

We thank You for the incredible gift of our representative democracy still being forged in the river of time that is American history. May the work done in the people's House through these days prove to be historically fruitful and edifying for generations of Americans to come.

May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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 PRO TEMPORE

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

CONGRATULATING FLONNIE ANDERSON

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Flonnie Anderson of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. This remarkable and talented woman has spent her life accomplishing things ahead of her time, from majoring in theater during the 1940s to helping desegregate a community, to starting her own theater group.

As a teacher at Parkland High School in 1970, Mrs. Anderson directed a play that starred both African American and Caucasian students, a first in the history of Forsyth County schools. As a director, she also helped integrate the theater department at Wake Forest University.

She was the first African American actress to perform with the Little Theatre of Winston-Salem. From that point on, the Little Theatre became known as a place where the African American community could be treated equally.

In recognition of her 34 years as an educator, Parkland High School in Winston-Salem has named their auditorium for Mrs. Anderson. This honor is well deserved and pays tribute to her lasting impact in the local community.

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN MADAYA, SYRIAN

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to bring attention to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Madaya, Syria.

The inhabitants of Madaya are unable to leave and are threatened daily by regime snipers and antipersonnel mines that surround their city. Over 40,000 civilians have been kept from receiving vital humanitarian aid. And, yes, this has resulted in mass starvation.

Sadly, Madaya is not unique in its suffering. There are Madayas all over Syria—cities under siege—caught in the middle of this vicious fighting, cities with inhabitants in dire need of food, water, and medical attention.

I urge Congress, the President, and the international community to do more in response to the humanitarian crisis that is going on in Syria. Enough is enough. We have to stop these tragedies from happening. It is our collective responsibility to do everything in our power; so let's do it.

IRANIAN NUCLEAR DEAL SUPPORTS TERRORISM

(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, the fantasy Iranian nuclear deal went into effect on January 16, giving the Iranian regime billions of dollars to support terrorism, expand its ballistic missile program, and threaten American families with attacks.

Just 2 weeks ago Secretary of State John Kerry admitted that some of the funds would go to terrorist groups. What is worse, the Secretary believes there is no way to prevent the funds from supporting terrorist activity to kill American families. We must and should be clear that the United States has zero tolerance for terrorism or regimes that support terrorism.

I am grateful to cosponsor the bipartisan Zero Tolerance for Terror Act. This critical legislation gives Congress the ability to act quickly and effectively when Iran violates the existing restrictions. We should take every effort to protect American families and our Persian Gulf allies from an irrational regime that promotes "death to America, death to Israel."

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

GREENSBORO FOUR SIT-INS

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

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the anniversary of the Greensboro Four sit-ins.

Fifty-six years ago four North Carolina A&T freshmen decided to peacefully challenge racial segregation in my hometown of Greensboro and the community I'm proud to serve in Congress.

Joseph McNeil, Jibreel Khazan, Franklin McCain, and David Richmond sat at a whites-only lunch counter inside a Greensboro Woolworth store. These young men sparked a wave of peaceful protests that spanned the State and Nation, helping to put an end to racial segregation.

I remember traveling through North Carolina as a young girl and going to the back door of restaurants because I couldn't sit inside. Because of the Greensboro Four, my children, my grandchildren, and future generations won't have to share in my experience.

My bipartisan resolution, H. Res. 128, honors these four courageous men and recognizes their impact. It has the support of 62 Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle.

Today I am calling on my colleagues to support and pass this resolution in honor of the Greensboro Four and all of the students who stood up for equality by sitting down to end racial segregation.

ROADBLOCK HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak up on behalf of the millions of people across the world who suffer under the injustice of modern-day slavery.

Last month the House observed Human Trafficking Awareness Month to shine light on this horrific crime. The injustice of human trafficking knows no political party or geographical boundary. It happens right in our backyards.

Yesterday the House took important steps in passing two bills to strengthen our response to trafficking. I have also recently introduced H.R. 4406, the Enhancing Detection of Human Trafficking Act, legislation which ensures the Department of Labor effectively trains its employees to recognize and respond to the illegal trade of people for exploitation or commercial gain.

It will take close coordination from stakeholders at every level to eradicate this unthinkable crime. Together, our voices and actions can help bring freedom to the oppressed.

FIGHT TO CURE CANCER

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, 3 weeks ago President Obama in this very Chamber called for a national moonshot initiative to fight cancer. Yesterday the White House proposed to allocate \$1 billion over the next 2 years to

supplement cancer research efforts that are underway.

The President said cancer research is at an inflection point, and he is right. One need only to look at the groundbreaking work on immunotherapy underway at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo to see how far the science has come.

Last year Congress came together to increase funding to the National Institutes of Health by \$2 billion, including a 5 percent increase to the National Cancer Institute. Now is not the time to let up. It is time to accelerate and expand our Nation's cancer fight.

Next month the House will consider a budget resolution. I call on House leaders to stand behind our scientists to support Americans living with cancer and to include robust funding for cancer research.

SHAKESPEARE'S FIRST FOLIOS

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, just across the street is the world's largest Shakespeare collection. The Folger Shakespeare Library is home to more Shakespeare "First Folios" than anywhere else in the world.

Published in 1623, the "First Folio" is the first printed collection of Shakespeare's plays. Without it, 18 plays, including "Macbeth," "Julius Caesar," and "The Tempest," could have been lost.

This year, as part of a national celebration marking the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, the Folger Shakespeare Library is touring a "First Folio" around the country. Schoolchildren, theater lovers, and Shakespeare enthusiasts alike will witness with their own eyes the book that gave us Shakespeare.

During the month of February, the 10th District of Illinois is hosting the "First Folio." The Lake County Forest Preserve District's Lake County Discovery Museum has the honor to present the exhibition "First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare."

This will offer the public a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see this influential and treasured book and experience the powerful words of William Shakespeare.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage everyone who is able to take advantage of this amazing opportunity.

MOURNING THE HONORABLE GILBERT KAHELE

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

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, this morning in Hawaii, in just a couple of hours, the people of the Aloha State are gathering at the Hawaii State Capitol to perform the Kanikau, a morning

chant, as they bid farewell and celebrate the life of a great man and dedicated public servant who passed away suddenly last week.

The Honorable Gilbert Kahele was born in a small fishing village in Milolii on May 15, 1942. He is a native Hawaiian, a very talented musician, and a community activist who selflessly served our country as a U.S. marine, served Hawaii as a State senator, and served his community of Hawaii as a fierce advocate.

I saw Gil recently here in Washington, D.C., just a few months ago, where, as always, he was ready with a smile, a hug, and warm aloha.

My heart is with the Kahele 'ohana and all of Hawaii island as today we celebrate Gil's life of service and the positive impact he made on countless lives.

Gil, mahalo nui loa for dedicating your life to serving others and for demonstrating how much we can achieve when we work together in the spirit of aloha.

PUNXSUTAWNEY PHIL PREDICTS EARLY SPRING

(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 rise today with good news. Early this morning in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, located in the Commonwealth's Fifth Congressional District, Punxsutawney Phil predicted an early spring.

In the 130 years Phil has predicted the weather on February 2, this is only the 18th time that he has called for an early spring. Now, I know that I join many of my colleagues from across the Nation in a bipartisan fashion in hoping that this prediction comes true.

Groundhog Day means so much to Punxsutawney and the communities which surround it. This tradition has its roots which go back centuries, but the celebration in Punxsutawney got a start in 1886, one year before the first trek to the celebration's official home of Gobbler's Knob.

Since the start of the celebration, Phil has been joined on February 2 by movie stars such as Bill Murray and several Governors of Pennsylvania. And, yes, I have attended the festivities a few times. Phil even visited President Ronald Reagan at the White House.

It is wonderful to see such dedication from the people of Punxsutawney to this great tradition, which brings in visitors from across the world to Pennsylvania.

□ 1215

LET'S MAKE 2016 A YEAR OF ACTION

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

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, our economy has made solid gains since 2009. We have added millions of jobs. Businesses are hiring. Our economy is growing.

In the Second District, we are seeing signs of recovery through small business growth and new startups like The New Look Restaurant and Bar owned by Nate and Cleo Pendleton.

But the fact remains that the American Dream still remains out of reach for far too many families. Today 8 million Americans are searching for well-paying jobs 7 years after the end of the recession.

Each year at my annual jobs fair, I meet hundreds of these qualified Americans who are tired of searching for good jobs. They are single mothers in night school. They are fathers working two part-time jobs to keep a roof over their family's heads. They are veterans who survived the fight abroad only to fight for employment at home. They are seniors who have to reenter the workforce after their retirement savings were wiped out.

These Americans deserve a government that will pass impactful jobs legislation. Let's make 2016 a year of action and economic prosperity.

COMMEMORATING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE FOR TRINITY BAPTIST COMMUNITY CHURCH INTER- NATIONAL

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate 25 years of faithful service carried out by members at Trinity Baptist Community Church International in Crystal Lake, Illinois.

Founded in 1991 by Senior Pastor Bishop Dr. Michael J. Love, the church has been a light to the surrounding community and to people around the world, demonstrating in word and deed Christ's command to love one's neighbor as oneself.

Through a myriad of initiatives, members have provided job skills training to struggling workers and relief to the impoverished.

Bishop Love's prison outreach ministry is well known to McHenry County and is a respected partner to the McHenry County Correctional Facility. Their diligence demonstrates the integral role faith plays in our local communities by bringing people together, united by common beliefs to help each other.

Like the Good Samaritan, they understand that "neighbor" sometimes includes those outside of their communities. That is why they have been involved with over 100 ministries across the globe, sharing the gospel and serving the people of Haiti, India, and the Dominican Republic, among others.

May God bless Trinity Baptist in its next 25 years of service.