

life to the fullest. This should be an inspiration for all of us to both persevere through tribulations, while also celebrating the gift of life.

Mr. Torpy's family and friends will be in my thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.

RECOGNIZING CECIL BOSWELL

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Cecil Boswell, an American hero from Georgia who served our Nation during World War II.

Originally from Gainesville, Georgia, Mr. Boswell deployed on the beaches of Normandy during D-Day and fought in the Battle of the Bulge, where he participated in wrestling Europe from Nazi control and also contributed to a historical turning point in Western civilization.

Dodging close calls of his own, Mr. Boswell experienced, firsthand, the bravery and sacrifice of his fellow American soldiers. Until he passed away in 2017 at the age of 99, he was known for his abundant patriotism, always flying an American flag in his yard, displaying his war medals in his home, and marching every year in the annual Gainesville Memorial Day Parade.

On this 75th anniversary of D-Day, I am proud of the rich military heritage of Georgia that helped to secure victory for the Allied Forces. I am especially proud of and thankful for Mr. Boswell for his bravery and service to help defeat tyranny overseas and protect the freedom of all of Western civilization.

RECOGNIZING DENE SHEHEANE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dene Sheheane for his work in helping Georgia universities become national leaders in access, affordability, completion rates, and research output.

Mr. Sheheane began his work to better our State's education system nearly 30 years ago when he worked with Governor Zell Miller, who was known for spearheading the most important higher education legislation in the State of Georgia, the HOPE Scholarship.

Since 2014, Mr. Sheheane has continued this effort, working with the community relations department at Georgia Institute of Technology. In this role he has secured Federal funding for financial aid, renewal of the university's library, and projects within the Georgia Tech Research Institute that promote economic development and research of key health and environmental issues.

Because of his accomplishments thus far at Georgia Tech, he was promoted to president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, and on July 1 he will begin serving over 160,000 alumni worldwide.

I want to thank Mr. Sheheane for all he has done for the State of Georgia and wish him good luck in all his endeavors to come.

RECOGNIZING BLAIR GREINER

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, there is nothing more important than character, and I rise today to recognize an educator from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who was recently honored as Character Builder of the Year by the Pennsbury LYFT. Blair Greiner, an art teacher at William Penn Middle School, received the award from Pennsbury LYFT leaders Vicky Allen and Gary Sanderson.

The Character Builder of the Year Award is a unique distinction bestowed upon gifted teachers and faculty members who encourage their students to make upright decisions and conduct themselves in a positive manner.

Blair was nominated by several of her colleagues, who described her as a kind and passionate person who is always passionate about her work. They cite a project she spearheaded designing a mural for a retiring colleague and creating a give one, take one initiative that gives students and teachers the ability to write uplifting messages for peers having a tough day.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Blair on this well-deserved award and would like to thank LYFT for honoring heroes in our community and for advocating for the youth in Bucks County.

RECOGNIZING THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PERKASIE

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a faith community in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, for its innovation in providing pastoral care to members of our community.

The First Baptist Church of Perkasie recently unveiled a community center known as Revivals that serves as a soup kitchen, a counseling center, and a food pantry, among many other purposes.

Throughout the summer, members of First Baptist Church of Perkasie will hit the road with the Revivals block party trailer mobile unit to offer services to our community throughout Bucks County. These family-friendly events, in addition to other faith services, have an array of food and games to serve to bring people together.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the faith community of First Baptist Church of Perkasie. I would like to especially thank Teaching Pastor Chris Heller, Family Care Pastor Doug Henning, and Ministries Pastor Jon Adams for all of their work that they do for our Bucks County community.

HONORING JESSICA WILCOX AND ALEX GOLDSBY

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two student athletes in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, that were recently honored at the 21st annual Kiwanis-Herald Scholar-Athlete Awards Banquet in Langhorne.

Jessica Wilcox and Alex Goldsby, seniors at Conwell-Egan Catholic High

School, my alma mater, were recently selected as recipients of the Levittown-Bristol Kiwanis Club Dick Dougherty Scholarship.

A 4-year starter on the Conwell-Egan girls volleyball team, a 4-year member of the softball team, and a two-time first-team all-Catholic selection in bowling, Jessica also served as a member of the student council for 2 years.

As a 2-year starting quarterback for the Conwell-Egan football team, Alex was named the 2018 Philadelphia Catholic League Paul Bartolomeo Top Scholar-Athlete and was a member of the 2018 Archdiocese of Philadelphia Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll. As a starter, Alex threw for 1,972 yards and 21 touchdowns, and he also rushed for over 1,100 yards and 25 touchdowns.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Jessica and Alex all the best as they continue their studies at Bucks County Community College and Ursinus College, respectively, and I congratulate both of them and my alma mater on this amazing distinction.

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 23 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ROSE of New York) at noon.

PRAYER

Dr. James Merritt, Cross Pointe Church, Duluth, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Our Father in Heaven, we come thanking You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to die for our sins; for these men and women who have given their lives to public service; and for the freedom and the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness that come from You, our creator.

I pray for every Member of this sacred House that You would give them the wisdom of Solomon to know what is right and the courage of Daniel to do what is right.

I pray that the golden rule would prevail in their interpersonal relationships. May they be ever mindful that they will give an account to You for every decision they make and every law they pass.

Finally, would You please revive us again that Your people may rejoice in You. Hear our prayer in the name that is above every name, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

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

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

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

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. BUSTOS 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 DR. JAMES MERRITT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of hosting the guest chaplain today, and I believe you were feeling his words that we are all going to be held to account at the end, as you recall, in that vote series there. Those are powerful words, and it is not just something he shares in Congress today; it is something he shares with our entire community.

If you recognized his voice in that prayer, Mr. Speaker, it is because he is the host of the Touching Lives Ministry. It can be seen in all 50 States and around the world.

He has his lovely bride of more than four decades, Teresa, with him here in the gallery, and he leads back in my home State, Mr. Speaker, Cross Pointe Church in Duluth.

He left First Baptist Church Snellville and was called to plant a new congregation. It is a powerful ministry, not just with the Word, but with what the Word tells us we should do in deed, and it is lived out there every day.

From 2000 to 2002, Mr. Speaker, he was the president of the Southern Bap-

tist Convention. I told the gentleman earlier that, if he can handle church politics, he can certainly handle the politics that we are involved in here.

But the honor for me, because I have such deep respect for all of my colleagues here, is to share a little bit of back home with each one of you.

Dr. Merritt embodies the Seventh Congressional District values of faith and family and duty, and I am grateful to him, not just for his prayers in ministry to me, not just for his prayers in ministry to our community, but to the entire Nation and to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

SECURE OUR ELECTIONS

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

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is a fact that Russia, a foreign adversary, interfered in our election and even breached the voter database for the State of Illinois, my home State.

For the sake of our national security, this is an issue that must be addressed by the United States Congress because this isn't a Republican issue and it is not a Democratic issue. It is our duty as Americans and elected officials to protect our democracy.

That is why, this week, we will pass the Securing America's Federal Elections Act. Our bill would require voting machines to be manufactured in the United States of America. It would also make investments to secure our elections and prevent interference from foreign enemies in the future.

As Members of Congress, we take an oath to protect our Constitution and our democracy. I hope both Republicans and Democrats will come together to support this bill and secure our elections.

CELEBRATING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

(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, Religious Freedom Week began on Saturday and runs through June 29.

Freedom of religion is a fundamental human right and is protected by our Constitution. The First Amendment protects freedom of religion, along with freedom of speech and freedom of the press. This affords us the opportunity to have open and thoughtful debates on the floor of the House each and every day.

The United States is a place where people of all faiths can peaceably prac-

tice their religion without fear of persecution, which is something we have recognized since our founding. The very foundation of our Nation, a place of freedom and liberty for all, was conceived by individuals in search of religious freedom.

Mr. Speaker, the United States of America will always be a beacon of light in the world, and we will always protect our fundamental, unified commitment to religious freedom. It is a central part of what makes America exceptional. It affords our citizens the right to live in a free society, because no person should live in fear for their beliefs.

SPLIT TOLLING ON THE VERRAZZANO-NARROWS BRIDGE

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

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support the appropriations bill on the floor this week that would implement split tolling on the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge.

This legislation is common sense. It is nonpartisan, and it represents a massive win for all New Yorkers. It addresses the unintended consequences of an archaic 30-year-old piece of legislation that singled out Staten Island and South Brooklyn with the only bridge in the country whose technology is controlled by Congress.

Split tolling removes an obsolete mandate that cars on the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge only be tolled as they arrive in Staten Island, meaning that eastbound drivers across the bridge move across toll-free. Thousands of cars each day take advantage of this free ride and cause unnecessary congestion on Staten Island, in Brooklyn, and in Manhattan.

Split tolling cuts the toll in half and collects it in both directions, closing the loophole, and at no cost to commuters in Brooklyn or on Staten Island.

Cutting down on out-of-State toll shopping will also generate revenues for New York to invest in mass transit projects on Staten Island and in South Brooklyn, two places that all levels of government have consistently ignored or ripped off for a generation now.

Finally, my constituents are starting to see a new day after a long commuting nightmare: fewer cars on our streets, better buses, more mass transit options, and credible alternatives to reach the other boroughs.

This is commonsense legislation, and we are going to get it done.

PRO ACT HURTS JOB CREATORS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES

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

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a small business owner