

Bless the Members of this people's House with strength, fortitude, and patience. Fill their hearts with charity, their minds with understanding, and their wills with courage.

In the work to be done now, may they rise together to accomplish what is best for our great Nation and, indeed, for all the world, for you have blessed us with many graces and given us the responsibility of being a light shining on a hill.

On this feast of St. Blaise, may all Members be healed of every infirmity of their throat.

May all that is done this day 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 gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HIGGINS 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.

CONGRATULATIONS CAROL JOHNSON

(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 week the National Safety Council honored Carol Johnson, president and CEO of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, with their annual CEOs Who Get It award.

This award recognizes leaders who have built a positive safety protocol through leadership and employee engagement, safety management solutions, risk reduction, and performance measurement.

Ms. Johnson was recognized for her focus on safety SRNS, promoting a positive culture and continuously implementing safety measures at the site. She was commended by the Department of Energy for her role in recognizing and correcting safety errors.

This achievement represents Carol's strong commitment to prioritize safety for every employee and every task with fulfilling jobs.

I appreciate Carol's dedication to the employees of SRNS. Her focus on safety strengthens the community and makes the Central Savannah River area a world-class place to live and work. She has truly exemplified the goal of continuous improvement with zero harm. Congratulations to Carol on this well-deserved recognition and award.

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

STANDING WITH THE FAMILIES OF COLGAN FLIGHT 3407

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, next Friday will mark the seventh anniversary of the crash of Continental Colgan Flight 3407.

The cause of the accident was pilot error due to inexperience. The families of those who were lost fought for and won reforms that require pilots to be sufficiently experienced before they are entrusted with the safety of the flying public.

But regional airlines are trying to roll back these higher standards, claiming that they cannot find enough experienced pilots. That is simply not true. The airlines would see that if they increased starting salaries for pilots from \$16,000 a year to a level commensurate with the responsibility they are given.

Yesterday the Western New York congressional delegation stood with the families to serve notice that we will relentlessly oppose any attempt to water down these reforms. We will honor those who died by ensuring that never again will our loved ones be entrusted with inexperienced pilots.

ISRAELI DEFENSE FORCE LIEUTENANT HADAR GOLDIN

(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, yesterday I had the honor of meeting Simha and Leah Goldin. They are the parents of Israeli Defense Force Lieutenant Hadar Goldin, and they have started the campaign Bring Hadar Home.

Hours after the declaration of the international brokered cease-fire to the 2014 Gaza conflict, Hamas terrorists murdered Lieutenant Goldin and dragged his body deep into one of the underground tunnels in Gaza.

A year and a half after this brave and patriotic young man's murder, the family still languishes in limbo, unable to give Hadar a proper burial because Hamas is holding his body hostage.

This was a cease-fire entered into by Israel at the urging of Secretary Kerry and the U.N., and they should bear

some responsibility for securing Hadar's return home to Israel.

We have noticed how little Hamas regards human life by its indiscriminate rocket attacks against innocent Israeli citizens and by holding Palestinian citizens as human shields.

We must demand Hadar's return home and support the Goldin family in its efforts to give Hadar a proper burial and put an end to this nightmare.

D-STRONG

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dorian Murray, an 8-year-old boy from Westerly, Rhode Island, who was diagnosed with a rare tissue and bone cancer. After learning in December that his disease was no longer treatable, Dorian told his father that his goal was to become famous all around the world.

In recent weeks, after his parents posted his request on Facebook, the world has responded. People in China, Italy, Brazil, Germany, and other countries have come together to post their messages of support for Dorian during his courageous fight against cancer.

Dorian's hashtag, #DStrong, has now been viewed on social media platforms by millions and millions of people.

I am keeping Dorian, his mom Melissa, and his dad Chris in my thoughts and prayers.

Today the United States House of Representatives is D-Strong.

MIKE MIRON—FARMER OF TOMORROW

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

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mike Miron of Hugo, who recently won the Young Farmers and Ranchers Excellence in Agricultural national competition at the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting.

Mike is the fifth generation to work in his family's dairy and crop farm. In addition, he is also a high school teacher and Future Farmers of America adviser in Forest Lake, Minnesota.

Agriculture is one of the more important sectors of the American economy. Thanks to farmers who are educators, like Mike Miron, my State of Minnesota is a national leader in agriculture.

We need to celebrate the hard-working men and women who contribute to agriculture in Minnesota and all across this Nation.

Thank you, Mike, for what you have done and what you continue to do for agriculture today and tomorrow, and congratulations for your Excellence in Agriculture.

BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP BILL

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday “60 Minutes” highlighted an explosive undercover investigation by Global Witness, which showed just how easy it is for criminals and corrupt officials to use anonymous shell companies to bring dirty money into the United States.

The reason it is so easy is because States don’t require the disclosure of the true beneficial ownership of shell companies. This is unacceptable, and it has to stop. As Global Witness stated, “anonymous shell companies are like getaway cars for crooks.”

That is why I am reintroducing a law, along with my good friend and colleague, Representative PETER KING, which would require that the person creating the corporation say who the beneficial owner is and, also, to explain who really owns the company.

If States do not require and get this information, then, as a backstop, the United States Treasury will have this information before an account can be opened.

This is a commonsense, bipartisan attack on what is a major national security and law enforcement issue.

I urge my colleagues to join us in passing this important legislation.

THE IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE

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

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw attention to the important role that agriculture plays in this country.

I am honored to serve in a district in which agriculture represents the largest employer and is responsible for \$11 billion in economic impact.

It is why, during my time on the House Agriculture Committee, I was proud to help craft a new farm bill that delivers modern, more conservative policy for our farmers.

That is why now, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, I have remained diligent in making sure that the promises we made in the farm bill are kept.

We faced a challenge last year in the crop insurance program when it was gutted in the budget. This is the system that we promised our farmers to help transition away from direct payments.

Cutting it was unfair. I was proud to help restore that program funding before the end of the year, but it demonstrated something of a disconnect.

Mr. Speaker, not everyone in Congress represents a district with such a large agricultural footprint. What I try to explain to my colleagues is that, when you mess around with the crop

insurance program, you aren’t just affecting farmers who put seed in the ground.

You are affecting the ones who sell the seed, who build the equipment to cultivate and harvest the crop, and those who help process the goods for their final products.

That farming dollar turns over many times, and there is an entire agriculture supply chain that is affected by the farm policies we set in Congress.

My farmers know I have their back and I always will as long as I am in Congress.

GO RED FOR WOMEN CAMPAIGN

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

Ms. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the American Heart Association’s Go Red for Women campaign.

Heart disease and stroke cause one in three deaths among women each year, killing approximately one woman every 80 seconds. The troubling numbers are more than a statistic. They are a fact of life that cause unnecessary pain and suffering to families across our country.

I say unnecessary pain and suffering because we have the power to change it. We can save lives. As much as 80 percent of heart disease and stroke-related deaths can be prevented with education and action.

That is why I am standing to raise awareness and encourage my fellow members and constituents across north Florida to Go Red by participating in National Wear Red Day on Friday.

Wear something red, like this jacket, to show your support for women fighting heart disease and strokes. Together, we can save lives.

ZIKA RESPONSE AND SAFETY ACT

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

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the World Health Organization declared the Zika virus outbreak a global public health emergency.

The virus is particularly dangerous to pregnant women as it has been linked to serious physical and neurological defects in their unborn children. As the father of six children, I understand how frightening this could be.

Experts fear the virus will spread more widely to the United States, especially with the Olympic Games in Brazil on the horizon. That is why I have introduced the Zika Response and Safety Act, to ensure that key agencies have the resources necessary to combat this growing threat.

In 2014, Congress allocated more than \$2 billion to fight Ebola. Much of that money is still unspent. I would like to make some of that funding available to be used to combat the Zika virus.

This virus is a global health threat that requires our immediate attention. I urge my colleagues to support the Zika Response and Safety Act so that we can provide the necessary resources to understand and to prevent the harmful effects from Zika.

□ 1215

WE NEED TO PROPERLY MANAGE WATER

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring attention to the failure of California State agencies and Federal agencies to properly manage California’s water system as a result of the El Nino storms that we have been receiving.

El Nino years, like this one, are California’s hope of digging out of the historical drought conditions that we are facing. There is very high likelihood that most of the State will experience flood conditions, while communities in the San Joaquin Valley that I represent will receive a zero water allocation.

This year we have already missed an opportunity to move significant amounts of water to regions of California that need it most in the San Joaquin Valley.

As a result of the State and Federal agencies’ inability to operate in the most flexible range allowable, over 160,000 acre-feet of water has been lost this week alone and over half a million acre-feet has been lost this year. Meanwhile, an estimated total of 2 million acre-feet of water has gone out to the ocean.

State and Federal agencies are failing to take advantage of the water in the system today, and that is unacceptable. It is a disservice to all Californians. It is simply immoral.

HONORING AMBASSADOR GARY DOER

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

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Honorable Gary Doer, the outgoing Canadian Ambassador to the United States.

Canada is one of our Nation’s longest and greatest allies. Our bilateral trade with Canada was nearly \$734 billion last year alone, and it supports over 9 million jobs. In fact, my home State of Michigan sells more goods to Canada than our next 12 largest trading partners combined.

Over the last 7 years, Ambassador Doer has built a long list of accomplishments, including improved U.S.-Canadian regulatory cooperation, advocating for the Congressional Gold Medal for the Devil’s Brigade, and the