

to serve as one of its Web masters. He also serves as a guiding force to help raise funds for facilities and other activities supporting Farragut baseball.

Braden has coached numerous Division I and professional baseball players, including former Minnesota Twins pitcher Kyle Waldrop, Eli Lorg, and Cale Lorg. He also coached White Sox player Nicky Delmonico, Curt Powell from the Detroit Tigers organization, Nick Williams from the Marlins organization, and Philip Pfeifer from the Dodgers organization.

Thank you, Coach Braden, for your service to our country and for coaching generations of young baseball players.

CONGRATULATING BRITTANY FRENCH

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Brittany French of Berkeley County, West Virginia, for being named the National Volunteer Fire Council's Junior Firefighter of the Year.

As a member of the Junior Volunteer Fire Company and the Volunteer Fire Department in Hedgesville, Brittany is a third-generation firefighter.

Brittany has continually demonstrated a passion for learning about health and emergency services. She studied these subjects, earning several certifications at James Rumsey Technical Institute during her junior and senior years in high school. She is now enrolled in the paramedic course at Blue Ridge Community and Technical College, allowing her to continue her education while still serving her community.

Brittany clearly enjoys helping others and has excelled in doing so. She previously won first place in EMT skills in a statewide health competition. She has helped the fire department fundraiser, and she continues to be actively involved in her church.

Brittany is among West Virginia's most devoted young leaders. I am honored to join her family, friends, and the dedicated firefighters with whom she works in congratulating Brittany on being named the National Volunteer Fire Council's Junior Firefighter of the Year.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED) for 5 minutes.

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an issue that has impacted millions of Americans from coast to coast, north to south, also an issue that has impacted my family personally. Mr. Speaker, I care deeply about the survivors of sexual assault and want to ensure that their voices are heard.

Every 2 minutes, Mr. Speaker, an American is sexually assaulted. That is 200,000 of our fellow American citizens that are impacted by this horrendous crime. Sadly, Mr. Speaker, less than half of those victims will report their attack to law enforcement, making sexual assault one of the most under-reported crimes in America.

□ 1045

That is why I am proud to stand with my colleague from California, JACKIE SPEIER, to introduce a resolution to recognize April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

As Members of Congress, we are in a unique position to raise awareness and speak out on behalf of sexual assault survivors. We must unite. When one in five women will be raped in her lifetime, we cannot afford to stand silent on this issue.

It is only right, Mr. Speaker, that we say enough is enough with sexual assault in America. Enough is enough to no longer speak about this issue because it is something that is difficult to speak publicly about.

That is why I am an ardent and active supporter of the NO MORE Campaign. The NO MORE Campaign has taken it upon itself to unite across the country, to stand in one voice, and many of us across America have seen the commercials on our TVs to say no more to sexual assault.

No more can we put up with excuses like: "She deserved it." "She was drunk." "Of course she got what she was looking for." No more can we say: "Well, that is what boys do. That is what young men do."

We need to stand together as American citizens, men and women in this Chamber, to say: No more to sexual assault. It is unacceptable for us to stand silent any longer.

I ask my colleagues to join us in the effort to recognize April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month and join us in one voice to send a clear message across America to say: No more.

HONORING DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL'S BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the boys basketball team at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in Lexington, which is my hometown, for winning the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's State championship, better known in Kentucky as the Sweet Sixteen.

As everyone knows, Kentucky is a basketball-crazy State, and this is a great accomplishment. This is the school's first-ever State championship in boys' basketball and the first championship for a Lexington high school since 2001.

In the first three games of the tournament, the Bulldogs posted come-from-behind wins over Mercer County, Bowling Green, and Newport Central Catholic to reach the finals.

However, in the final game, led by junior Taveion Hollingsworth, who was the tournament MVP, they led wire to wire, defeating Louisville's Doss High School 61-52. Like any successful en-

deavor, the victory was won by dedication, hours of practice, determination, and teamwork.

I congratulate the students, head coach Scott Chalk, and the entire coaching staff on the State championship. I am proud to honor Dunbar High School before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING PREVENT CHILD ABUSE KENTUCKY

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Child Abuse Prevention Month and to highlight the work of Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky.

This organization is on the front lines to make sure Kentucky's children are raised in safe, loving homes and are not abused, mistreated, or neglected. It develops and promotes effective strategies and programs through community involvement, public education, and advocacy.

Efforts are centered on recognizing the inherent potential and goodness of children, on strengthening families, and on empowering the community to become involved with this important mission.

This cause is personal to me. As the father of two girls and as the former president of the board of directors of Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, I am incredibly proud of the good work this group does every single day for Kentucky's children and all year long.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me in thanking Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky and similar organizations around the country as we recognize National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

HONORING DINNY PHIPPS

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Mr. Ogden "Dinny" Phipps for his contributions to the American thoroughbred horse-racing industry and in remembrance of a legend in the sport of kings.

Mr. Phipps leaves a proud legacy in his having made a profound and positive impact on the game for many decades. As an owner and breeder, Mr. Phipps owned and reared numerous champions, including the 1993 Kentucky Oaks winner Dispute, the 2005 Breeders' Cup Distaff winner Pleasant Home, and, most recently, the 2013 winner of the Kentucky Derby, Orb.

However, one could argue that Mr. Phipps' greatest impact was felt beyond the racetrack, as he was a steadfast advocate for the industry and served the racing community as an industry executive.

From 1983 until his recent retirement in 2015, Mr. Phipps served as chairman of The Jockey Club, the official breed registry of the thoroughbred industry. He also served as a longtime member of the New York Racing Association, serving as the Association's chairman from 1976 to 1983.

Mr. Phipps' love of this great American pastime will leave an enduring mark on the thoroughbred industry. Mr. Phipps is survived by his wife, Andrea, and his children, Kayce, Kelley, Lilly, Daisy, Samantha, and Ogden.

I extend my deepest sympathy to the Phipps' family, and I join my fellow Americans in honoring the life, contributions, and service of Ogden "Dinny" Phipps.

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 51 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

Reverend Dr. Wade Stevenson, Gideon Missionary Baptist Church, Waukegan, Illinois, offered the following prayer:

God of unity and of peace, we come to this opening session acknowledging that You are the source of life and that each person's life is subject to Your governance.

We bring to this session the diverse concerns of the districts we represent, and in bringing those concerns, we acknowledge that through You we can serve in unity.

As we come to this session and into these Halls, we also acknowledge that through You we can have peace. Let peace rest within these Halls, and let us rest in that peace through the demonstration of our patience and cooperation in serving.

Finally, we pray that our time spent here will be meaningful and that You will bless our service to produce fruit in the lives of those we represent.

We thank You for the opportunity to serve through Your unity as instruments of Your peace.

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 Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CRAWFORD 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 DR. WADE STEVENSON

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome my good friend, Pastor Wade Stevenson from Waukegan, Illinois, in Illinois' 10th Congressional District.

For his entire life, Pastor Stevenson has been called to serve others. Pastor Stevenson is the head pastor at Gideon Baptist Church in Waukegan, and at Gideon, he helps to bring God's grace and the word of the Lord to our community.

Pastor Stevenson is the president of the North Shore Baptist Ministers' Alliance and the second vice president of the Lake County Chapter of the NAACP. His numerous public recognitions and appointments reveal a life of public service to the people of our community.

But Pastor Stevenson's role in our community can't be summed up by a list of titles or awards. Since he became pastor of Gideon Baptist Church more than 10 years ago, he has become a beacon of hope for countless people in our community. Pastor Stevenson is one of the first people in our community that people turn to when they are looking for guidance, both spiritual or otherwise.

I have been blessed to work side by side with him to distribute Thanksgiving turkeys to families in need. His dedication has brought joy to countless families around the holidays year in and year out.

It is a great honor to welcome my friend, Pastor Stevenson, to the House of Representatives today, and I am confident that the blessings he brings will serve us well.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

COMMENDING WE THE PEOPLE COURSE

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, 19 students from Valley View High School in my hometown of Jonesboro, Arkansas, have been studying our Nation's constitutional democracy for several months in an intensive course. The course called We the People is taught to students particularly interested in the history and principles of the United States Government.

Last week, those students put their knowledge to the ultimate test in Washington, D.C. They competed in a simulated congressional hearing by evaluating, taking, and defending posi-

tions on a variety of historical and contemporary issues. Our government functions more efficiently when passionate citizens engage in the political and policymaking process, and I am proud that these students are already preparing themselves for that process through their education.

Traci Smith, the group's civics teacher, deserves our thanks and respect for the incredibly important role that she plays in preparing our rising generation. I would also like to applaud the efforts of the We the People Arkansas State coordinator, Jeff Whittingham, associate professor at the University of Central Arkansas who has done such a remarkable job through the years organizing and directing the We the People program for our State.

AUTHORIZING DAVID'S SLING WEAPON SYSTEM

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, the discovery of major offshore natural gas deposits 90 miles west of Haifa presents Israel with new opportunities—and new threats.

Developing this resource will reduce Israel's dependence on fuel imports and improve ties with its neighbors through export agreements. However, the offshore platforms will be an attractive target for Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations. A successful attack could be a humanitarian, economic, and environmental disaster.

The United States-Israel Maritime Security Partnership Act would authorize the use of the David's Sling Weapon System to intercept short-range missiles, promote Israel's inclusion in naval exercises, and increase the number of visits by U.S. naval vessels to Israeli ports.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to help our ally protect its coastline and offshore infrastructure from attack by cosponsoring this timely legislation.

CELEBRATING 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF HECLA MINING COMPANY

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

Mr. LABRADOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th anniversary of the Hecla Mining Company.

Hecla was founded in 1891 to acquire and trade mining claims in north Idaho's Silver Valley. Over the years, this mining district has produced 1.2 billion ounces of silver. The company has survived and thrived through world wars and economic depressions, and today Hecla is the Nation's largest primary producer of silver and employs over 1,300 people in my district and throughout the world.