

with the opening prayer. I would also like to welcome his family to this House that belongs to all Americans.

Rabbi Abraham has been the rabbi for Beth El Synagogue since 2013, after moving to Omaha to be the assistant rabbi in 2011. He graduated from rabbinical school at the Jewish Theological Seminary, where he also received a masters of arts in Jewish education. He is also an alumnus of the University of Baltimore.

Since I came to Congress in 2017, Rabbi Abraham has been a trusted friend and adviser for both my staff and me.

I call on all of us to heed the words offered in prayer by the rabbi. We must all humble ourselves to the wisdom of the Almighty, and let us always try to be a voice for the voiceless and serve with compassion and courage.

We face many challenges ahead, but with prayerfulness and good faith in one another, I know we can rise above the trials of today in search of a better tomorrow, all for the sake of our country.

Thank you again, Rabbi Abraham, for being a genuine leader and for being with 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.

WORLD PANCREATIC CANCER DAY

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, November 21 is recognized as World Pancreatic Cancer Day, a time to raise awareness and inspire action in the fight against this devastating diagnosis which touches too many families.

It is the third leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States, with a 5-year survival rate of just 9 percent. More than 1,000 new cases are diagnosed around the world every day, and it is estimated that pancreatic cancer will be responsible for 3,000 deaths in New York State this year alone.

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and its western New York affiliate have made it their goal to double pancreatic cancer survival. As co-chair of the House Cancer Caucus, I am proud to advocate for robust funding for cancer research to put goals like this within reach.

Recently, researchers at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center announced promising findings on treatments aimed at overcoming pancreatic cancer's resistance to treatment, but continued funding on projects like this is critical to saving lives.

The need to increase pancreatic cancer survival rates is urgent, and it must be America's goal.

AMERICA APPRECIATES FARMERS

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

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, as we remember the first Thanksgiving when settlers broke bread with their Native American allies and shared fruits of their harvest, I rise today to thank our Nation's farmers.

As Thanksgiving approaches and we prepare to enjoy the holiday meal with our families, I would be remiss if I did not take time to thank the Americans whose labor allows us to put food on our tables.

Along with our military, our farmers are the hardest working, most skilled, and patriotic citizens in our country. They rise before dawn and work long after dusk to ensure our Nation can feed and clothe the world.

I urge this body to uphold its commitment to our farmers by passing the United States-Mexico-Canada trade agreement and ensure American agriculture remains the strongest and most competitive in the world.

I hope my colleagues will join me today in giving thanks to America's farmers during this Thanksgiving season.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Native American Heritage Month.

Oregon currently has nine federally recognized Tribes, three of which I am proud to represent here in Congress: The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. I work closely with these Tribal governments and with Tribal members, and I am proud to partner with them and support their work.

Oregon's Tribes do incredible work to protect precious natural resources, to save our salmon, to lift up Native youth, to keep our communities safe, and so much more.

I want to specifically thank Siletz Chairwoman Dee Pigsley, Grand Ronde Chairwoman Cheryle Kennedy, and Warm Springs Chairman Raymond Tsumpti for their leadership.

I also want to acknowledge that Grand Ronde, Siletz, and Warm Springs are confederations of Tribes that were terminated in 1954 in an insidious act that ended the government's recognition of Tribal sovereignty and dismissed the government's trust responsibility in western Oregon and across the country. Their restoration is only beginning.

Because of this, Congress must do more to ensure that we are honoring

our commitments to Tribes and taking seriously our trust responsibility.

VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

(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. Madam Speaker, I am grateful that our office is participating in the Veterans History Project. This project is an ongoing effort by the Library of Congress to collect and preserve personal accounts by American military veterans and families.

I have had the opportunity to meet with local veterans in Aiken and the Midlands to encourage participation. The narratives recorded through this project keep history alive for future generations.

Coordinating the project is Purple Heart recipient Jeffrey Crosby. Across America, citizens can participate at website loc.gov/vets.

As a veteran, as the son of a Flying Tiger with service in India and China, and as the father of four sons who have served overseas in the Army National Guard and the Navy, I am thankful for the project.

Congratulations, President Donald Trump, with news today that his policies of creating jobs have led to South Carolina's lowest unemployment level in history at 2.6 percent—opportunities for all according to WVOC.

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

THE HOUSE IS CONTINUING THE WORK OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the great work of the House of Representatives. For the last 10 months in the 116th Congress, the House of Representatives has passed 18 healthcare bills, 5 gun safety bills, 81 education bills, 47 national security and defense bills, 45 environmental bills, 36 immigration bills, 40 infrastructure and transportation bills, and much more.

My point, Madam Speaker, is that we are continuing the work of the American people. We never lost sight of our promise and commitment to the people of this great country.

We are constantly fighting back the White House's attempt to take away healthcare from millions of Americans, and we are working to lower prescription drug costs.

We will continue supporting our military and ensure that they have all the resources that they need to keep Americans safe.

We will not allow this President to keep us from fulfilling our duty to make our economy stronger, our

schools safer, and to protect us from tyranny.

SAVING RURAL HOSPITALS

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, instead of this laser focus on impeachment, we should be doing the people's work and passing a bill to help many Americans across this country who live in rural areas. My bipartisan Rural Health Care Access Act, H.R. 2990, would do just that.

Between January 1, 2010, and March 19, 2019, 102 rural hospitals closed in America. We are facing a crisis for rural America. These closures are increasing almost every year.

While so many of our senior citizens must utilize Medicare, Medicare is not reimbursing all hospitals in rural areas at a sustainable rate. We need to designate all our rural hospitals as Critical Access Hospitals.

Currently, this designation does not apply to those hospitals in rural areas that are slightly less than 35 miles from another hospital. My bill would get rid of this distance requirement, while maintaining all other requirements. It would help stave off the rapid decline of healthcare and protect vital jobs in rural communities.

I urge the Speaker to give my bill a chance.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ALL

(Ms. CLARKE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Madam Speaker, pursuing the American Dream has become a daunting task for millions of Americans in need of a place they can call home. We must address affordable housing, as we are in the midst of an acute crisis, and it is sweeping across America.

From my district in Brooklyn, New York, to Portland, Oregon, families coast to coast are getting priced out of their communities and driven into poverty and homelessness. My newly introduced bill, the Affordable Housing and Area Median Income Fairness Act, will attack this crisis head-on.

My bill addresses the clearly flawed model that has been used to calculate area median incomes, which is the basis on which rental rates are set. This outdated model made it harder for our families to afford having a roof over their heads, meanwhile, lining the pockets of big developers.

The Federal Government cannot—must not—continue to be complicit in this travesty.

As cities grow and communities evolve, the ability to afford having a roof over one's head should not be relegated only to those whose incomes afford them luxury.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in this crusade for human dignity: affordable housing for all Americans, access to affordable housing.

FARMER OF THE YEAR STEVE KELLEY

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

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. Steve Kelley of Carlisle County, Kentucky, for being named the 2019 Kentucky Farm Bureau Farmer of the Year.

It is with great pride that I can say this is the fourth year in a row that a farmer in Kentucky's First Congressional District has been recognized as Kentucky Farmer of the Year.

After receiving his bachelors and masters degrees in agriculture from Murray State University, Steve embarked on a decades-long career farming over 2,500 acres in Carlisle County. His solar farm, as well as his grain, livestock, and timber operations, sets Steve apart and highlights the ambitious future he sees for agriculture in the Commonwealth. He believes that it is his purpose to "leave his farmland in better condition than when he received it."

I am honored to congratulate the 2019 Kentucky Farmer of the Year, Mr. Steve Kelley, and his family on his unwavering work ethic, dedication to the Carlisle County Farm Bureau, and outstanding role in the agriculture community.

FOR THE PEOPLE

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, don't let anybody tell you that all we do here in the House of Representatives is investigate the White House. We have passed 275-plus bipartisan bills for the good of the people.

For hardworking families, we have passed legislation to increase wages and protect pensions.

For American women, we have passed legislation to promote personal security and ensure equal pay for equal work.

For American communities, we have passed legislation to improve public safety by strengthening background checks.

And for our American veterans, we have passed legislation to improve transition assistance and access to mental healthcare.

Rather than govern, Senate Republicans have chosen to play politics. This Congress, they have refused to consider more than 275 House-passed bipartisan bills. Those are bills that have Republican support sitting on the desk of the Senate leader not being passed.

Madam Speaker, I remind Senate Republicans: Do your job. Let's govern wisely and get these bills passed.

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RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize November as National Adoption Month.

This month we celebrate the life-changing act of adoption that has touched the lives of so many in our country. American families nationwide open their homes and their hearts to children in search of a stable environment and a forever home.

Despite the many parents that adopt, there are still so many children in the foster care system in search of a place to call home. In 2018, almost half a million children and teenage youth were in U.S. foster care. As a country we must always strive to help the most vulnerable citizens among us. All children in America deserve a permanent family that can provide them with the love, support, and encouragement needed to reach their full potential in life.

During this important awareness month, we recognize the unconditional love adoptive parents provide to their children, and we hope that all children will soon be welcomed into a loving family.

RECOGNIZING HEATHER GLEN FIRE FIRST RESPONDERS

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, at around 3 a.m. on Sunday, September 22, a fire broke out and punctured the calm of an assisted living facility in my community, Pennsylvania Seven, at Heather Glen Senior Living in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Firefighters answered the call, rushing into the building as flames gained force and tore through the roof. With extraordinary skill, they got to work saving the 82 elderly residents as the fire raged, carrying these men and women on their shoulders out of windows on to ladders. They brought all of the residents, as well as the five staff members working that night, to safety swiftly, while containing and ultimately defeating the fire.

In total, 45 agencies across four counties participated in this operation, coming together as a single unit in complete dedication to the mission at hand. In their example we see the best of the Greater Lehigh Valley and of our Nation.