

have fled their persecutors, and those who remain defiantly in place to preserve their land, the political leaders and the warriors who battle on all fronts. Protect each of them according to Your unfailing love.

Then may the foes who pursue them know that it is Your hand that has preserved Ukraine. May those who curse Ukraine be made mute by Your just word. May those who attack be put to shame by Your righteousness. And may those who continue to serve You faithfully in this, their time of trial, find reason to rejoice in You.

For You, O Lord, stand at the right hand of the oppressed, to save them from their distress.

And so it is with hope in Your salvation and in the strength of Your name we pray.

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 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TLAIB 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.

MARKING TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark Transgender Awareness Week.

In recent years, we have seen increased transgender visibility, whether on our TV screens with Angelica Ross on "Pose" and "American Horror Story" and Amy Schneider's success on "Jeopardy!" or in the Federal Government with the confirmation of Admiral Levine, the Assistant Secretary for Health.

Transgender people want and deserve the same thing we all want: to be treated with respect and to be equal members in our communities under our laws.

To the transgender community, I am standing here on the floor of the House

of Representatives today to tell you that you are valued, you are loved, and your stories matter. Your identities should not just be affirmed but celebrated.

As chair of the Congressional LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus, I will never stop fighting for your ability to reach your full potential without fear of discrimination, violence, or stigmatization. You deserve full equality, nothing less.

RECOGNIZING TARRANT COUNTY UNITED WAY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United Way of Tarrant County's 100th anniversary.

United Way has supported the community in many ways and has enriched the lives of the people in the area. They have helped residents, volunteers, donors, businesses, governments, nonprofits, and community stakeholders and brought them together to solve some of the toughest issues affecting Tarrant County.

I join in proclaiming November 17, 2022, as Get United Day, and I am proud of their work to encourage unity among all residents and commitment to building a stronger community.

I congratulate the United Way of Tarrant County for this significant milestone. I am confident they will continue their exceptional service to the community for the next 100 years.

In God we trust.

HONORING THE LIFE OF TYRONE WINFREY

(Ms. TLAIB asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Tyrone Winfrey, a beloved resident of Michigan's 13th District, a tireless advocate for students, and a fighter for higher education opportunities and so much more.

Tyrone served as the executive director of community affairs for Detroit Public Schools Community District and was our former school board president. He worked tirelessly to advocate for our youth and to ensure that every student had access to quality education.

Tyrone served our community over 35 years at the school district, and during this time, he inspired, supported, and uplifted so many of our students and families.

Unfortunately, Mr. Winfrey lost his 5-year battle with cancer this month, but I am proud to stand here in honor of his life and his love for our community.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family and our school community, as

well as all those impacted by Tyrone Winfrey.

BIDENFLATION IS A CRISIS

(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, Americans are experiencing inflation at 40-year highs, with families in South Carolina paying over 14 percent more in the last year.

Under Biden, inflation has outpaced worker wages for 18 months in a row and will cost the average American household over \$8,000 annually, which is a loss of a month of income.

A trip to the grocery store costs families 12 percent more from last year. Eggs are up 43 percent, flour up 25 percent, milk up 15 percent.

The Congressional Budget Office reports the irresponsible inflation expansion act will increase the deficit through 2026 and cost working families an additional \$60 billion, destroying jobs.

Our country is in crisis, and Americans need relief, which is why voters have achieved a House Republican majority. Republicans will fight Bidenflation undermining American families.

Congratulations, Speaker-to-be KEVIN MCCARTHY.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

SUPPORTING THE VIPER ACT

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the VA Infrastructure Powers Exceptional Research Act, called the VIPER Act, that the House will consider today.

In Buffalo in 1958, Dr. William Chardack and engineer Wilson Greatbatch teamed up to develop the first implantable pacemaker at our Buffalo VA hospital. Today, more than 3 million people around the world have implanted pacemakers, and the VA Pacemaker Program still monitors more than 11,000 veterans with pacemakers.

The VIPER Act will build on this record, bringing us another step toward the next generation of life-saving treatments.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in supporting this legislation. It is an investment in a stronger future for veterans and our healthcare system overall.

CONGRATULATING CLARION KIWANIS CLUB ON ITS 100TH AN- NIVERSARY

(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 congratulate the Kiwanis Club of Clarion, Pennsylvania, on their 100th anniversary.

Since the club's founding on December 16, 1922, the members of the Kiwanis Club have been a crucial part of the community in Clarion.

The Kiwanis Club is an international organization of volunteers that strives to serve the needs of children. The Kiwanis Club has over 550,000 members internationally and seeks to help children by fighting hunger, improving literacy rates, and improving children's health and educational outcomes.

Across the world, Kiwanis Club members have taken part in over 150,000 service projects to benefit communities and to help make them better places to live.

Today, the Clarion Kiwanis continue to carry out the club's mission of giving back to the community by hosting regular fundraisers to benefit children and providing an annual scholarship for students in Clarion County.

Please join me in congratulating the Clarion Kiwanis Club on 100 years of service and thanking them for their many years of giving back to Clarion County.

MARKING THE 1984 ANTI-SIKH MASSACRE

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

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in solidarity with the south Jersey Sikh community. This month marks 38 years since anti-Sikh rioters in India massacred Sikhs over 3 days.

The massacre was retaliation for the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. There were mass rapes and lynchings. Sikhs' homes and their businesses were destroyed, senselessly slaughtered for nothing more than their beliefs and their religion.

Following the slaughter, some of the Sikhs chose to flee India. Today, many of them call south Jersey home. They built lives for themselves, contributing to the education, economic, religious, and cultural richness of our region.

They also carry the knowledge of those dark days. They keep the names and the memories of those who were lost in those days very much alive.

In memory of those Sikhs lost to this senseless violence between November 1 and 3 of 1984, and with respect to those who carry on their legacy in south Jersey today, I stand here in solidarity with my Sikh brothers and sisters.

HANDS OFF WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE DECISIONS

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

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, the midterm elections delivered a strong message to the GOP: Politicians should keep their hands off women's reproductive decisions.

Voters in California, Michigan, and Vermont enshrined abortion access into their State constitutions, and Kentucky voters rejected a ballot measure threatening abortion protections.

Postelection polls show a majority of voters want to see Congress protect abortion rights. But regardless of how unpopular their views, Republicans in Congress doubled down on their attacks on women's bodies.

We know it is going to be an uphill battle to codify Roe, and House Republicans made it clear they won't stop with banning abortion. Last July, 193 House Republicans voted against my bill to protect the right to birth control, a measure 95 percent of voters agree with.

The right to abortion and to birth control are critical issues for the American people. So, I ask my colleagues across the aisle: Why aren't they critical to you?

PUTTING PEOPLE OVER POLITICS

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to highlight some of the historic results my colleagues and I have been able to deliver to the American people over the last 2 years. By putting aside political agendas and working for the betterment of our communities, we have made real change.

In the 117th Congress, House Democrats fought to pass landmark packages to address the disenfranchisement inherently embedded in our country.

We helped ensure more of our people can thrive by passing the American Rescue Plan, the bipartisan infrastructure law, the CHIPS and Science Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act.

Still, there is more work to be done. My colleagues and I remain committed to putting money back in the pockets of American workers and families by addressing inflation, lowering healthcare costs, and bolstering domestic manufacturing to create new, good-paying jobs—not scaring people, supporting them.

DEFENDING AMERICA'S BORDERS

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

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, we have watched tens of bil-

lions of dollars be sent to defend another nation's border that is not our own.

Every single day, our border is invaded by people from foreign lands and also by drugs. Over 300 people are dying every single day. Americans are dying every single day from fentanyl poisoning.

Yet, the Biden administration and this Congress have not done anything to protect our Nation's border and the American people.

Just to remind everyone, the building that we are standing in, the Federal Government and everyone's paychecks here are paid by the American taxpayers. The American taxpayers and the American people deserve to have a secure border and deserve the protection of the Federal Government from the Mexican cartels that funnel drugs into America to kill Americans.

I am calling for an audit of every single penny that has been sent to Ukraine, including aid money and any other moneys that have been given to the Ukrainian Government to defend their national security while our national security has been ignored.

This must be done. It has to be done as soon as possible for the American people. They deserve transparency, and they deserve to see where their money is going.

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SUPPORTING OUR SELFLESS VETERANS

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

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Strengthening VA Cybersecurity Act, legislation I introduced to support and protect our selfless veterans.

The VA is the largest integrated healthcare network in the United States, and it stores millions of records with personal information for veterans and their families.

This legislation will require the VA to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of its most critical information systems and develop a timeline and budget to fix any identified weaknesses and deficiencies.

We must continue to work to ensure that the VA has the tools it needs to effectively protect against new and emerging cybersecurity threats and safeguard our veterans' information.

I look forward to continuing to collaborate with all of my colleagues to move this commonsense and bipartisan legislation forward.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives: