

fellow GIs to once again believe that they would one day return to freedom in America.

We know that Father Kapaun suffered unthinkable cruelty at the hands of his prison guards who had a special hatred for Christians. But as the many stories attest, their rage and violence did not deter Father Kapaun in the slightest.

One of his fellow prisoners wrote a letter upon returning from Korea, saying that, “with his scraggly beard and his odd-looking woolen cap made of the sleeve of an old GI sweater, pulled down over his ears, he looked like any other half-starved prisoner.

“But there was something in his voice and bearing that was different—a dignity, a composure, a serenity that radiated from him like a light. Wherever he stood was holy ground, and the spirit within him a spirit of reverence and abiding faith went out to the silent, listening men and gave them hope and courage and a sense of peace. By his very presence, somehow, he could turn a stinking, louse-ridden mud hut, for a little while, into a cathedral.”

Another passage from that letter reads that, as Father Kapaun spoke, “the agony in the garden, the road to Calvary, the Crucifixion, became very real to us, who ourselves lived daily under the threat of death, and who bore our own crosses of blows, and cold, and illness, and starvation. But Christ endured, he told us, and we, too, must endure, for the day of resurrection from the tomb of the prison camp would surely come.”

For generations, Father Kapaun has inspired hundreds around the world to greater faith and service through adversity. Today, I am proud that Father Kapaun has returned home to his native Kansas. He is truly an American hero of the first class.

DEMOCRATS' WASTEFUL SPENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. JACOBS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I urge the Democratic leadership to heed the message of Senator JOE MANCHIN and take a strategic pause on the \$4.3 trillion reconciliation bill they are attempting to pass. To spend this amount of money on top of the nearly \$6 trillion we have spent on COVID since last March is reckless to say the least. We should not forget the long-term debt crisis we are facing.

The graph beside me shows how dire this fiscal outlook is. By 2051, as is shown in this chart, the Congressional Budget Office projects our debt will reach 202 percent of the GDP. In other words, more than twice our annual output. And that does not include the \$4.3 trillion the Democrats are proposing to spend in this reconciliation package.

This will far exceed the debt levels even after World War II. As you can see in the graph, at the end of World War

II our debt fell sharply and continued falling for several decades.

Madam Speaker, this body needs to come together now, just as we did back after World War II, to get our fiscal house in order. I know no one here wants to see this projection become reality where we will have record and unsustainable debt loads for decades and decades to come.

I urge my Democratic colleagues to end their reckless spending proposals and work with us to get our fiscal house back in order. This cannot be the legacy we leave for our children and our grandchildren.

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 23 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 Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, search our hearts and examine our minds. Reach into our inmost being and call us to account for what resides therein.

Then heal us, Lord, and we will be healed. Heal us from all that has wounded our spirits or hindered us from living into our best selves.

Save us and we will be saved. Save us from the uncertainty and unrest of these days. Save us from all that distracts us from seeing You—Your hand in our lives or Your face reflected in those around us.

We ask for a word from You. Speak that we may hear. Attend to our pleas that we may be assured of Your favor. Then may Your grace plan be fulfilled in our lives.

At the end of the day, O Lord, reward us according to our faithfulness to the tasks You have laid before us. Give us not what our deeds deserve, but may we receive what Your grace provides.

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 gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE)

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

Mr. CLINE 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 THE LIFE OF SERGEANT MAJOR DAN ALTIERI

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

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and say goodbye to my friend and my brother, Sergeant Major Dan Altieri. We served together in Iraq.

I have one minute to speak about a man who gave thousands of marines years of their life back, one minute to speak about a marine, a patriot, a brother, a legend, who loved us, unconditionally, both on the battlefield and off.

In this magic minute, I must tell you about a marine that is timeless, one who will not be forgotten by his men. He laughed with us in the good times. He mourned with us in the bad times. He was always ready to be there and say: “Hey, brother, how are you doing?” And like a father that many of us never had, he would always say: “I am proud of you.”

My minute is up, my Sergeant Major is gone, but his legend will live on.

Semper fi, Sergeant Major Altieri.

REMEMBERING PRIVATE NICOLE BURNHAM

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

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Private Nicole Burnham. Private Burnham didn't die on the battlefield. Her life was stolen by the cruelty of her fellow soldiers and the apathy of her superiors.

There are several tragedies in Nicole's story.

The first is the horrific sexual assault she endured at the hands of her fellow soldiers.

The second is the failure of our military leadership to protect her.

The third is the amount of time it took to ensure something like this never happens again.

Nicole did everything right. She reported the incident and applied for a transfer. Instead, her superiors, who are capable of deploying soldiers into a war zone overnight, let her request languish for an unconscionable 82 days. During that time, she was harassed, ostracized, and assaulted a second time.

A few months later, Nicole took her own life.

On October 2, the Third Annual Nicole Burnham Veteran Suicide 5k will take place along the Rum River in Anoka, Minnesota, the town where Nicole grew up.

We cannot forget Nicole's story, and we owe it to Nicole and her family to ensure her legacy is one that prevents injustices like she suffered from ever happening again.

THE VIPER PROGRAM SHOULD BE EXTENDED

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, the Buffalo-Niagara region faces a serious and tragic rise in gun violence, as does the entire country. It has devastated neighborhoods and torn families apart.

Crime data released this week confirms that this is a local problem and a national problem as well.

In 2020, the number of murders in our country spiked by 30 percent, a record increase.

This year, the Department of Justice created the Violence Prevention and Elimination Response Task Force, called VIPER. Its aim is getting illegal guns off our streets and stopping violent criminals.

VIPER has been remarkably successful at stemming gun violence and saving lives.

Buffalo has seen a 50 percent decrease in homicides since the program started.

Each person lost to gun violence is another human denied a lifetime of opportunity and a family left behind.

VIPER is continuing through October, but the Department of Justice needs to make this a permanent program to stop gun violence in Buffalo and throughout the Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SERGEANT MAJOR DAN ALTIERI

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

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines, Sergeant Major Dan Altieri.

Sergeant Major was the living embodiment of the Marine Corps motto "semper fi," always faithful, dedicating more than 30 years of service to the Corps.

Suffering unprecedented losses during its 2005 Iraq deployment, he led his marines in multiple combat operations, and Sergeant Major Altieri played a vital role in caring for Lima upon its return home.

As his marines and so much more of Central Ohio mourned for Lima Company in the wake of tragedy, it was left to Altieri to hold his marines together,

a task requiring both strength and compassion.

Outside the Marines, he was a family man. He was a loving husband and father. His devotion to family was reflected in the love for his wife, Kovette, two grown sons, a sister, and his mentorship of others.

Today, the hearts of so many Ohioans are with the Sergeant Major's wife and family, his Marine Corps family, the law enforcement community, and to the countless lives touched by this remarkable U.S. marine.

RECOGNIZING CLARK COUNTY'S BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

(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 to congratulate the tremendous students, staff, and teachers at Nevada's 2021 Blue Ribbon Schools.

Not one, not two, but three Clark County schools, all in Nevada's Third Congressional District, were just named National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education: Charlotte Hill Elementary, Frank Lamping Elementary, and Pinecrest Academy of Nevada Inspirada.

These schools were recognized for their exemplary work to close the achievement gap, expand educational opportunities, and excel academically.

I always say education is the key to opportunity, and I cannot wait to see where all of these incredible young Nevadans will go.

Congratulations, Clark County schools.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT MAJOR DAN ALTIERI

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

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I, too, am pleased to be here today with my colleagues to recognize the life and incredible service of Sergeant Major Dan Altieri.

Originally from the northeast Ohio community of North Canton, Sergeant Altieri served our country honorably in the United States Marine Corps for 30 years, ending his career as the regimental sergeant major for the 25th Regiment.

His more than 10 overseas deployments included tours in Grenada, Lebanon, the Gulf war, Afghanistan, and Iraq, where he was with the Columbus-based Lima Company.

When Lima Company was struck by a series of deadly attacks in 2005, surviving officers turned to Sergeant Altieri to help them deal with the unspeakable travesties that the war had brought upon them. A testament to his leadership and courage, his marines often said they would "Follow Sergeant Altieri."

Sergeant Altieri's service also extended right here at home, serving in

the Stark County Sheriff's Office in Canton for 25 years as a deputy, keeping our community safe.

Northeast Ohio mourns the loss of Sergeant Altieri, who was taken from us far too soon last week at the age of 62.

We will forever be grateful to Sergeant Altieri's service, and our community and country are certainly better off having witnessed his kindness and leadership.

REMEMBERING SCOTT LAY

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

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember Scott Lay, a higher education advocate and beloved member of California's public policymaking community.

I came to know Scott when he was a young staffer at the Community College League of California. A product of Orange Coast College himself, Scott exemplified the opportunity that a community college education avails to millions of Americans. He would himself rise to lead the Community College League as its CEO after finishing law school at UC Davis.

He loved politics and technology and was a progenitor of highly read newsletters such as *The Roundup* and *The Nooner* at the beginning of the online publishing boom.

Scott's death is untimely and heartbreaking. He had an infectious enthusiasm. I know he would be proud of President Biden's Build Back Better community college initiative. I know he would want to be here to make it happen.

I am very sorry for his loss, and I express my condolences to his family and loved ones.

THE \$3.5 TRILLION TROJAN HORSE

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

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, Democrats are here today proposing an elaborate spending scheme that will cost \$3.5 trillion.

President Biden claimed this week it would cost zero dollars.

Well, what is the truth? Let's find out what is in this Trojan horse of a spending bill:

The largest tax increase in American history.

A business tax that is going to be higher than Communist China, which is our number one adversary, putting us at a competitive disadvantage and causing jobs to go overseas.

The highest inflation in four decades. Already, families are being hit with high costs at the gas pump and at the grocery store. It is only going to get worse with this bill.

\$630 billion for the Green New Deal. This includes a \$7.5 billion to create a