

people with disabilities to be able to avail themselves of service providers because they can't just drive to the next county or drive to the next State. And the thought of flying to Hawaii to be able to get those services is so exorbitant that it is actually cheaper to go from Japan to Dulles International Airport than it is to go from Guam to Hawaii.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for us to take the next step and pursue further justice for our territories.

I wanted to recognize those individuals who made it possible for us to finally close a chapter on war claims. May we now move on to the chapter of addressing those people who have disabilities in our country that we really should be taking care of that just so happen to be living in the U.S. territories.

#### 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 33 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. HIGGINS of New York) at noon.

#### PRAYER

Reverend Erin Keys, Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Loving and gracious God, we ask Your blessing upon all those gathered here today and upon our Nation, God, as we, along with countries all over the world, face the anxiety and fear currently surrounding the coronavirus.

Though much about how this situation will continue to unfold is unknown to us, God, we trust that it is known to You. From the beginning of time, Your spirit has hovered over the chaos of our world, bringing order and life, and so we pray that Your spirit will continue to do so now.

We pray for the safety of all people, and we pray for wisdom for our leaders as they guide us through this time.

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.

Ms. HAALAND. 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.

Ms. HAALAND. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. QUIGLEY 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.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

#### CORONAVIRUS

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, the CDC has given the American public some simple suggestions for protecting themselves and their communities during the coronavirus outbreak: Wash your hands, cover your cough, and stay home if you feel sick.

But for millions of hardworking Americans, staying home from work when they are ill is literally not a luxury they can afford. The difference between staying home for 2 weeks to self-isolate and going to work for 2 weeks no matter how you feel is the difference between putting food on your table and watching your children go hungry. It is the difference between buying lifesaving medications and going without.

Here in Congress, Members are fortunate enough to be able to write their own doctor's notes. They can stay home and still collect their paychecks.

Shouldn't all Americans have that same option?

#### HONORING THE HEROISM OF LIEUTENANT ERIC VARNER AND DETECTIVE EUGENE WATLINGTON

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroism of two po-

lice officers in Forrest City, Arkansas, Lieutenant Eric Varner and Detective Eugene Watlington, who stopped a potential mass shooting in progress on February 10.

On that fateful morning, a gunman entered a Wal-Mart in Forrest City and began threatening customers. Officers Varner and Watlington responded within minutes, despite not wearing body armor, as plainclothes officers. When they confronted the suspect and tried to peacefully deescalate the situation, the gunman opened fire. Both officers were struck, but they were able to return fire and kill the shooter.

Both officers were seriously injured, and I ask that my colleagues join me in praying for a speedy and full recovery.

Lieutenant Varner and Detective Watlington saved many lives that day without regard for their own safety, and I invite Congress to join me in honoring them.

#### CORONAVIRUS

(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 coronavirus is a public health crisis in need of a strong, clear, and consistent response from Washington. The only way to stop the economic damage is to stop the spread of the virus and to keep people from getting sick and dying.

Paid sick leave should be extended to 32 million Americans who currently do not have it. A onetime Federal tax credit could offset the cost of universal paid leave to help stop the spread of the virus. Public health costs for testing and treatment at the local and State level should be assumed by the Federal Government for spending on the crisis response.

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Institute and Erie County Health Department in my community are doing that today at enormous expense and dwindling resources.

Every dollar spent on public health provides an economic boost. The time to stimulate the economy is after the virus has been controlled. Once that occurs, we need to go big on infrastructure to inject both growth and confidence in the American economy again.

#### COMMEMORATING 100TH BIRTHDAY OF JOHN BARFIELD OF LOUISIANA

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th birthday of Mr. John Barfield from my home State of Louisiana.

Mr. Barfield served in World War II under George S. Patton as part of the "Hell-on-Wheels" 2nd Armored Division. He was deployed to many different posts throughout Europe and northern Africa and fought in nine

major battles, including D-day and the Battle of the Bulge. During his time in service, he was wounded twice and awarded two Purple Hearts for his bravery and his sacrifice.

Please join me in wishing a happy birthday to a true American hero, Mr. John Barfield, whose courage and dedication to this country are second to none.

#### MATERNAL HEALTH CRISIS

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

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday, we celebrated International Women's Day, the unique stories women share, and their power to shape our world.

Like many women in America, my story includes a struggle to get pregnant. My son, Jordan, was a miracle for me and my family. But for too many mothers in America, the miracle of pregnancy ends in tragedy.

The United States has the worst rate of maternal death in the developed world. This is unacceptable. There is no reason that, in the richest Nation on Earth, we cannot keep our mothers and our families healthy and whole.

My bill, the Social Determinants for Moms Act, will invest in our mothers and fund the access to services and critical research that we need to help save the lives of our American women.

We can solve this crisis together if we work together, Republicans and Democrats, fighting for a safer, more compassionate, and more community-focused future.

#### COVERING KATY NEWS

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, the First Amendment to our Constitution says that Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of the press. The strength of our First Amendment is our local independent newspapers. These papers fan the flame of American rebellion. There is no America without a free local press.

Last week, we lost a local press newspaper in Katy, Texas, Covering Katy News. They ceased operations. The owner and founder, Dennis Spellman, left radio 8 years ago to get in the field and report on stories that matter to people back home. Covering Katy News was 21st century news, online primarily.

Dennis' family put their heart and soul into this paper, Covering Katy News. He would stay awake from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m.—without a day off in 5 years.

Dennis' last article was entitled, "Time to Say Good-Bye." My dear friend, that is the wrong headline. The headline should be, "Time to Say Good Luck."

#### NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL, KRIS VANCAS

(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 to recognize Kris Vancas, principal at Benner Elementary School in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

Kris was recently named Pennsylvania 2019 National Distinguished Principal by the National Association of Elementary School Principals for his "collaborative leadership style, empowering his staff to create an environment where students can excel, and for his dedication to students, staff, and community."

Leaders like Kris are important to the success and well-being of our Nation's schools. Kris, however, gives all of the credit to his staff, the students, and their parents.

Kris has served as principal at Benner Elementary for approximately 7 years and is well aware of the impact teachers and administrators have on the daily lives of our Nation's young people. He said: "You don't know the kind of day they're having when they walk in, but you know you can positively affect them for the next 6 hours they're here."

I would like to thank Kris for his commitment to students in Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District, and I congratulate him on this achievement.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRYAN METZGER

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

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of Tippecanoe County Council President Bryan Metzger. Originally from Milltown, Indiana, Bryan lived a life full of love and service to his community.

Bryan first gained an appreciation for public service when he joined 4-H at just 10 years of age. Always an energetic member, Bryan knew he wanted to continue his work with 4-H. After graduating from Purdue University, Bryan accomplished just that, serving for decades with the 4-H Extension Services in White and Lawrence Counties, before settling in Tippecanoe County.

His selflessness extended to other youth organizations in his community, having worked with the Court Appointed Special Advocate Association, the Cary Home for Children in Tippecanoe County, and countless other advocacy organizations. My friend and former colleague cared immensely about the growth and development of our young people, and any number of lives are better for his time and generous spirit.

Bryan was also a devoted member of the Greater Lafayette Rotary Club, and he continued to work for his community through the Tippecanoe County Council following his retirement from the Extension Service in 2012 after 33 years of faithful service. Inexhaustible as ever, Bryan most recently served as president of the county council.

Those who were fortunate enough to have known and worked with Bryan admired and respected his endless civic engagement. Described by his peers as dedicated and focused, Bryan embodied the 4-H pledge of head, heart, hands, and health in service to others, and he will be missed dearly by his community.

Thank you for your service, Bryan.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LEVIN of Michigan). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### REQUIRING EVALUATION BY GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE OF SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND HISTORIC CONTRIBUTIONS BY MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6020) to require an evaluation by the Government Accountability Office of the social, economic, and historic contributions that Minor League Baseball has made to American life and culture, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6020

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) more than forty million fans have attended Minor League Baseball games each season for 15 consecutive years;

(2) Minor League Baseball provides wholesome affordable entertainment in 160 communities throughout the Nation;

(3) in 2018, Minor League Baseball clubs donated over \$45 million in cash and in-kind gifts to their local communities and completed over 15,000 volunteer hours;

(4) the economic stimulus and development provided by Minor League Baseball clubs extends beyond the cities and towns where it is played, to wide and diverse geographic areas comprising 80 percent of the population in the Nation;

(5) Minor League Baseball is committed to promoting diversity and inclusion through its Copa de la Diversión, MiLB Pride, FIELD Program, and Women in Baseball Leadership initiatives;

(6) Minor League Baseball is the first touchpoint of the national pastime for millions of youth and the only touchpoint for