

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 10 o'clock and 25 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. BUTTERFIELD) at noon.

PRAYER

Dr. Bryant R. Ali, New Psalmist Worship Center, Newark, New Jersey, offered the following prayer:

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in Earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; as we also forgive everyone that has sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Lord, as these elected officials handle the agenda before them today, may the words of their mouth and the meditation of their heart be acceptable in Your sight.

Lord, Your word declares that those who acknowledge You, paths will also be directed by You. I pray that we truly become one nation under God, united with liberty and justice for all.

Lord, touch each Representative today. Bless their family and the community they have the privilege of serving. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit I pray.

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.

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. 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.

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.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 gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr.

PAPPAS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PAPPAS 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Miss Kaitlyn Roberts, one of his secretaries.

WELCOMING DR. BRYANT R. ALI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce and praise today as guest chaplain Pastor Bryant Ali.

Pastor Ali has been my friend for almost 50 years. He has been the "pastor in the hood," as we call him, for 26 years at the New Psalmist Worship Center in Newark, New Jersey, a center he founded to bring the power of the Lord to those who have lost their way.

He is a renowned author, community activist, counselor, teacher, and preacher in my district. His story is one that should inspire us all. Pastor Ali received his spiritual calling as a homeless man struggling with chemical addiction. He conquered those demons through the power of the Lord. He started preaching and pursued his calling.

Today, he has a doctoral degree in holistic theology. He serves as the president of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Newark and Vicinity, and he is a spiritual counselor for the Newark Anti-Violence Coalition and serves on the board of the Newark Community Health Centers.

He is an outstanding clergyman, an incredible leader in my community, and a true inspiration. I am very proud to have him say a prayer for us today.

My fellow Members, I would like to present the senior pastor of New Psalmist Worship Center, the Honorable Dr. Bryant Ali, who did an incredible job for us today.

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.

ADDRESSING AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

(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 American Society of Civil

Engineers estimates that, by 2025, the cost of addressing America's infrastructure needs will reach \$4.6 trillion. With Federal transportation funded at \$305 billion this year, we aren't even coming close.

With each day that passes, the need grows. Safety is threatened; opportunity is lost; and the cost of getting the job done only increases.

According to the Federal highway data, in the Buffalo Niagara region alone, 1 out of every 13 bridges is structurally deficient. Our roads are crumbling; our water infrastructure is breaking; and our transit systems are inadequate and outdated. The situation couldn't be more urgent, and the opportunity couldn't be more obvious.

Numerous economic reports indicate investment in infrastructure delivers real jobs and real growth in the American economy. It is time to deliver on the substantial investment in infrastructure. There is a great deal of work to be done, and there are Americans prepared to do that work.

HONORING SUCCESS OF SORINEX

(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, every August, I participate in a bus tour of South Carolina's Second District with my wife, Roxanne, and dedicated staff from the Washington and district offices, visiting schools, job-creating businesses, and chambers of commerce.

An amazing stop this year was at Sorinex in Lexington. Sorinex is a family-owned business that makes unique exercise equipment for professional teams, national Olympic teams, colleges, high schools, and the military. It is a classic example of a garage-originated business that now produces equipment worldwide.

The founder of Sorinex, Richard "Pops" Sorin, took us around the impressive facility. The beginning of the visit was a tour with a historic collection of over 100 years of weightlifting equipment. Not only does Sorinex create its custom equipment, but it also produces all of its own branded apparel. I am grateful Lexington is the home of their success.

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

Our sympathy to the family of Emily Clyburn and our prayers for Congressman JIM CLYBURN and daughters Mignon, Jennifer, and Angela.

HONORING GLADYS BARKER GRAUER

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor my dear friend, Ms. Gladys Barker Grauer, the "Mother of Newark Arts" for more than 70 years, after

her passing recently at the age of 96. She was one of Newark's most dedicated artists and art supporters who leaves a legacy of great contributions behind.

Fifty years ago, she opened the first art gallery in Newark, the Aard Studio Gallery. It was a place dedicated to art and encouraging artists of color to learn and express their unique talents. Through this gallery, Gladys helped inspire and launch the careers of African American artists across the city.

Thanks to Gladys' efforts, the Newark Museum held the first exhibit of local artists, called Emerging and Established, in 1983.

Gladys is one of the founding members of the Newark Arts Council, today known as Newark Arts. She even received the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Women's Caucus for Arts.

Her art has been displayed locally, nationally, and even internationally. When in Newark, visitors can see one of Gladys' five murals, called Music Unites Us All, on the PSE&G Fairmount Heights Art Wall.

Gladys has been a blessing to our cultural scene and to me personally as a great and valued friend and friend of all of her children. Gladys' life reminds us of the value of art in society, and she will be sorely missed.

PRAYING FOR RESIDENTS OF SOUTHWEST TEXAS

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the wake of a terrible storm that is devastating my district in southeast Texas as we speak today, Tropical Storm Imelda, which appeared out of nowhere. Highways and roads are flooding, and local authorities are advising folks to seek shelter. Relatives of mine have complained that they are now underwater, as well, and flooding.

Again, we seem to see these storms come out of nowhere. This one hit us by surprise. It wasn't even a named storm, and once they named it, it seemed like, within just a few hours, it made landfall.

Our office is working with the Governor's administration in Texas, Governor Abbott, and with the Trump administration to quickly get declarations of a Federal emergency to ensure that the resources and help necessary will be provided to our constituents there.

Right after votes today, I will be heading home as quickly as possible and will be doing all that I can to help the people of southeast Texas. We are a tough and resilient people in southeast Texas, and we live by the rule that we need to help our neighbors. We saw that in technicolor just 2 years ago with Hurricane Harvey and that devastation.

My prayers are with everyone in this storm right now, and my office will be

working around the clock to do all we can, and I will head home.

HONORING CHRISTA McAULIFFE

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of all New Hampshire residents and Americans in support of the Christa McAuliffe Commemorative Coin Act.

Christa McAuliffe was a dedicated high school social studies teacher who understood how history is defined by ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Christa dared to touch the future as a teacher and as an astronaut. Selected from more than 11,000 applicants for NASA's Teacher in Space Program, she inspired the world and furthered our Nation's commitment to exploration inside and outside the classroom. I remember watching the shuttle launch as a kindergarten student on January 28, 1986, feeling the pride that a New Hampshire teacher from just up the road in Concord was making history.

Although Christa McAuliffe and six other souls were tragically lost in the *Challenger* explosion, her legacy endures. The creation of the commemorative coin is one way we can honor her and all of our educators for opening doors of opportunity and challenging students to succeed. The proceeds from these coins will support FIRST Robotics, a program that is building the next generation of creators, leaders, and dreamers. I urge my colleagues to pass this bipartisan legislation today.

HONORING FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES

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

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and similar community care centers for at-risk children across our Nation.

Founded in 1957, the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches have been improving the lives of at-risk children throughout our State with its comprehensive programs in six Florida locations, including one in my district, Live Oak, Florida.

The Sheriffs Youth Ranches are credited with helping more than 152,000 children and families in Florida alone. I have visited them, and I admire their work. It goes well beyond basic care and provides a sense of security, guidance, and belonging to these children who are coming from incredibly difficult circumstances.

Without action by this House, on September 30, the title IV-E child welfare waiver will expire, adversely affecting the support provided to children's homes across the country.

It is our responsibility to ensure that vital services to vulnerable children

and families are not interrupted. We must guarantee that the system has the same amount of resources necessary to achieve safety and permanency for all of these children.

□ 1215

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT ALS

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

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shine a light on one of my constituents, Mr. Dan Shultes.

Dan, who lives in Schoharie County, is a wonderful family man with a wife, two young children, and a community that loves him dearly. At 42 years of age, he has, in just a matter of months, gone from being completely healthy to being diagnosed with ALS.

This devastating disease has stolen his ability to complete basic tasks such as brushing his teeth, feeding himself, or signing his name. When I saw him last month at a barbecue, he was confined to a wheelchair, surrounded by loved ones.

Stories like Dan's should remind us how important it is to continue to raise awareness about ALS and motivate Congress to take every action possible to help the 30,000 Americans struggling with ALS. Congress must provide robust funding for disease research and create expedient pathways to market for new treatments and medications that could save or drastically improve the quality of life for those living with this disease. We should work tirelessly to provide guidance or therapeutic solutions as soon as possible.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend and colleague, PAUL TONKO, a true ally in this fight, as we are working closely with the Shultes family.

May God bless Dan Shultes and his family.

RECOGNIZING GARY MABREY

(Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Gary Mabrey, for his retirement after 30 years of service as the CEO and president of the chamber of commerce serving Johnson City—my hometown—Jonesborough, and Washington County, Tennessee.

After joining the Air Force during the Vietnam war, Gary returned to northeast Tennessee to continue serving his community. After earning a master's degree in city management from East Tennessee State University, he spent 10 years training government officials before joining the chamber of commerce.

As CEO and president of the chamber, Gary worked tirelessly to strengthen the economy of northeast