

mothers, and equitable access for women of color who continue to face disproportionately high maternal mortality rates, or the right to make our own decisions with our own bodies.

Today marks the first International Women's Day since the Supreme Court obliterated our rights less than a year ago in overturning 50 years of Roe; 50 years of a woman's right to choose.

In States across this country, the right to an abortion is under attack even in cases of rape, incest, and the health of a mother.

In this House there are extreme proposals to set us all backwards with a national ban on abortion. We will not go back, and we will not be intimidated.

I am proud to be from the Battle Born State, home of a majority woman Federal delegation in Congress, home of a majority woman State Supreme Court, and home of the first woman majority State legislature.

That is worth celebrating today. That is the model for this House by, for, and of the people. This is what I hope will inspire the next generation of girls to run, win, and lead our country forward.

SOCIAL SECURITY IS NOT AN UNEARNED HANDOUT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOYLE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Madam Speaker, in my district, the average per capita income is \$32,000 a year. That is six counties from Lincoln County, down the coast of Oregon, to Curry County and the California border.

Over 160,000 seniors in my district rely on Social Security for retirement.

My colleagues across the aisle are approaching Social Security as if it is an unearned handout, and that is beyond offensive. This is not what it was meant to do. This is not what it was meant to be. People have paid into this system for their whole lives. They should be able to get their contributions back. That is the promise of our Social Security program.

Right now, we only tax income up to \$160,000 a year to fund Social Security. Millionaires and billionaires who get their income from investments instead of earning a paycheck through hard work are not paying their fair share into Social Security at all, and we must change that system.

By finally requiring that the wealthiest Americans pay into Social Security at the same rate as hardworking nurses and firefighters across this country, we can expand benefits and not cut them.

My bill, the Social Security Expansion Act, which I introduced with Representative JAN SCHAKOWSKY and Senator BERNIE SANDERS, would allow us to increase the Social Security benefits for everyone by \$200 a month and help account for the inflation that has impacted many seniors in my district and across this country.

This bill would also extend the solvency of this critical program for the next 75 years.

I am not in Congress to protect billionaires. I am here to make sure those people who have paid into this system for their whole lives, who have worked so hard, including our fishermen, electricians, and schoolteachers can retire with dignity. We can welcome a new generation of the workforce as they retire.

It is our responsibility to make sure that Social Security can be successful into the future, and I am proud to have a bill that helps protect that.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate International Women's Day and to recognize that there are many faiths in this Nation, but in some of our faith the Book of Proverbs talks about the virtuous woman. I would like to emphasize that theme in its broadness.

The virtuousness of women across the land and around the world is to be able to acknowledge the very unique and specific duties and responsibilities and vulnerabilities that women have and to celebrate them in every aspect of life.

Today, in America, women get up and go to work in blue-collar labor jobs for low hourly wages—from waitresses to bus drivers to working in the building trades to being in jobs that barely make ends meet—tough jobs—but giving them a better way of life. They have never refused their assignment. They are the caretakers. They are the loving moms. The little ones grab their legs and look to them for hope and survival.

I pay tribute to those women, the everyday women, ordinary women doing extraordinary things. Thank you to America's women.

Then I take to this podium to honor those women in conflict, the women protecting their children in Ukraine, fighting in the battles in uniform in the Ukrainian military.

I honor those women who fell in battle. I honor those women who fell under the vicious bombing and brutality of Russia's desperate Vladimir Putin in this horrible war with Ukraine.

I honor the women in Sudan. I honor the women from Pakistan to India. I honor the women in Syria and Turkiye in the midst of this horrible earthquake. I honor impoverished women, women who are barely surviving on the continent of Africa and South and Central America. I honor the migrant women who are struggling to give their family a better life.

It is important that I recognize and honor the civil rights fighters. This weekend, we spent time honoring

Bloody Sunday that our late colleague John Lewis reminded us of, the moment of fighting for voting rights. We know that Sister Boynton, Coretta Scott King, so many women—Viola Liuzzo—fought in the civil rights movement nonviolently and are no longer here with us by loss of life from natural causes but others who were simply murdered because they believed in civil rights.

I am here to honor those in my own community. It is important to take note of Willie Bell Boone, Beulah Shepard, Etta Crockett, who is fighting for her life, but has been an enormous strength in our community, believing in not only civil rights but the process of voting and empowerment.

I honor my grandmother Olive Jackson; my grandmother Vannie Bennett; my big grandmother Mrs. Sims. I honor—called big mother, of course—my mother, Ivalita Jackson; my Aunt Valrie Bennett, and my other close aunts, Sybil Gooden and Sarah Jackson.

These women molded me and indicated that in spite of the segregated life you lived in, that all things are possible.

□ 1030

It is important today, as we honor the international women suffering, fighting still for their freedom and their dignity, that we honor those who have fallen by way of age or disaster.

We honor those in my own community in Houston. I honor my former women mayors, Kathy Whitmire and Annise Parker, in Houston, Texas, and recognize that women are still striving.

On this day, I make a pronouncement that I want to take a hammer to the scourge of domestic violence with brutality and guns against women. I want to stop the scourge of human trafficking, where young girls and women are the largest victims.

When we come to this podium to talk about International Women's Day, we must come with action and maybe even an iron fist that is, in fact, strong and nonviolent but with a commitment that we will stand for things that will draw us to make life better for these women who are there every single day.

I want to make sure that I pay tribute to those who molded me outside of my home. Thank you to the teachers of America, some going unapplauded, some going unappreciated, some going uncompensated. Thank you to America's teachers. I could not be where I was or am today without public school education. Who was in it? It was our teachers.

Madam Speaker, I say to you: International Women's Day is a day of honor and a day of action.

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 32 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 (Mrs. CAMMACK) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from You no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, that we may approach You today without guile or self-righteousness.

Accept the desires of our hearts, desires for peace in our world, especially in Ukraine, Taiwan, and Myanmar. Grant us wisdom to know how You are calling us to respond to the severity of the humanitarian needs, the atrocity of offenses upon the innocent, the infringement on territorial and ideological integrity.

On this International Women's Day, make us keenly aware of the mothers, daughters, and small girls whose lives are in imminent danger at the hands of the enemy. Hear their voices and amplify them, that we would respond to their cries for freedom and safety.

The eyes of the Lord are in every place, observing the wicked and the good. Let not then the secrets of evildoers be hidden from Your watchful eye. But to You may each give account for their iniquity.

We stand before You today with hope for Your mercy and the promise of Your salvation.

In Your sovereign 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 the approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. VALADAO 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 now entertain up to 15 re-

quests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

EVENTUALLY THE RAIN WILL STOP

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

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, this week, California is preparing for more atmospheric rivers that are bringing much-needed rain to our State.

This is welcome news to the Central Valley farmers who have suffered through the last 3 years of exceptional drought.

While I am grateful for this rain, and I know my fellow farmers are, as well, we have all seen this situation before. Eventually this rain will stop.

That is why it is critical to capture and store as much of this rain as physically possible so we don't put ourselves in this type of situation with another man-made water shortage again.

Extreme environmentalists and Sacramento bureaucrats have grossly mismanaged our water with complex and contradictory laws and regulations that control how much we are able to pump and what storage projects we are able to move forward with.

While I am grateful for the Governor for his temporary relief that he pushed for a few weeks back, we cannot let this water go to waste. We must maximize what can be moved at all times through the delta and invest in water storage infrastructure and conveyance projects so we can capture and store this critical resource. Thousands of livelihoods and the future of agriculture production in California and countless Americans we feed depend on it.

WELCOMING THE TOWING AND RECOVERY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to welcome the Towing and Recovery Association of America to Washington and thank them for their work.

Tow truck operators from nearly 20 States are attending to advocate on behalf of road safety. I have championed these issues for my entire career in Congress, but through the advocacy of TRAA, I have learned that tow truck operators and all our first responders face harrowing conditions during roadside emergency response. Even one roadside fatality is too many.

That is why I proudly introduced a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "move over" laws to raise awareness of the need to move over and slow down while passing roadside responders.

Last year, the House adopted this resolution, and the Transportation and

Infrastructure Committee just voted to advance it again this year. This is not a partisan issue.

Madam Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to send a message by joining me in support of this resolution. Together we can save lives.

ACKNOWLEDGING WOMEN IN SMALL BUSINESS

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

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today for International Women's Day to acknowledge women in small business from New York's Third Congressional District.

Pam Ocasio from Pam's Jamz—with a z—is a mom with a talent for curating unique homemade jams and marmalades from local ingredients. She is always at the local farmers market in Oyster Bay with a smiling face and a can-do attitude.

Another wonder woman, Angela Carillo, is a mother of two from Bethpage with an associate's degree in medical technology and a bachelor's degree in biology. She put her chemistry skills to the test in her basement studio in 2010 curating beautiful and fabulously scented home soaps. I have seen her work at local craft fairs around the district, and I must say, she certainly gives any major manufacturer a run for their money.

Joey Bowen is a mother of two who built her business as a single mom. Joey lives in Bethpage and hand makes stylish clear handbags. She started in her living room and expanded to an international operation. She now has storefronts around Nassau County and supports the local economy and the workforce.

Cheers to all these women out there and for their extraordinary accomplishments.

IN MEMORY OF JASON ARNO

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, last week the Buffalo Fire Department lost a brother, and western New York lost a hero in the line of duty during a four-alarm fire on Main Street in the city of Buffalo.

Jason Arno was a 3-year member of the Buffalo Fire Department serving at Engine 2, one of the busiest companies in the city.

A son, a brother, a husband, a father, and a friend, Jason was committed to putting his life on the line each day for the community that he loved.

As our city mourns this tragic loss, we are once again reminded of the bravery and the sacrifice it takes as a first responder.

While Jason is laid to rest this Friday, our hearts are heavy. Our thoughts are with the Arno family, the