

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

western New York community, and his brothers and sisters of Buffalo Professional Firefighters Local 282.

The city of good neighbors and a grateful nation are forever indebted to firefighter Jason Arno for his selfless sacrifice.

UKRAINE FREEDOM CRUCIAL

(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, last week, The Washington Times featured a thoughtful open letter from Clifford D. May, president of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, to President Biden. He wrote: "Dear Mr. President, first, kudos to you for going to Kyiv."

"For the past year, you've been providing the Ukrainians enough weapons to prevent them from losing but not enough . . . to drive out the [Putin] invaders. Why not ask such military experts as retired General Jack Keane what's necessary to get the job done as fast as possible?"

"The moral argument for supporting Ukraine is obvious to most people but you still haven't made clear why its defense is a vital American national interest. . . . The rulers of neoimperialist Russia, Communist China, and Islamic Iran share a goal: the diminishment—if not death—of the United States."

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.

Congratulations, Ambassador Georgi Panayotov, for the Library of Congress National Bulgaria Day reception.

HARRIET TUBMAN DAY

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, the contributions of women run deep throughout the history of America and the fabric of our entire Nation.

One such woman was Harriet Tubman, who escaped slavery and dedicated her life's mission to ensuring freedom for others.

Building a network of abolitionists, Harriet Tubman organized safe houses throughout the Underground Railroad, including in my district, while making rescues and freeing others who were previously enslaved.

As she put it, there are one of two things that she had a right to—liberty or death.

Madam Speaker, on International Women's Day and 2 days before Harriet Tubman Day, we remember her. When we look at young girls in Afghanistan and we look at young girls in other parts of the world like Iran seeking to have education, we remember Harriet Tubman. When we fight for equal pay for equal work, we remember Harriet

Tubman. When we fight and advocate for a woman's right to choose, we remember Harriet Tubman. When we help those mothers that try to seek asylum at the border with their children, Madam Speaker, we remember Harriet Tubman.

Let's remember Harriet Tubman today as we celebrate International Women's Day.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF LEWIS BEAR

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

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to rise and celebrate the life of one of the greatest Florida men to have ever lived: Lewis Bear.

Lewis was a legend for all times. He was a prolific businessman and an even more prolific philanthropist. Lewis was CEO of Florida's oldest privately held company, the Lewis Bear Company. It was started by his grandfather in 1876. Lewis grew this small family grocery distribution business to one of Florida's largest beer distributors. If you have cracked open a beer in my district, there is a pretty good chance that Lewis moved it.

Lewis' generosity did not stop with libations. Through the Lewis Bear Family Foundation, he donated tens of millions of dollars to local organizations and charities, including hospitals and nonprofits focused on curing childhood cancer. He single-handedly protected the Deepwater Horizon oil spill settlement funds for northwest Florida and saw that the money was used for lasting economic development.

I know that Lewis will be sorely missed by our family and by his family, especially by his wife, Belle, and their three children: Lewis, Cindi, and David.

Northwest Florida will never be the same without Lewis Bear. We are certainly grateful that we had my friend for 82 years.

CONGRESS MUST ADDRESS STUDENT DEBT

(Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today as an educator who spent 10 years as a college instructor and administrator to support the President's student debt relief plan, which is now currently under threat by the Supreme Court.

When I was in the classroom, I saw my students taking out loans to pay for basic needs like rent or food. We tell young people to get an education, to go to college, to work toward your chance at the American Dream, but for so many, that means taking out tens of thousands of dollars in student loans.

Student loan debt also disproportionately impacts low-income students, and millions of students may not have access to financial training or advice.

To this day, I am also paying off my student loans, and I have former students who continue to struggle with student debt years after they have graduated.

Yes, we need to do more to address college affordability and access, but we must address student debt.

If the Supreme Court takes the dangerous, irresponsible step of ending relief to student borrowers, then Congress has a duty to codify the President's debt relief plan and protect these 40 million Americans.

GET OUR FISCAL HOUSE IN ORDER

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

Mr. FULCHER. Madam Speaker, not long ago, America was the largest energy producer in the world. Gas was affordable, and groceries weren't worth an entire paycheck. These are not far-away memories from our country's bygone golden era—this was the reality for Americans just a few years ago.

Government spending has increased over \$9 trillion since President Biden has taken office. This predictably resulted in the highest inflation in four decades. American families have had to bear the brunt of this crisis, yet my colleagues on the other side of the aisle still seem to have no plan to tackle inflation outside of spending more taxpayer money.

House Republicans have been clear about our mission in 2023: set our fiscal house in order so that we can lower the cost of living for Americans. We can find solutions to our debt crisis by working on new budgetary framework focused on fiscal restraint.

Republicans' commitment to America offers tangible solutions to set us on that path—from strengthening our supply chains to enacting progrowth policies.

DELIVERING FOR RHODE ISLAND'S COMMERCIAL FISHING INDUSTRY

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Madam Speaker, last month, I had the opportunity to visit the Port of Galilee in Narragansett, Rhode Island, one of the most productive commercial fishing ports in the entire Northeast. Galilee is home to more than 270 commercial fishing boats, supporting 3,500 jobs and landing more than 16 million pounds of seafood per year.

As a member of the Natural Resources Committee, I am committed to fighting for resources for America's ports and to supporting the commercial fishing industry, which is vital to how we feed our Nation and support our economy.

I am also introducing a bill to secure a voice for the Rhode Island fishing industry in the Mid-Atlantic Fishery