

This is something that we are going to see celebrated all over the world. It is a beautiful end-of-month celebration to reflect and to find peace and connection with a higher God.

I thank all my Muslim neighbors who are celebrating Ramadan for allowing me to be here and be a voice for them in Congress.

SUPPORTING TRANSGENDERISM

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

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, Congress is going to vote on a bill that would ban some transgender kids from participating in sports. To be honest, I haven't thought about this issue very much. I don't actually know any transgender students.

I think many of you may not have thought of this issue either. You have busy lives.

If you still have an open mind on this, I would like to read to you part of a letter that the Republican Governor of Utah wrote. This letter is the veto message of Governor Spencer Cox of Utah where he vetoed a similar State bill regarding transgender kids.

He writes: "I must admit I am not an expert on transgenderism. I struggle to understand so much of it, and the science is conflicting. When in doubt, however, I always try to err on the side of kindness, mercy and compassion."

It goes on to say: "Here are the numbers that have most impacted my decision: 75,000, 4, 1, 86, and 56."

What does he mean by those numbers? Well, this is what he writes:

"75,000 high school kids participating in high school sports in Utah.

"Four transgender kids playing high school sports in Utah.

"One transgender student playing girls' sports.

"86 percent of trans youth reporting suicidality.

"56 percent of trans youth having attempted suicide."

He goes on to write: "Four kids and only one of them playing girls' sports. That's what all of this is about. Four kids who aren't dominating or winning trophies or taking scholarships. Four kids who are just trying to find some friends and feel like they are a part of something. Four kids trying to get through each day. Rarely has so much fear and anger been directed at so few. I don't understand what they are going through or why they feel the way they do. But I want them to live. And all the research shows that even a little acceptance and connection can reduce suicidality significantly."

Like the Republican Governor of Utah, I also am not an expert on transgenderism, but I do know this: We are all Americans, and these are kids. Most of them wake up every morning living in fear that they are going to have a bad day, that they are going to be shunned, made fun of, discriminated against and bullied.

Mr. Speaker, we are the United States House of Representatives. We should not be bullying kids.

IN SOLEMN REMEMBRANCE OF THE 108TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn remembrance of the Armenian genocide. April 24 marks the 108th anniversary of the Armenian genocide, one of the most horrific losses of life in modern history.

The Ottoman Empire's brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing led to the deaths of roughly 1.5 million Armenians in the period between 1915 to 1923.

Despite this tragedy, the Armenian-American community today is strong and vibrant. Remembering the atrocities like the Armenian genocide is crucial to ensuring that this never happens again. A key part of this process is education.

I am proud to co-lead this year's Armenian Genocide Education Act with Representatives ANNA ESHOO, GUS BILIRAKIS, and DAVID VALADAO, which we will introduce on April 24.

This legislation will authorize \$10 million in funding to the Library of Congress over 5 years to develop Armenian genocide education programs and resources which can be used by educators across the country. Those resources will ensure that future generations learn about and never forget about these atrocities.

Mr. Speaker, I stand with the Armenian-American community in my district and across the U.S. as they honor and remember those who perished during the genocide.

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 11 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

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

O Lord, receive this day our prayers of concern for our world and help us bear wisely our responsibility to intercede on behalf of the afflicted, rescue the downtrodden, and pursue avenues of peace in areas of war and turmoil.

Where, O Lord, do we start? There are so many under the threat of tyrants and tormentors around the world, to include the countless Ukrainians for whom we haven't ceased praying. They are on their knees daily before You, the Almighty, appealing to You and to

allies and friends like us to stand with them in their suffering. Where in the world do we best serve You?

Holy God, how should we intervene in the discord among nations and in conflict within countries? By what right do we step in in order to affect the peace you have obliged us to pursue, when our own country is fragmented, fractured by so many competing views? What do we need to do to unify ourselves around our sacred values of freedom and justice, life, and liberty?

Indeed, O Lord, our prayers are heavy laden with the complexity and responsibility of each of these burdens. We pray that the kind of rest You promise us would allow time for discernment, clarity of purpose, and faithfulness to the tasks You have entrusted to us this day.

We offer ourselves to Your guidance in all these things as we pray in Your sovereign name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. MAGAZINER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MAGAZINER 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

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

\$113 BILLION SPENT SUPPORTING THE WAR IN UKRAINE

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. was thrust by Biden and the Democratic Party into the Ukrainian conflict. We have spent over \$113 billion to support Ukraine in its war against Russia.

Democrat legislation passed in the 117th Congress exempted Biden from complying with numerous requirements of the Arms Export Control Act and the Foreign Assistance Act for leases to Ukraine, a country that former President Obama didn't think twice about not lifting a finger to assist in 2014.

These exemptions have led to rampant spending with little to no accountability. The American people deserve

transparency and assurance that their hard-earned dollars are not simply being given away, which is why I have introduced the Ukraine Lend-Lease Accountability Act this morning.

This legislation would ensure that the terms of Federal foreign military aid leasing would be followed by the President. It is unacceptable to throw money to a country with no terms for repayment, especially when we are talking about over \$100 billion at a time when we are having to cut our own budget.

If I have to choose between a foreign war and our seniors who are struggling, I choose our seniors. If we have to choose between our children and their future, I choose our children.

Mr. Speaker, I choose America first.

HONORING STATE SENATOR MARYELLEN GOODWIN

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember State Senator Maryellen Goodwin, a dear friend and public servant, who tragically passed away this week following a long battle with cancer.

For almost 40 years in the State senate, Maryellen championed the needs of working Rhode Islanders. She was the lead sponsor of successful legislation to guarantee paid sick leave for workers across our State. She spoke up for survivors of domestic violence. She worked to expand quality childcare and home care.

A devout Catholic, Senator Goodwin delivered a brave and heartfelt speech on the floor of the State senate explaining her ability to reconcile her faith with her support of marriage equality.

Senator Goodwin's legacy will live on through the recently passed Maryellen Goodwin Colorectal Cancer Screening Act, which will ensure that all Rhode Islanders can receive life-saving cancer screenings.

Senator Goodwin made a difference, and her efforts have made life better for countless Rhode Islanders.

Mr. Speaker, I join Maryellen's friends, family, and the entire State of Rhode Island in thanking her and mourning her loss.

HONORING FALLEN OFFICERS EMILY BREIDENBACH AND HUNTER SCHEEL

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

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Speaker, on April 8, 2023, Officers Emily Breidenbach and Hunter Scheel went on their final watch. They died at the hands of a gunman who then proceeded to take his life.

They were young people who lived in northwestern Wisconsin. They were

relatively young in their service to the State of Wisconsin and to the people of their local communities. They will be missed dearly, and it is a tragedy that their lives were taken so young.

On behalf of all of the people of the Seventh Congressional District in northern and western Wisconsin, I express my condolences and our condolences. I had a chance to attend the funeral service for these two officers last Saturday, and as tragic as this was, it was uplifting at the same time because residents by the hundreds came to the funeral service.

Then as I went on Highway 8 East in northern Wisconsin, hundreds of people were along the roadside holding flags with their hands over their hearts to recognize Officers Emily Breidenbach and Hunter Scheel.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Officers Emily Breidenbach and Hunter Scheel for their service to our State and to our country, and I thank all of those who wear a badge and for the service they provide for all of us in America.

FESTIVAL OF BREAKING THE FAST

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I am up here celebrating the end of the holy month of Ramadan. Ramadan is a time for Muslims around the world to renew our faith and reflect our shared values of unity, generosity, and compassion.

As we finish this holy month of fasting, I recognize the beautiful Muslim community, my beautiful Muslim neighbors, and Michigan's 12th District Strong, and around the world as we celebrate Eid al-Fitr. Eid al-Fitr is known as the Festival Breaking the Fast, Mr. Speaker, and it marks the end, again, of the holy month.

It is a time when Muslims, again, around the world come together to celebrate the end of the month-long fasting and their spiritual reflection.

Mr. Speaker, from my heart to yours, I hope this Eid brings everyone that is celebrating joy, closer to community, and prosperity.

HONORING MONTANA VETERAN JACK KINDELMAN

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

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an extraordinary Montanan whose service to his country is a powerful reminder of the legacy we inherit from the Greatest Generation.

Jack Kindelman grew up in Roundup, Montana, during the dark days of the Great Depression in World War II. At the age of 17, Jack joined the United States Navy during the final months of the war and served with distinction despite his youth.

Unwilling to sit on the sidelines at the war's conclusion, Jack would an-

swer the call to service in Korea, where he rescued dozens of refugees fleeing the conflict in a small fishing boat.

Since then, Jack has been a pillar of the community in Billings where he volunteers at St. Vincent Healthcare, having served over 10,000 hours to date.

Mr. Speaker, Jack Kindelman's dedicated service has touched countless lives in Montana and across the United States. It is an honor to represent him and thousands of veterans just like him in Congress, and it is my privilege to recognize Jack on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

PRAYING FOR ERIC MORGAN AND FAMILY

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

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of you to join me in praying for Eric Morgan. Eric Morgan is a constituent of mine in Arizona, and he also served as the former Republican chairman for the legislative district in my congressional district.

On April 5th, Eric was involved in a very serious motorcycle accident. They thought he was going to die. Fortunately, with the help of the doctors and nurses and multiple surgeries, he has now been released out of the critical care unit in a hospital in Arizona, but he has a long road for recovery.

Mr. Speaker, the prayers have helped Eric and his wife, Heather, and their family. I want Eric and Heather to know that all of us here in the U.S. House of Representatives and the people in the gallery are praying for Eric's total and complete healing.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOMBING OF THE ALFRED P. MURRAH FEDERAL BUILDING

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

Mrs. BICE. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 28th anniversary of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, a horrific event that took the lives of 168 individuals.

This day is forever ingrained in our lives. We continue to pray for those who were senselessly lost and the lives that were changed forever. Through all this, Oklahomans remain resilient and stood together. They rallied and have shown the Nation what it means to be strong, focusing on a message built on hope and love, creating what we know as the Oklahoma standard.

I will always be grateful for the courage and dedication of our first responders and the outpouring of support from citizens across the country and world. The work done at the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum is important in ensuring that we treat each other with respect and dignity.

Mr. Speaker, at the ceremony today in Oklahoma City, this verse was referenced, and I find it very fitting: