

children Wendy, Scott, Jenifer, and Ty; 10 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and his sister, Velma Geraldson.

On behalf of Wisconsin's Fifth Congressional District, it is my privilege to celebrate the life and legacy of Don L. Taylor for his unparalleled contributions and impact on our community. I offer my heartfelt condolences to Don's family and those who were lucky to call him a friend.

THIS NATION WON'T GIVE UP ITS LIBERTIES EASILY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. CAWTHORN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CAWTHORN. Mr. Speaker, for over 200 years, American citizens have chosen dangerous freedom over peaceful subjugation. For the past few decades, the American patriot has watched in horror as the Federal Government has opened the shackles of safety and firmly clamped them around the Second Amendment.

As the Second Amendment restrictions have risen, so has violent crime. Washington wonders in one moment why violent crime is rising, and then takes away the right of Americans to defend themselves in the next.

Mr. Speaker, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives exists for the sole purpose of regulating and keeping me from three of the things I hold most dear as an American.

This administration's proposed head of the ATF thinks that the Second Amendment was created for hunting and sporting. David Chipman could not be more wrong. The purpose of the Second Amendment was and is to hold back a tyrannical government. Chipman's tyrannical reading of the Constitution would turn millions of Americans into criminals overnight.

I am here to tell you today that these Americans who seek to defend their right to bear arms are not the criminals our Nation ought to be concerned by.

Mr. Speaker, the most dangerous threat to our safety and security does not arise from Americans wanting to protect themselves. No, it comes from men and women like those in this Chamber who would choose the quiet of servitude over the tumult of liberty.

The Second Amendment was designed to protect the First, and this Nation will not give up its liberties so easily.

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 34 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. UNDERWOOD) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, even as we acknowledge the tragedy of over 600,000 deaths this pandemic has wrought on our country and the devastation it has caused around the world, help us to find the gift we are now being given: the opportunity to emerge, carefully, from the fear and anxiety COVID has imposed on our daily living and rediscover the importance of our relationships one with another.

What a joy it is to see someone else's whole face, to look not just in their eyes but to be graced by their whole countenance.

As we dare to unmask, may we dare also to reveal our hearts to one another and rediscover the gift of being in fellowship.

Even as we risk exposure to the enduring dangers of our environment, may we also risk exposing ourselves to the challenge of frank and open, albeit respectful, interchange of ideas and diversity of thought.

In sharing our heartfelt thoughts and opinions, may we also find ways to share care and concern with those whose perspectives are at times drastically different from our own.

May we, our faces, our whole selves, unhidden and unrestrained, reflect Your generosity, mercy, and love.

Then reveal Yourself to us, in the face of those with whom we serve this day.

In Your merciful name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mrs. STEEL 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 UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THUNDERBIRDS

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the glorious Thunderbirds of Nellis Air Force Base, who are celebrating 65 years in Las Vegas this month.

Since their establishment, the Thunderbirds, America's Ambassadors in Blue, have performed in front of millions worldwide, defying gravity with stunning aerobatics that showcase our military power and might.

Their mission is to recruit, retain, and inspire. With each dazzling performance, they rouse America's future heroes to serve our Nation.

Congratulations on 65 years, Thunderbirds. You are the pride of Nevada's Fourth District and the pride of our Nation.

REMEMBERING COACH JOHN MCDONNELL

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

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of a legend in Arkansas sports, the late Razorback track and field coach John McDonnell.

Coach McDonnell was laid to rest last week, leaving a truly remarkable legacy: the most decorated coach in NCAA history, having won 40 national championships in indoor and outdoor track and cross country. He was the national coach of the year 30 times and is responsible for six NCAA triple crowns at Arkansas.

He coached and mentored some of the world's best athletes: Southwest Conference champions, Southeast Conference champions, NCAA champions, and Olympic champions. He himself was an outstanding runner, and he knew how to help his student-athletes become successful.

Coach McDonnell was a native of Ireland. He came to the U.S., graduated from Southwest Louisiana, and earned his citizenship in 1969.

He devoted his life to inspiring young people to excel. On the many occasions that I had a chance to visit with Coach McDonnell, I always came away thankful that we in America were blessed to have him.

When the starting gun fires and they are calling the Hogs on the track that bears his name, we will all be reminded of his legacy of good works and great coaching and his unrelenting Razorback spirit.

My deepest condolences to his wife of more than 50 years, Ellen, children Sean and Heather, and the rest of the McDonnell family.

HELP NEEDED FOR VETERANS WITH PTSD

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

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of our Nation's veterans struggling with PTSD and their family members anxious for help.

This week, I spoke with the mother of a young man who joined the Marines out of patriotic duty following 9/11. He served four tours.

His mother told me that when he came home, he was a changed man struggling with PTSD.

She took him to the VA when he said he was contemplating suicide. She was told all the beds were full; they couldn't help.

He was later denied extended treatment at an inpatient facility after he began self-medicating. A year-and-a-half ago, he died of an overdose.

We have to do better. The VA needs more and better addiction and mental health resources. This young man's mother said to me, after losing her son, she is in the fight now. I am, too, and I hope you will join me.

ANNIVERSARY OF CONGRESSIONAL BASEBALL SHOOTING

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, 4 years ago yesterday, Republicans were tragically attacked by a liberal gunman with an agenda to shoot and kill Republican Members of Congress.

That day, United States Capitol Police Officers Griner and Bailey, along with Alexandria police, acted swiftly to neutralize the gunman and prevent what could have been an extraordinarily deadly event that changed the course of our country.

I stand here today because of their heroism, and I, along with my Republican colleagues present that morning, are forever grateful.

We must always support our men and women in blue and oppose any efforts to defund the police and make communities less safe.

Law enforcement officers go to work in their communities every day to make a difference, protect their neighbors, and prevent crime, a solemn duty we should commend and not tear down.

We will forever owe a debt of gratitude to the officers present 4 years ago and are grateful for every brave and honorable law enforcement officer who is willing to sacrifice themselves to keep us safe.

In God we trust.

NEED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLEAN ENERGY

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

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I rise today as Nevadans are facing the reality of our climate crisis head-on.

Lake Mead has reached record low levels not seen since the construction

of the Hoover Dam, and a massive heat wave has now brought record-breaking temperatures and safety warnings.

We cannot deny the climate trajectory our country faces, and at the same time, our State and the country are climbing out of an economic crisis.

There is no question that the opportunity to take action on both the economic and the climate crises is now.

That is why I am proud to have joined my colleagues in the Problem Solvers Caucus to bring Democrats and Republicans together on an infrastructure proposal.

We need to work together now more than ever. Our crumbling roads, bridges, and the tools that grind the gears of our day-to-day American life cannot support our economy and our planet without bold new investment.

Those bold investments will create good-paying jobs in communities across the country.

The time to deliver solutions is now.

CONGRATULATING GRACE CHRISTIAN WARRIORS BASEBALL TEAM

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the Grace Christian School Warriors baseball team for their come-from-behind victory in this year's Virginia Association of Christian Athletics State championship.

Down to the last 12 outs, the Warriors trailed 4-0. But thanks to some timely hits, their comeback started as they were able to put one run on the board in the fourth.

In the bottom of the fifth, things really started turning in Grace Christian's favor. A few hits, some heads-up base running, and costly errors made by their opponents gave the Warriors a 5-4 lead.

However, the lead didn't last long, as the Bulldogs from Westover Christian Academy scored two in the top of the sixth. But the Warriors battled back, tying the game in the bottom half of the inning.

Grace Christian's MVP pitcher, Isaiah Riddle, mastered Westover hitters in the top of the seventh, meaning it all came down to the Warriors' bats.

First baseman Justin Hain led off with a base hit, then stole second, and moved to third on a wild pitch. With another wild pitch, Hain sprinted home and secured Grace Christian the title.

Truly, it ain't over till it's over.

Congratulations to the players, coaches, parents, and staff on an incredible season and a well-deserved win.

REMEMBERING DAVID SAMRICK

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to honor the remarkable life of David Samrick of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

David's faith and love for the Jewish community were evident in his support of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. He served on the AIPAC national board since 2015, working closely with Members of the United States Congress to strengthen and promote a strong and unbreakable U.S.-Israel relationship.

Through his work with AIPAC, he led citizen activists in building relationships with Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, a key to the success of the pro-Israel movement. We worked together to address a multitude of issues facing our community, from the scourge of anti-Semitism to ensuring we maintain our strong U.S.-Israel relationship.

I am proud to have considered him my very dear friend. I will miss his guidance and wisdom but mostly his friendship.

My heartfelt sympathy goes out to his wife, Susan, and his entire family. David was one of a kind, a selfless, compassionate, and tireless advocate. May his memory be for a blessing.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD FURLONG

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

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Richard J. Furlong, a wonderful member of our community who passed away late last year.

Mr. Furlong was born in 1926 in Utica, New York, my hometown. He grew up on the Seminole Farm in Holland Patent.

He was called to serve his country at the age of 19 when he enlisted in the United States Army during the World War II era. After he left service, he returned home to Holland Patent. He would later go on to marry Neva Millias, who was his beloved wife of 37 years.

Mr. Furlong was a very proud son of Irish immigrants. He enjoyed sharing his heritage with those around him and made several visits to Ireland over the course of his life.

Friends and family remember him as a jovial and hardworking man. Mr. Furlong was the oldest living member of The American Legion Leon R. Roberts Post 161 and a past member and president of the Holland Patent Hose Company.

He was beloved by his siblings, 12 nieces and nephews, and many great-nieces and -nephews. I extend my condolences to his family and also his great friends.

Richard was larger than life, with a vibrant and fun personality. While we all miss him dearly, we will always remember his great legacy with a big smile.