

Will You give us our marching orders?

In this hour of our great need, begin again to help us, as You have in years gone by.

Father, You are the God who does immeasurably more than all we could ask or imagine.

Today, give us the humility to ask for Your help, and the grand moral courage to be agents of change for the good of others and the honor of Your name.

In Your powerful name we ask these things.

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 Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CONNOLLY 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 PASTOR BECKY TIRABASSI

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor today to introduce to the House our guest chaplain, Becky Tirabassi, co-pastor of the Viewpoint Church in Newport Beach, California.

Becky became a licensed pastor in 2014, when she and her husband, Dr. Roger Tirabassi, founded the Viewpoint Church. Today, she and her husband give spiritual guidance and personal counseling to members of the Viewpoint Church, but also to people throughout Orange County needing personal and spiritual encouragement.

Becky was helping others even before she became a pastor. She is best known as an author of over 15 books, including the best-selling books, "Change Your Life" and "Little Changes Big Results for Crazy, Busy Couples." She has appeared many times on national television and radio, and for over three decades has spoken before groups in nearly all 50 States, as well as internationally. In addition to her co-pastorate, she is president of the Becky Tirabassi Change Your Life, Incorporated.

Becky and Roger have one married son, who is a grown man, and he has just completed a tour as a missionary

in Uganda. For that safe return, we are all grateful.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Pastor Becky Tirabassi, and thank her for offering today's opening prayer in the U.S. House of Representatives.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

RECOGNIZING DR. DAVID RAINES

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my good friend, Congressman MIKE JOHNSON, to recognize Dr. David Raines, a Louisiana legend in the field of gastroenterology.

Dr. Raines has worked with patients across the United States, including a gastroenterology fellowship serving our Nation's veterans at Walter Reed Army Medical Center here in Washington.

Dr. Raines is a pioneer in the field of gastroenterology, and is almost single-handedly responsible for bringing free-standing endoscopy centers to Louisiana. Because of him, patients can get these important lifesaving procedures in cost-efficient and convenient outpatient facilities.

Dr. Raines is admired among his peers, me being one of those and Congressman JOHNSON being another, not only for his professional accomplishments, but also for the way he has cared for others, including mentoring new doctors attending and entering his field.

Congressman JOHNSON and I wanted to take a moment today to thank Dr. Raines for his career of service to patients throughout Louisiana. He has saved many lives, and our State is a better place because of him.

TRUMP BUDGET AND RURAL AMERICA

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

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, President Trump released his budget. And what he has shown is that rural America is just about at the bottom of his list.

His budget is a killer for the Department of Agriculture. The cuts to the rural development program would mean fewer jobs in small towns that are already struggling.

While he promised to "end the war on the family farmer," President Trump slashes funding for the crop insurance program. And in Peoria, his budget would even close the Nation's largest agricultural research lab, a place for ag

innovation that is part of the solution for renewed ag economy.

Time and time again, President Trump made a great big promise spelled out on his red ball cap. Now I am left wondering how a budget that would devastate Main Street and our family farmers would make anything great again.

Mr. President, middle America is not just flyover country. We value those who look us in the eye, tell us the truth, and then do what they say they are going to do.

So, President Trump, I ask you: Does your budget live up to what you spelled out on your ball cap?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

CONGRATULATING ANNIE RICHARDSON

(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, I am grateful to express appreciation for Annie Richardson, press assistant of South Carolina's Second Congressional District.

A native of Alexandria, Virginia, Annie has called South Carolina's Second Congressional District home since 2004. A distinguished graduate of Hammond School and Presbyterian College, Annie has faithfully served on the staff of the Second Congressional District. Her expertise in photography, graphic design, and videography has made a positive difference, and her sunny disposition is always recognized by constituents visiting the office.

It is with mixed blessings, but great happiness, that I bid Annie farewell. She is moving on next week to serve as the digital assistant for the House Republican Conference; fortunately, to be working with conference chair CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS. I know she will do a remarkable job supporting the conference.

I know her father, Phil, and brother, Emmett, join me in recognizing her achievements. She has served with distinction in the tradition of her late beloved mother, Holly Richardson, who will always be cherished as a devoted staff member of Senate President pro tempore Strom Thurmond.

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

We are grateful for the visit today in Washington of Medal of Honor recipient James Livingston, a Marine general from Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to demand that Congress get serious about the Russia investigation.

In December, along with Mr. ENGEL of New York, I introduced the SECURE Our Democracy Act that would sanction any foreign individual or entity found to have unlawfully interfered with our election process. That shouldn't be a partisan issue, yet all of the bill's 88 cosponsors are Democrats.

I am also a cosponsor of the Protecting Our Democracy Act to establish an independent commission to get to the bottom of the Russia investigation.

A recent NBC-Wall Street Journal poll conducted in April found that 73 percent of our fellow Americans want such an independent commission. They want to get at the truth. So do I. So should all of us. I have signed a discharge petition to get that bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support these two measures, and to bring them to the floor for consideration. It is our constitutional duty to provide oversight of any executive in any executive branch.

The American people demand answers and accountability, not obstruction and intimidation. Appointing a special counsel, independent of the White House and the Attorney General, was one way to begin to restore credibility that has been badly tarnished. I urge us to proceed with the Russia investigation with all dispatch.

FOSTER YOUTH SHADOW DAY

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the struggles that foster youth encounter, and to celebrate their perseverance and fortitude as they attempt to navigate this complicated system and transition to adulthood.

In Arkansas, we have over 5,000 children currently in the State's foster care system.

I am proud to work with my colleagues on the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth to shed light on the perpetuation of poverty and dysfunction our current system enables. And I stand proudly in support of House Resolution 314, recognizing May as National Foster Care Month.

For the past 2 years, I have had the opportunity to have a former foster youth personally shadow me for a day. What a rewarding experience.

This year, I am honored to host Starr Wilson, a former foster youth from my district. After spending 10 years in foster care, Starr, who is full of drive and passion, graduated with honors from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

Unlike Starr's story, though, when many youth across America age out of the system, they find themselves with no place to call home, and they lack the encouragement and structure they need to pursue happiness.

Therefore, I am proud to stand with the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth in praise of the Sixth Annual Foster Youth Shadow Day here on Capitol Hill, which allows these youth to come across our country and share time with Members of Congress, and aspire to be the leaders of generations to come.

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am going to follow up on the prior speaker. I rise in support of National Foster Care Month. This month, we renew our commitment to ensuring that the 420,000 youth who are in our Nation's foster care system have a caring family and the opportunities they deserve.

I am proud to be a member of the Foster Youth Caucus, which is devoted to highlighting the efforts of all those involved with improving our Nation's foster care system.

I also rise to celebrate Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Day. Today, more than 100 former foster youth from across the country are in D.C., paired with Members of Congress as we conduct the Nation's business.

I am privileged to host Shantell House and Jeremiah McWright from California. Shantell is currently a student at Mills College and is passionate about current and former foster youth. Jeremiah joins me from San Diego, where he is studying public policy and has the potential to become a great business leader, or even a politician.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Shantell and Jeremiah, along with all of the participants of the Congressional Youth Shadow Day, to our Nation's capital.

RECOGNIZING BRITNI BURLINGHAM

(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 as a proud member of the Foster Youth Caucus, and also as part of a family that was involved in the foster care system.

Today I have the opportunity to spend time with Britni Burlingham as part of the Annual Foster Youth Shadow Day.

Britni is a social work major at Edinboro University in Pennsylvania. She is also a case aide for the Bair Foundation, a nonprofit organization that focuses on foster care and adoption.

This profession is rewarding for Britni because she has a firsthand experience. She entered the foster care system when she was just 7 years old.

Britni has said that being able to work with children who have had simi-

lar experiences to hers is life-changing. She and her husband also provide a loving home to their two foster daughters.

I am grateful that I can spend time today with Britni and hear about her positive experience with foster care. Her adoptive family built a strong foundation for her to achieve success in her own life.

Mr. Speaker, this is what foster care is all about.

I thank Britni for being here today, sharing her story and helping so many children overcome similar obstacles.

Congratulations, Britni. We are all very proud of your success.

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TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL BAHAR

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michael Bahar, who will be leaving the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, where he has served as general counsel since September 2012, and as staff director and general counsel since early 2015.

Because of Michael's commitment to always finding a way to "yes," he has helped guide HPSCI to a run of remarkable legislative success over the past 2 years. In a city of tacticians, Michael's great gift is his ability to look at things strategically, even while reacting in real time to emerging matters at hand.

Under Michael's leadership of the HPSCI Democratic staff, we have passed two successive bipartisan intelligence authorization acts, both of which received multiple and successively larger vote tallies each time they came to the floor.

In June 2015, we passed the USA FREEDOM Act that ended bulk collection of telephony metadata under section 215 of the PATRIOT Act, replacing it with a new regime more protective of Americans' privacy.

And later in 2015, the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 was included as part of the 2016 omnibus spending bill. CISA, which encourages businesses and the Federal Government to share cyber threat information in the interest of national security, could not have been timelier.

Neither bill would have been possible without Michael's tireless efforts. He worked on a broad range of issues with a broad range of stakeholders, in and out of government, and these measures were necessary and effective in securing our liberties.

Prior to joining the committee, Michael served with dedication in the Obama White House as Deputy Legal Adviser to the National Security Council staff. He is a Naval reservist supporting U.S. Special Operations Command.

After a well-deserved vacation, Michael will embark on a new career as a