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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 27, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN McCARTHY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF WENDY SALBERG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of one of my district staff members, Wendy Salberg, as she marks 10 years serving in my office and 15 years serving the people of Illinois.

Wendy began her work as a congressional staffer in the office of Republican Congresswoman Judy Biggert, who for many years represented the old 13th District of Illinois.

In 2012, after I was fortunate to win the election to represent the newly created 11th Congressional District, which incorporated many of the areas of the old 13th District, it soon became clear that we needed to keep Wendy Salberg on the job.

Wendy has dedicated herself to serving constituents, no matter what their background, helping them navigate the world of the Federal agencies. Wendy quickly earned a reputation throughout the Illinois congressional delegation as being one of the best advocates for people with immigration and international travel issues, from simple passport applications to complicated citizenship cases.

I was fortunate that Wendy agreed to stay on and manage immigration casework for my office, and countless constituents who have worked with her over the past 10 years would undoubtedly agree. I cannot tell you how many people have reached out to me over the years or come to me at events I have attended to tell me how grateful they were for the work that Wendy put into their cases.

Beyond her day-to-day work, Wendy's value to our office cannot be understated. No matter what she is doing, she will drop everything to help her coworkers with whatever they need, whether it be advice, a good laugh, or just an ear to listen. Day in and day out, she is a warm, welcoming presence who truly embodies our mission to serve the people of Illinois and to serve those around her.

I could not be prouder to have her on my staff, and her former boss, Representative Judy Biggert, agrees. In joining me in celebrating Wendy's service to the people of Illinois, she wrote, "Helping constituents navigate their way through layers of government bureaucracy is seldom easy, but no bureaucratic barrier was ever a serious match for Wendy's tenacity and inventiveness. When she is on your case, it is

like a dog with a bone—dedicated, persistent, and completely involved. If there is a way to solve your problem, Wendy will find it."

All of us who know her know that these words could not be more true.

It is my distinct honor to recognize the service of Wendy Salberg on behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional District and the old 13th District of Illinois.

SAVING LIVES WITH CPR AND AUTOMATIC DEFIBRILLATORS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is estimated that more than 100,000 additional lives could be saved each year if CPR was initiated on time. We saw firsthand that CPR saved the life of Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin, who was resuscitated after collapsing during a game in Cincinnati this year on January 2.

Sadly, more than 7,000 young people are stricken by sudden cardiac arrest like the one that was suffered by Damar Hamlin, and it is currently the leading cause of death for student athletes. That is why it is so critical that teachers, coaches, and all trainers become proficient on how to perform CPR and how to use automatic defibrillators.

By completing CPR training and by placing automatic defibrillators within reach at athletic venues, we can help to restart hearts, save lives, and protect our student athletes.

RESTORING OUR NATION TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, as Americans look to return to energy dominance, it has become clear that we urgently need a change in

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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our energy policy by reforming the permitting process, by boosting the production of critical minerals, and by reversing President Biden's antienergy policies that have made our country less secure.

It is time to pass H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act, and increase domestic energy production to restore our Nation to the energy independence that we enjoyed before President Biden took office.

H.R. 1 will stop Biden's \$6 billion natural gas tax. It will require the Department of the Interior to resume lease sales on Federal lands. H.R. 1 will enhance our ability to develop critical energy resources.

Unfortunately, Pennsylvania families are hurting because of the restrictive energy policies enacted by far-left liberals under the guise of green energy. Now is the time to embrace the critical resources like oil, natural gas, and Marcellus shale that are underneath the feet of my constituents in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District. It is time to pass H.R. 1 and get back to working for the American people.

HONORING GWEN DOWDY-RODGERS, VANESSA PEREZ, AND PAULA GRANADO FLORES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AGUILAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three phenomenal women in my district for Women's History Month. These women were nominated by their peers and local elected officials for their incredible dedication to supporting the Inland Empire.

The first woman I recognize is Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers. Dr. Dowdy-Rodgers is the first Black woman to serve on the San Bernardino County Board of Education. She was born and raised in San Bernardino, and first became involved in the school system as a parent advocate.

She is a fierce advocate for mental health in schools, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic. She believes that mental health issues need to be a priority in schools so students can stay happy and healthy in their learning environment.

Besides serving with distinction on the Board of Education, she serves as the president of the Arrowhead United Way board of directors, co-chair of the San Bernardino County Gangs and Drugs Task Force, and a member of the San Bernardino City Police Department African American Advisory Committee.

My community is lucky to have Dr. Dowdy-Rodgers, a committed public servant dedicated to helping our students and hearing the concerns of parents.

The second woman I recognize is Ms. Vanessa Perez. Vanessa is executive director of the Time for Change Foundation. She is an active volunteer in our

community through her work and her involvement in her church, The Way World Outreach.

Through her work at Time for Change, Vanessa is living out a passion of empowering women to use their voice to create change. In 2014, she completed the Women's Foundation of California's Solis Policy Institute, which provided her with the skills necessary to navigate the California legislative process and influence decision-makers to create policies that improved the quality of life of San Bernardino residents and all Californians.

Madam Speaker, the third woman I recognize is Ms. Paula Granado Flores. She is a long-term volunteer and co-chair of ACS Colton Relay for Life and a frequent volunteer in several local churches, Seeds For Hope, and the American Legion. Ms. Flores has dedicated her free time for decades to help the residents of San Bernardino County.

These women are changing my community for the better every day, and I am proud to be their Representative here in Congress. They have made a lasting impact in our region and deserve to be recognized for the extraordinary work that they have done to further our community.

As we round out Women's History Month, I thank them for their service to our region, to the Inland Empire, and to the State of California.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO LOWELL DIBBLE AND MAX WILSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two World War II veterans who recently celebrated their 100th and 101st birthdays.

Lowell Dibble of Iowa City, Iowa, celebrated his 101st birthday on St. Patrick's Day. Mr. Dibble served as a radio operator for the Merchant Marines during the Second World War, using Morse code and other communications to receive and record time signals, weather reports, and other information important to the smooth operation of their vessels.

Mr. Dibble starts each day with a workout and still talks to his friends in Morse code every night. He attributes his longevity to his positive attitude, his faith, and keeping busy. We can all learn a valuable lesson from Mr. Dibble, who should be an inspiration for people of all ages who struggle to find motivation in their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I also recognize Max Wilson from Maquoketa, Iowa, who celebrated his 100th birthday last month.

Mr. Wilson was drafted in 1941 and served as a bombardier during the Second World War, flying 43 missions in a B-17 in five different countries. As bombardier, he was responsible for

landing more than 240,000 tons of bombs on target during critical missions throughout the war.

Mr. Wilson is a humble man who doesn't see himself as a hero, though he certainly is deserving of recognition. On his birthday, he received a special gift from the University of Dubuque's Jet Center—a private flight around Dubuque and down to his hometown of Maquoketa.

Mr. Dibble and Mr. Wilson are two heroes from the Greatest Generation, and I am honored to recognize them both on the House floor. I hope each enjoyed a wonderful and memorable birthday.

CHINA IS OUR GREATEST FOREIGN THREAT

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss China's growing role in international relations and its impact on American national security.

In just the last few weeks, China has brokered a peace deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia and re-established diplomatic relations with Honduras following its break with Taiwan. Both negotiations are worrisome as Iran continues to target and kill Americans in Syria and China edges closer to invading Taiwan. Also, the Chinese Communist Party is fully supporting Russia in its unprecedented and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

China's growing influence across Latin America is concerning, particularly as these relationships continue to appear lopsided. Nations are receiving investments from the Chinese, but in return are left dependent on the Chinese Communist Party.

The Middle East is especially concerning, though. For decades, the United States has brokered peace negotiations in the region or, at the very least, been in the room as these deals have been agreed upon.

Between Iran and Saudi Arabia, however, the United States was left out. The implications of this decision are profound, particularly as Iran continues to sponsor terrorist attacks as it is unclear what peace was agreed to and our response was weak.

Our Nation has watched as the Chinese Communist Party has grown in power and influence, and has fallen victim to its espionage efforts whether through TikTok, Confucius Institutes, or even spy balloons.

The Chinese Communist Party's goals are clear: Infiltrate and undermine American economic and national security. As the CCP's influence continues to grow, its threat to our national security does too. We must actively seek ways to decouple our economy, end our dependence on Chinese supply chains, and bolster our national security.

China is our greatest foreign threat and it is time we begin to act accordingly.

I wish a happy birthday to Joseph and Matthew Martino of Connecticut, who are my nephews. Happy 16th birthday, Joseph and Matthew.