

She has also provided animal oxygen mask kits to a local fire department for pets that are caught in fires, helped pay for a shelter dog's recent surgery, and collected animal food for the pets of needy families.

Mr. Speaker, it is wonderful to see such dedication to community from someone so young.

Great work, Grace.

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 31 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Merciful God of the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day. We hunger for Your wisdom and pray that there might be an end to all hunger in our world.

You know the Members of this assembly through and through. You know each personally. You know how they all relate with one another. You know them, as the American people do, as the 114th Congress of the United States.

Lord, help them to know You. Allow them to come to know You, even as they are known by You. As ultimate truth, enter in and make them suitable for Your dwelling within so that their constituents might place trust in them as their Representatives.

May their service continue faithfully, for they were elected by their voters back home and called by You to selfless service.

Bless them and us all this day, and may all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

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 gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. CAPPS 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.

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 THE CAREER OF THE HONORABLE THOMAS J. McAVOY

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

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the career of an esteemed public servant, the Honorable Thomas J. McAvoy.

Judge McAvoy has now served as a Federal District Court judge in the Northern District of New York for the past 30 years. During my time as a Federal prosecutor from the Northern District of New York, I had the high honor of regularly appearing before Judge McAvoy.

A native of New York's southern tier, Judge McAvoy completed his undergraduate education at Villanova University and continued on to graduate third in his class from Albany Law School.

He continues to be a very valuable member of the local legal community, mentoring young lawyers through continuing education programs and meeting regularly with young people through the Open Doors to Justice and Court Outreach programs.

Throughout his 30 years on the bench, Judge McAvoy has tried over 900 cases and recently received the longevity award for 50 years of service to the bar by the Broome County Bar Association. Judge McAvoy has dedicated his life and career to making our community a better place to live.

Thank you, Judge McAvoy, for your outstanding public service to our community and to our Nation. I look forward to your next 30 years on the bench.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize a remarkable woman from south Florida, my friend, Rosemary Barkett.

Rosemary is an inspiring, humble woman with a joyous spirit and passion for justice who has devoted her life to service. Her story reflects the greatness of diversity in our country.

She was born in Mexico to Syrian immigrants. At age 6, her family moved to Miami, where she started school knowing no English. As a teen, Rosemary joined the Sisters of St. Joseph, becoming a nun and teacher.

Eight years later she left the convent to pursue her own education and eventually went on to law school, private practice, and a brilliant judicial career as a trial court judge, appellate judge, first woman on the Florida Supreme Court, and first woman to be Chief Justice of that court.

Today Justice Barkett sits on the prestigious Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in The Hague.

My friend has broken down many barriers to achieve big dreams. This March we honor women like Rosemary Barkett, women of our past, present, and future who are making history.

KEEP TERRORISTS AT GUANTANAMO

(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. Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday The Post and Courier, under the leadership of publisher Pamela Browning and editorial page editor Charles Rowe, editorialized:

President Barack Obama has asked Congress to agree to close the prison at Guantanamo . . . Governor Nikki Haley, Senator Tim Scott, and Republicans on the South Carolina delegation are right to reject his call . . . Even the President has to follow the law.

In a world that has given rise to the Islamic State, it is hard to credit the argument that the existence of Guantanamo incites terror. In a recent op-ed column for the Washington Post, Gordon England, a former Deputy Secretary of Defense, observed that some of the terrorists who have been released from Guantanamo have returned to the same nefarious activities for which they have been jailed. Those who remain had a record of participating in terrorism, financing terrorism, or outright leadership of terrorism activity, Mr. England wrote.

In a little over 4 weeks, Mr. Obama is headed to Cuba for a state visit with the Castro brothers, who may be considered experts in the use of political prisons.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

TIGER GRANTS

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Transportation has announced its eighth round of grants will be awarded under the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER, program.

TIGER grants are awarded on a competitive basis to surface transportation capital projects. Weight is given to proposals that will have a significant local or national impact, generate economic development, and increase access to affordable transportation.

Western New York has received TIGER grants totaling more than \$39 million to restore access to Main

Street in Buffalo and construct a new international train station in Niagara Falls. As a result, businesses are returning to the theater district and tourism is growing in Niagara Falls, New York.

The TIGER program sends the message during this period of tragic underinvestment in our infrastructure that America can still tackle the big projects that historically have grown our economy.

I urge support of the TIGER program.

RETIREMENT OF TITUSVILLE POLICE CHIEF GARY THOMAS

(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. Mr. Speaker, I have the deepest respect for the law enforcement men and women who are tasked with protecting the communities of Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District. It is with deep respect that I congratulate Titusville Police Chief Gary Thomas on his upcoming retirement.

Chief Thomas has served his community for nearly 26 years, after being hired as a patrolman in 1990. He is credited with helping fight back against a rise in methamphetamine production in Titusville, which spread through northeastern Pennsylvania, starting in the late 1990s. He worked together with State police and the State Attorney General's Office to crack down on this plague. More importantly, he enlisted the help of the Titusville community to fight back.

After being promoted to police chief in 2009, he continued the battle against drugs—this time, against bath salts and synthetic marijuana—educating the public on what to look for. The effort got results in the form of tips from the community, which helped cut down on abuse.

Chief Thomas' last day on the job is March 4. I wish him the best of luck in retirement, and I commend him for a job well done.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH: SALLY RIDE

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to celebrate the beginning of Women's History Month by recognizing a woman from my home State of California, Sally Ride.

Sally Ride personifies the Californian and American spirit of exploration and discovery. In 1983, she became both the first woman and the youngest astronaut NASA has ever sent into space.

Over the course of her distinguished career, Ride logged a total of nearly 350 hours in space, and she went on to serve on the committees that investigated the *Challenger* and the *Columbia* shuttle disasters.

After leaving NASA, she cofounded Sally Ride Science at UC San Diego, which develops educational programs to inspire middle and high school students, especially girls, about science.

Sally Ride had a passion for science and space exploration that inspired generations of girls to pursue STEM. I had a chance to meet her and see how everyone reacted to her. She is exactly the kind of woman we should honor this month, one who achieved her own dreams and paved the way for others to do the same.

TERESA HAYWOOD'S STORY

(Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, the war on coal hurts every family in West Virginia.

A local small-business owner affected by the war on coal is Teresa Haywood, who owns a floral shop in McDowell County. She is a true West Virginia coal voice.

She writes to me:

Our business has dropped majorly, and I am struggling day to day to just try to decide to pay the bills or to restock. People keep asking if I am going to keep my business open.

It has gotten hard to survive, much less stay in business, when we have to cut on groceries just to make the bills so we can have a home to live in. And then us losing our only Walmart in the county has just been another kick in the teeth.

I have a teenage son who worries about finding a job every day because he doesn't want to move from home and a college senior who won't come back here because he knows there is nothing for him here.

Mr. Speaker, these are the true West Virginia coal voices. The war on coal must stop.

ABORTION ACCESS AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, as has been mentioned, today, March 1, marks the beginning of Women's History Month.

While there is much to celebrate, we must use this time to continue the fight toward full equality. That is why I rise today to reaffirm my support for a woman's right to make her own decisions about her health and her family.

This week the Supreme Court will hear arguments on yet another effort to undercut this freedom. By imposing unnecessary requirements whose sole purpose is to close reproductive health clinics, lawmakers continue to play politics with women's health.

Some of us remember the time before women had safe access to abortion care. Countless women made desperate decisions that put their health at risk. We cannot go back to that day. No one can fully know the circumstances that a woman who faces a decision to end a pregnancy is challenged by.

We need to trust women and let them make their own decisions along with their healthcare providers, family, and faith, not politicians.

HONORING ISAAC OLEMBERG

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this weekend I had the pleasure of being at Temple Menorah in Miami Beach at the Hadassah Inter-American Chapter Gala in honor of an old and close friend, Isaac Olemberg.

Isaac is a pillar of the Jewish and south Florida communities and has greatly enriched our area as well as helped to strengthen the unbreakable bond between the U.S. and Israel.

But I know that the work that Isaac was most proud of was working side by side with his wife, Nieves. Sadly, she passed away in 2014, but Sunday's luncheon was an opportunity to honor her memory as well.

Together with Isaac, Nieves helped found the Hadassah Inter-American Chapter in Miami. This couple truly embodied grace, kindness, and humility. Nieves is missed, but her memory and legacy are carried on by Isaac; their children, Roberto, Lilly, Hannah, and Lisette; and their many grandchildren.

I am proud and humbled to call the Olembergs my friends.

□ 1215

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today we mark the beginning of Women's History Month.

For centuries, women have broken through barriers to move our country forward. The progress that women have made has taken the courage of countless trailblazers.

In Sacramento, Eleanor McClatchy took over the family newspaper business at a young age. Eleanor had a background in theatre, but a lack of experience in the publishing business did not stop her from stepping up to the plate in 1936 to become president of the McClatchy newspapers. She led the company for 42 years, and under her leadership, the business grew significantly through the acquisition of additional newspapers, radio, and television platforms.

Eleanor's story may be unique, yet it embodies the spirit of all women. In the face of challenges, we find a path forward.

Let us honor women like Eleanor by opening up opportunity to future generations of women because we all know when women succeed, America succeeds.