellie and her family chose to use this as a platform to do good. Kellie's Krew successfully organized and grew a 5K race that has raised well over \$100,000 for adenoid cystic carcinoma research and has brought our whole community together.

Kellie taught our community that "vain" is a four-letter word and that beauty truly comes from within. She will be forever loved by her family, her community, and me.

AMERICAN JOBS ACT

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the most important issue facing our country. Guess what? It has nothing to do with repealing ObamaCare. It is about jobs.

Instead of bringing the American Jobs Act to the floor, an act which would create nearly 2 million new jobs, my Republican colleagues remain obsessed with trying to repeal ObamaCare.

This may be the only job in America at which you can try to do something more than 50 times and still have a job. It is time to move on and pass a bill that will help to create jobs.

In my home State of Rhode Island and across the country, unemployment rates remain unacceptably high. It is time to stop rehashing old political battles and to move on to the issues that will help grow our economy and get people back to work.

The American Jobs Act will boost consumer demand and hiring by cutting taxes for struggling families and small businesses, and it will invest in infrastructure and education. It is fully paid for.

Why would my colleagues on the other side oppose a bill that independent analysts, including Moody's Analytics, say would create up to 1.9 million new jobs?

Madam Speaker, it is time to take up this legislation to get our economy back on track and to help Americans get back to work.

FIVE-TIME WINNERS

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

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituents who work at the Frito-Lay manufacturing facility in Fayetteville, Tennessee, for helping to win the C.E. Doolin Award for Operations Excellence for an unprecedented fifth time.

This annual nationwide award, named for Frito-Lay's cofounder, is the most prestigious award given by the company for operations and is a testament to the value we place on honest, hard work in Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District.

I have had an opportunity to meet and visit with numerous workers, and I always leave with an admiration for their sincere dedication to not only their jobs, but to the community in which they work. It is no wonder that Tennessee continues to attract some of the best businesses in the world, as we have some of the best workers in the world.

Congratulations to the outstanding, hard-working individuals who received this tremendous honor and who continue to make the great State of Tennessee proud.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, this morning, a productive meeting took place with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus with respect to the deportations going on in our Nation.

This issue is critical to my district of Orange County, which heartbreakingly accounts for 43 percent of the California ICE detainer requests on juveniles, which often lead to deportations.

That is why I have advocated for comprehensive immigration reform, to ensure that no one is living in the shadow of fear.

As a senior member of the House Homeland Security Committee, I will continue to urge the Department of Homeland Security to continue to keep in mind the harmful effects that these deportations have on our communities and the trauma they introduce into our families, into our young people, into our children.

As a CHC member, I join my colleagues as we continue to act for the inclusion of the voices of our community stakeholders, so that their stories are not neglected.

Madam Speaker, the time is now to vote on a comprehensive immigration reform package.

PAT TUTHILL—RONALD WILSON REAGAN PUBLIC POLICY AWARD

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

Mr. SOUTHERLAND. Madam Speaker, this month of April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Pat Tuthill of Tallahassee, Florida, lost her 23-year-old daughter, Peyton, on February 24, 1999. Peyton was sexually assaulted and brutally murdered by a convicted criminal on unsupervised probation. Three months after her daughter's death and through her own pain, she was determined to get better, not bitter.

Ms. Tuthill quit her job and became a public speaker and an advocate for victims of violent crime. She has traveled the country, lobbying policymakers to support legislation that strengthens the monitoring and supervision of criminals on parole and probation.

Last year, Ms. Tuthill's dream became a reality with the implementation of the first National Automated Standardized Victim Notification system.

I had the honor of meeting with Ms. Tuthill this morning in my office in order to congratulate her on receiving the Ronald Wilson Reagan Public Policy Award in recognition of her efforts by the Department of Justice.

As a father of four daughters, I thank her for her tireless effort. I thank Ms. Tuthill for her courage and for her service to others. I can think of no one who is more deserving of this award.

VETERANS' JUSTICE

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

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, as we continue the long process of bringing our troops home from more than a decade of war, I want to recognize activists in my district and all across this country who are taking action to improve the lives of our returning heroes.

For many of these brave men and women, the invisible wounds of war present unique challenges as they return to civilian life. Thousands of these veterans come into contact with our Nation's criminal justice system every year.

We owe our heroes a solemn debt of gratitude, and every American who has worn the uniform deserves the opportunity to thrive after his service is complete.

That is why I have signed on in support of H.R. 2187, the SALUTE Act, legislation that would allow for grant funding to support the establishment and the improvement of veterans' treatment courts for nonviolent offenders.

Activists in my district have already begun the process of establishing a veterans' justice track, and I commend them on their efforts.

It is time for us to recognize the sacrifice our servicemembers have made on behalf of this great Nation and to recommit ourselves to serving our heroes as they have served us.

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THANK YOU, BEVERLY COLLEY

(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. Madam Speaker, today, I appreciate the opportunity to recognize Beverly Colley, the administrative assistant for the Second District of South Carolina. She will be departing the Midlands office on Friday to serve as the town clerk of Blythewood, South Carolina, led by Mayor Mike Ross and a dynamic council.

Since joining the office in October 2004, Beverly has served the people of South Carolina's Second District with respect and diligence. Her genuine bright smile and desire to help those in need has significantly impacted the lives of those across the district, being the first person to welcome citizens to the office.

Beverly's dedicated staff work has made a difference, and I look forward to hearing of her success as she embarks on a new professional career. I wish Beverly; her son, Garin Carter; daughter, Malika Carter; and granddaughter, Rhylie, all the best in the future.

I know that the people of Blythewood will continue to benefit from Beverly's extraordinary constituent service as she serves her hometown community.

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

Godspeed, Beverly.

EQUAL PAY

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