

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Kayla on her remarkable accomplishments. I applaud her ability and willingness to go above and beyond to set an example for women of all ages who may be interested in going where no woman has gone before. She has made, and continues to make, our community proud. Central Washington is rooting for her.

□ 1100

CENTRAL WASHINGTON FIREFIGHTERS AIDING IN AUSTRALIA

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, over the past month, devastating bushfires have burned over 12.5 million acres of land in Australia. More than 200 American firefighters have been dispatched to Australia to help combat and contain these devastating fires, including two firefighters from central Washington.

In the West, we recognize the catastrophic impact wildfires have on local communities, on ecosystems, and on environments. My congressional district recently experienced some of the worst wildfires in our State's history. When we were in need, Australian firefighters were eager to help, and now our local heroes are returning the favor.

As we work to improve land management here at home, I am proud to co-sponsor a resolution introduced by my friends Representatives PANETTA and LAMALFA of California to support the longstanding partnership between the U.S. and Australia as we share firefighting resources in times of crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in applauding the firefighters, both American and Australian, who put their lives on the line to protect our land, our wildlife, and our loved ones.

TODAY IS A GREAT DAY FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, today is a great day for America. It is great day for American agriculture and American manufacturing.

Today, the President signs phase one of the China trade deal. But this news, the most important news of the day, won't be covered much by the national media. Instead, the story, the photo of the day will be Speaker PELOSI parading her tardy Articles of Impeachment to the Senate with pomp and circumstance. America can only hope this is the last chapter on this side of the capitol of this made-for-TV impeachment charade.

Why won't the national media cover this trade agreement story? Because it is another example of a promise made, promise kept by our President. It is another example of our President's policies working.

Once the Chinese trade agreement is completed, the President will have renegotiated over half of our country's

export-import business. Now, that is making America great again. That is the art of the deal.

As part of the phase one agreement, China will buy \$200 billion worth of American goods and services over the next 2 years, nearly doubling our U.S. exports to the country and further narrowing the gap of our longstanding trade agreements and deficits. Agriculture goods will account for nearly \$100 billion of these purchases, providing a much-needed boost to the industry that accounts for more than 40 percent of our Kansas State's economy. All this increase in exports only adds to our Nation's GDP.

In the near term, this deal brings an end to the threat of additional tariffs that have caused commodity prices to fluctuate, giving producers more certainty and the ability to better plan for the upcoming growing seasons. Our farmers and ranchers have borne the brunt of the effects of this trade battle, and I am happy to say things will get better soon. The patriotism our Kansas producers have shown has been nothing short of honorable.

Now, concerns about China upholding its end of the phase one agreement are indeed legitimate. Decades of China renegeing on commitments aren't lost on me, but thankfully our negotiation team, led by our trade representative Bob Lighthizer and a fellow Kansan, Gregg Doud, require that this deal include the authority for the President to swiftly reinstate all tariffs and impose new ones, if needed, and thus avoid the long, drawn-out decisions by the WTO.

Global trade disputes don't end overnight, and as the President and his team have acknowledged, there is still a lot of work to be done on China. Phase two negotiations are already well under way, and I will continue to advocate for Kansas agriculture and manufacturing directly to this administration.

President Trump's efforts to solidify deals with our four largest export markets, Mexico, Canada, Japan, and now China will give Kansans the confidence needed to move into the next decade and beyond. These four countries, along with the completed trade deal with South Korea, represent over half of our country's trade. This sets the stage for the rest of our trade agreements.

We made it through this hard pass, and better days of fair and reciprocal trade lie ahead for many generations.

I thank the President and our entire trade team at USTR for their efforts to protect and grow American jobs, to improve wages, for their commitment to make and keep America great. Keep up the good work.

RECOGNIZING ZENA CARDMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Zena Cardman, a recent graduate of NASA's Astronaut Candidate Class XXII, and a native of Urbana, Illinois.

Zena was selected in 2017 from a pool of more than 18,000 applicants as some of the brightest and most skilled minds in the country. The past 2 years of training and her graduation from candidate school earned her the title of astronaut, and she is now eligible for spaceflight.

As a new grad, Zena will support NASA's current missions, such as the work aboard the International Space Station, the Commercial Crew Program, and the Artemis Program, which has set a goal of sending humans back to the Moon by 2024.

I am proud to recognize Zena today as one of the best minds in space exploration. I know she will be an invaluable asset to NASA. I extend a well-deserved congratulations to Zena and congratulate her on her graduation. I thank her for all she has done.

REMEMBERING FRANK MITCHELL

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Frank Mitchell, a native of Springfield, Illinois, and the first African American House of Representatives page since Reconstruction. As a student at Feitshans High School, Frank was asked to interview for a position as a page for then-Congressman Paul Findley. When the school principal, my good friend, Irv Smith, called to say they had selected Frank, according to articles just recently, Frank said he went out and he bought some suits, got a haircut, and headed for Washington.

After his year-long stint as a House page, Frank graduated from Feitshans in 1967 and went on to work as a newspaper and TV reporter before accepting positions with the Illinois Attorney General's Office and eventually Cook County's Stroger Hospital. He is well-known across the State for his work with the Illinois Fatherhood Initiative.

Congressman Paul Findley's son, Craig, who now chairs the Illinois Prison Review Board, said Frank's appointment to the House as a page was one of his father's proudest accomplishments. Frank brought credit to the page system, Craig said, and I admired him for his service and his friendship for decades.

Almost everyone that knew Frank felt that way. They admired him for his service and his friendship. Frank was a well-loved part of the Springfield community for years. I had the opportunity to meet many of his family members and also those who helped Frank, and who Frank helped through his career in public service when I went to his services in Springfield just a few weeks ago.

For so many, Frank was a role model, he was a mentor, and he is part of the history in this institution that so many of us have had the opportunity to serve in this great Nation in the House of Representatives.

The House of Representatives is a better place because of Frank Mitchell and Washington, D.C., is a better place because of Frank Mitchell. Everybody that knew Frank Mitchell knows that their life has been blessed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Frank for his service, and he will be missed.

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 9 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 (Ms. DEGETTE) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

You have promised, O God, that You are with us wherever we are and whatever we are doing—to heal and to help, to give strength and make us whole.

On this day, the House and the Senate draw our Nation's attention as the process of impeachment moves forward. Bless all Members of Congress with wisdom; give them the courage to honor the Constitution, as they have promised to do, so that all Americans can proudly observe their government in action.

Opinion and feelings will be on edge. May all Members be filled by Your Holy Spirit and engage each other with goodwill and respect.

May all that is done this day, and in the days to come, be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Ms. DEAN. Madam 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. DEAN. Madam 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 pro-

ceedings 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 California (Mr. TED LIEU) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TED LIEU of California 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.

HONORING CLIFFORD BELL

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today, on the birthday of Martin Luther King, I rise to recognize a Buffalo, New York, resident born the same year as Dr. King, who continues to serve as a local church, community, and business leader, my good friend, Clifford Bell.

Brother Bell, as he is known in western New York for the love he brings to all of those around him, has served as a senior business advisor to Buffalo State's Small Business Development Center.

He was a colleague of mine in the city of Buffalo Common Council and he has led the Martin Luther King, Jr., celebration in Buffalo for three decades. As a council member Brother Bell was known for the line: "For whom the bell tolls. This Bell tolls for you," a quote that historically references the interconnectedness of humanity and his commitment to service.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in his "Where Do We Go From Here?" address said: "Hate is too great a burden to bear. I have decided to love."

Brother Bell has lived a life of love, representing the best of our community and our country. We, as a Nation, can learn from his example.

CONGRATULATING GENERAL JOHN RAYMOND

(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 congratulate General John W. Raymond, who was sworn in yesterday as the first Chief of Space Operations for the newly established U.S. Space Force.

As a senior Member of the House Armed Services Committee, I am grateful to President Donald Trump for General Raymond's confirmation and for being able to attend the National Defense Authorization Act signing which officially established the U.S. Space Force.

General Raymond is a Clemson University alumnus and has over 30 years of military experience. "This establishment is absolutely critical to our national security," he said during his remarks after being sworn in.

I am grateful that the U.S. Space Force is in strong, capable hands.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th, defeating terrorists overseas, in the global war on terrorism with the courageous leadership of President Donald Trump.

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA FOUNDER'S DAY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, we should take a moment to honor an outstanding organization, Alpha Kappa Alpha. This is their Founders Day—112 years old.

Isn't it interesting that young women who were in the shadow of the Emancipation Proclamation and the shadow of slavery, in the midst of Jim Crow-ism and on the precipice of World War I, organized at Howard University to be able to give African American women a place for leadership and civic-mindedness?

As we are on the precipice of a great historic moment dealing with protecting the Constitution here in the United States Congress and the United States Senate, I am glad to honor these women that included Ethel Hedgeman, Margaret Flagg Holmes, Marjorie Hill, Lillie Burke, Beulah Elizabeth Burke, Anna Easter Brown, and many other young women who decided to take a stand for what is right in this Nation and the opportunities of diversity and leadership.

Congratulations to our national president, Dr. Glover, and congratulations to all of our Alpha Kappa Alpha members throughout the United States of America. Happy Founders Day 112.

IMPEACHMENT COLLAPSE

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

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, after a long, embarrassing month, the House will finally transmit the Articles of Impeachment against President Trump to the United States Senate. Yet I understand Speaker PELOSI and her managers will continue to push for witnesses in the Senate trial because, in their words, they want the facts.

That claim is nonsense. House Democrats blocked the testimony of the