

to individuals, businesses, churches, foundations, and government.

I would like to recognize and applaud the efforts of the South Carolina Free Clinic Association and its executive director, Virginia Ann Mullikin, for their support of more than 40,000 South Carolina families.

SENATOR MCCAIN IS OWED AN APOLOGY

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

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I am only able to raise my right arm to maybe 50 percent, sometimes not that much, but that is due to shoulder separations from playing football. JOHN MCCAIN cannot raise his arms because he was tortured in Vietnam.

I believe that it is just about sinful for Mr. MCCAIN, in his days of very serious illness, to have anyone in this country, particularly anyone in a position of significance, say things about him that cannot in any way bless him or encourage him but, in fact, denounce him through baseless attacks.

Mr. Speaker, when I was elected, I promised my four children that I would never come to the well of this House and attack a human being or call them names. Unfortunately, things have changed in this country to the point now where that is a part of our daily way of doing the business of the greatest Nation God has ever allowed to exist.

There is something wrong, Mr. Speaker, when the elected leaders of our country refuse to apologize. There is not a single parent watching the goings-on in this Chamber who would tell their children: No matter what you do, no matter how awful you hurt another human being, you had better not apologize.

We are setting examples for children and unborn children by what we do in this Chamber. How in the world can a person sleep at night who can hurt another individual and not apologize?

I guess there are some things I will never apologize for. I will never apologize for never coming to the floor to attack a colleague. I will never apologize for respecting a person with whom I may disagree. I will never apologize for displaying disrespect for a member of the other party though their policies are separate and distinct from mine.

I will never apologize for trying to get my point across without stabbing someone with it. I will never apologize for being sensitive to the pain and hurts of others. I will never apologize for being an apologist when I wrong someone.

Silence is consent. And when I see this going on around this Chamber and I see it going on in other places in our government, I know that there are millions of people who believe that that is okay, that if it is done by someone in my party, it is okay.

I have said to my family, I have said to our church, and I have said to my

colleagues here: If the leaders of the Democratic Party, NANCY PELOSI or STENY HOYER, stand up and attack someone, particularly someone who is ill, I would come to the floor and condemn them.

Right and wrong is not based on party; it is based on right and wrong.

□ 1100

We are becoming a mean-spirited nation. No one watching this will tell their children: I want you to watch what is going on in Washington and use what you see as an example of how to live.

Mr. Speaker, Washington is dark right now. The people around this country who believe in light should let it shine.

HONORING ATF AGENT SCOTT RAGSDALE

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

Mr. RATCLIFFE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and celebrate the life of ATF Senior Special Agent Scott Ragsdale from Fate, Texas, who tragically passed away on May 24, 2018, at just 41 years of age during an ATF training exercise.

Agent Ragsdale is survived by his wife, Erin, and his two children, Aidan and Riley; his mother and father, Patti and Roy Ragsdale; his sister, Kelly Novikoff, her husband, Lee, and their two children; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins who loved him dearly and will miss him.

Those who knew Agent Ragsdale best say that he will most be remembered for his incredible sense of humor and, of course, for his 17 years of dedicated service to his fellow man.

He will be greatly missed in our northeast Texas community for his brave and selfless service as a member of our law enforcement.

On behalf of the three-quarters of a million Texans whom I represent across the Fourth Congressional District of Texas, I offer my most sincere condolences to his family and loved ones.

I wish you Godspeed, Special Agent Scott Ragsdale.

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 11 o'clock and 2 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

Pastor Eddie Bevill, Parkridge Church, Coral Springs, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we come to You now in humility, acknowledging Your omniscience, omnipotence, and omnipresence. Please hear our prayer for this great Nation. The men and women in this room have been given, by some estimates, an impossible task, but nothing is impossible with You. I pray for their health, their families, their staffs, and their wisdom. Please give them Your grace and direction in all areas, so that they may be able to lead for the good of all people. Your word in Micah 6:8 is a great reminder:

"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

May this scripture be the marching orders for those who serve in this important position. May their decisions promote unity and harmony in the U.S. and the world.

In the name of Jesus Christ, I pray.
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.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Maine (Ms. PINGREE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. PINGREE 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 EDDIE BEVILL

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to welcome my constituent, Pastor Eddie Bevill, to offer the opening prayer today.

Eddie is the founding pastor of Parkridge Church in Coral Springs, Florida, where he has served since 1992. Pastor Bevill's leadership and service has been recognized with tenures on the Florida Baptist State Board of Missions as well as the Gulf Stream Baptist Association Board in Broward County, Florida. He is a pillar of our community. I am honored to welcome him to Washington today.

After the shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School, our community was gripped by unspeakable pain, confusion, frustration, and anger. In the moments, days, and months since, Pastor Bevill has offered a voice of peace, arms of comfort, and a guiding hand to surviving families, students, teachers, and others in our community.

At a time when it was so easy to be lost in despair, our community has been so fortunate to have Pastor Bevill lead us toward a place of hope and solace.

Pastor Bevill is joined here today by his wife Laura. They have been married since 1988 and have four children.

I know that my wife Jill joins me in welcoming Laura today in support of Eddie as he offers today's opening prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

HONORING IRIS NIGG LUNDIN

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Iris Nigg Lundin, First Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, who served in World War II.

Iris enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1943. She had earned her teaching degree and was only 2 years out of college working at a summer job when she heard the call to serve her country. She heard it through slogans like, "Uncle Sam Needs You," and "Free a Man to Fight." With the U.S. Marine Corps Women's Reserve newly authorized, Iris walked into a recruiting station and signed up to serve.

She completed boot camp at Marine Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, and was selected to go through Officer Candidate School. After graduating, she was commissioned to 2nd Lieutenant, and she and three other women were sent to Florida to attend navigation school.

While there, Iris was one of the first four women to earn aerial navigator wings. She was trained to teach aerial navigation, meteorology, and radio technique to the men who flew combat missions.

Iris served in the Marines until she was discharged in 1945. This weekend,

she will celebrate her 100th birthday. I am beyond proud to honor her today. She is a trailblazer for women in the Armed Forces, and I am honored to commend her for her service.

Iris, thank you, and happy birthday.

WE NEED TO STAND WITH OUR ALLIES AND FRIENDS

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the administration's reckless use of tariffs are inflicting harm in all of our communities, including mine in western New York, and the harm is real and immediate.

Welded Tube, a Canadian company with a factory in Lackawanna, New York, in my district, reports the cost of moving goods between the United States and southern Ontario has increased from \$0 last week to \$214,000 this week.

The company is reporting they may be forced to close without tariff relief.

From small firms like Niagara Transformer to auto manufacturers like Ford and GM, the harm is real and widespread.

The United States and Canada are the world's largest trading partners. Canada has been a reliable ally in fighting terror and has been a good friend to the United States.

We need to stand with our allies and friends, not abandon them.

China's trade actions threaten our national security. Canada does not.

PROMOTING PREPAREDNESS AND RESILIENCY FOR THE 2018 HURRICANE SEASON

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

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the official start of the 2018 hurricane season and to promote American resiliency.

The 2017 hurricane season brought with it 17 named storms, of which six were major hurricanes. These storms caused widespread destruction and devastation, and no individual or family should have to ever endure that again.

As a resident of Staten Island, where the impact of Superstorm Sandy can still be felt, my district in New York City has also seen this kind of widespread destruction.

Importantly, the Army Corps of Engineers is constructing a major seawall to protect my constituents from future storms.

With the 2018 hurricane season now underway, we must ensure that we are as prepared as possible to protect ourselves, our loved ones, our homes, and our communities.

This means double-checking insurance policies; signing up for local alerts and warnings, as well as apps, like Notify NYC; and putting together emergency kits.

For the 2018 season, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is forecasting a 70 percent likelihood of 10 to 16 named storms, of which one to four could become major hurricanes.

While we cannot control where these hurricanes will make landfall, we can control our resiliency.

As chairman of the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, I hope that all Members will join me in promoting the importance of preparedness.

MEDICARE SOLVENCY

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of America's 50 million seniors who rely on Medicare.

Medicare ensures Americans aged 65 and older have guaranteed health coverage, protecting countless families from bankruptcy, ensuring our seniors can enjoy retirement and pass on life's lessons to their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Medicare Board of Trustees announced on Tuesday the program's trust fund will be exhausted by 2026, 3 years earlier than last year's announcement.

Eight years ago, Congress and the Obama administration worked together to extend Medicare solvency by 12 years when we passed the Affordable Care Act.

Medicare's solvency is now threatened by policy passed by the current Republican majority and enacted by President Trump.

2026 is 8 years away. We should be extending the life of Medicare, not threatening it.

Mr. Speaker, this is not acceptable. America's seniors deserve better. Congress should take action and protect the Medicare guarantee for today's and tomorrow's seniors.

TAX CUTS CREATE JOBS

(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 month, I visited Dempsey Wood Products in Orangeburg, South Carolina, to get a firsthand look at the positive impacts of the tax cuts creating jobs.

Owner Parker Dempsey explained that they were able to expand their business due to the tax cuts. Dempsey Wood Products will be able to launch a \$15 million project, creating jobs.

Mr. Dempsey explained that: "... we will have new equipment and the best technology. The plan is to get it up and going and start a second shift, and probably add another 40 jobs."

Since President Donald Trump took office, the economy has created nearly