

I pray for the quick recovery of the wounded and for the families of those we lost.

I imagine a world where mothers and fathers drop off their children at school without fear, a world where families can gather to worship or simply be at peace in their neighborhood.

Sadly, that peace is shattered by gun violence somewhere in America every single day. Every day, we are reminded that we don't yet live in a peaceful country, and yesterday was no exception.

Many of us standing and listening and praying today are committed to banning assault weapons, especially for an 18-year-old. We are committed to bringing peace to our communities.

Now, I invite all Members of the United States House of Representatives to join me in a moment of silence, a moment of gratitude to our law enforcement, and a moment of prayer to honor the lives of those we tragically lost yesterday.

□ 1415

#### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intent to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

House Resolution 114.

Resolved, That, pursuant to article I, section 5, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States, Representative GEORGE SANTOS, be, and he hereby is, expelled from the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from California will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 901

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 901.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is accepted.

#### COMMENDING JOHN A. FREEMAN ON 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TRI-TOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 47

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of John A. Freeman, a 50-year member of the Tri-Town Volunteer Fire Company in Ulysses, Pennsylvania.

The Tri-Town Volunteer Fire Company No. 47 is an all-volunteer fire and ambulance department serving Ulysses Borough and the Potter County townships of Allegheny, Bingham, Hector, and Ulysses. Since 1972, John has volunteered with Tri-Town where he quickly established himself as an important and reliable member of the company. As a truck captain and driver, John has served as an integral part of countless emergency responses throughout north central Pennsylvania.

As a longtime firefighter and EMS volunteer, I understand the courage, commitment, and determination it takes to serve your community as a first responder. First responders miss many important moments with their loved ones to answer the call whenever and wherever it occurs. Their service is even more critical in rural areas like Potter County, where volunteer numbers are falling and placing a strain on those who do answer the call.

For this reason, I commend John A. Freeman for his 50 years of service to the Tri-Town Volunteer Fire Company and for the example he sets for volunteers in Potter County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

#### PATRICIA RUSSELL-McCLOUD SPEECH STILL CONTAINS RELEVANT THEMES

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, 43 years ago, the trailblazing Ohioan, a friend, and founder of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressman Louis Stokes, stood on this very floor and entered into the RECORD an extraordinary speech.

It was a speech he had heard by a young, accomplished, talented Black American, a lawyer, Patricia Russell-McCloud titled, "If Not You, Who? If Not Now, When?"

It was a speech with themes that are still very much relevant today: of what does it mean to be Black in America and the struggle to carve out a place in society.

I am pleased to say that Patricia Russell-McCloud now lives in Ohio's Third Congressional District and is one of my constituents, a mentor, and friend.

I cannot recommend enough that my colleagues refer to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of May 14, 1980, and seek out her wise and inspirational words.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF SUSAN LOTT CLARK

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Susan Lott Clark of Waycross, Georgia.

Susan was born in May of 1925 in Waycross, Georgia. She graduated from Waycross High School, then went on to Wesleyan College, Emory University, and the University of Georgia.

She married Dr. William Clark, Jr., an ophthalmologist, and then settled back down in her hometown in 1958. Susan stayed active in the local Methodist Church. She taught Sunday school there and even coauthored a book called "The History of First United Methodist Church."

As well as her church activities, Susan founded the Okefenokee Heritage Center and the Southern Forest World Environmental Center.

In 2008, Susan went on to spearhead the movement to add Lott Cemetery of Waycross to the National Register of Historic Places.

At 92, Susan went on to publish her autobiography, "Let's Talk About Me," which gives an illuminating look back on her life.

She was the recipient of many awards during her life, including the Waycross Woman of the Year Award, the Wesleyan College Alumnae Award for Distinguished Achievements, and Wise Owl Award for leadership in Georgia Forestry.

My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Clark family during this most difficult time.

#### CELEBRATING 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF CANTON'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ohio's 13th District champions of the week: The founding mothers of the Canton Domestic Violence Project, Helen Syrios, Nancy Boylan, and the late Gertrude Kennedy. These three courageous women founded the Domestic Violence Project in 1978 when domestic violence was often met with silence, fear, and ignorance, yet they persevered. It was their pioneering acts of empathy, strength, and resilience that would change countless lives forever.

After 45 years, the Domestic Violence Project has provided shelter to thousands of battered women and children in Stark County, becoming one of the largest shelters in Ohio.

The Domestic Violence Project provides a lifeline to survivors, a place where they can feel empowered, find healing, and gain the tools necessary to break free from the cycle of abuse.

The courageous service of Helen, Nancy, and Gertrude regularly forced them to risk their own safety to help women of all backgrounds escape from abusive homes, and their unrelenting dedication deserves recognition.

The countless lives that have been saved and the increased safety can be traced back to the selflessness of Helen, Nancy, and Gertrude, who worked so tirelessly so that no one in Ohio's 13th District felt unsafe in their own home.

We honor their legacy, and together we will continue to build a future where everyone feels safe, valued, and empowered.

#### SUPPORTING AMERICAN POLICE OFFICERS

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

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, this National Police Week, I rise today in gratitude for those who protect our homes and families, bring justice to the evildoer, and comfort to their countrymen in distress.

These dedicated men and women, who put their lives on the line as they put on their uniforms every day, often do not receive the support that they deserve.

From corporate media to Hollywood, even to this Congress, American police officers frequently receive abuse instead of thanks, and blame where they deserve applause.

However, hardworking, law-abiding American families and citizens know better. They know the importance of fighting crime and protecting the innocent, and they know the cost.

In 2022, 11 Georgia police officers died in the line of duty. So far in 2023, we have lost another.

Last week, I had the honor of presenting a wreath at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial here in Washington, D.C. dedicated to those courageous men and women, the heroic peace officers of Georgia, and all across America.

May their service and sacrifice never be forgotten and may Americans always proudly back the blue. Semper fidelis.

#### CELEBRATING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN VIRGINIA

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

Mrs. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate infrastructure week and highlight the incredible projects made possible in Virginia by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The IIJA, or bipartisan infrastructure law, is a once-in-a-lifetime, once-in-a-generation investment to rebuild America's crumbling infrastructure, improve public safety and climate resilience, accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies, and reconnect historically marginalized and disenfranchised communities.

Since the IIJA was passed, \$4.7 billion in Federal funding is headed to the Commonwealth of Virginia for 192 specific projects. That includes \$3.8 billion for transportation infrastructure, like our public transit, roads, rails, ports, airports, and bridges, like the historic Mayo Bridge in my district in Richmond; and approximately \$290 million for clean water initiatives in the Commonwealth.

Thanks to IIJA, more than 345,000 households across the Commonwealth are now receiving affordable high-speed internet.

This is just the beginning. As we continue to work to implement the provisions from the bipartisan infrastructure law, Virginians can expect to see billions more in Federal funding.

Thanks to the leadership of the Biden-Harris administration, we aren't just celebrating infrastructure week, but infrastructure decade.

□ 1430

#### CANCER SCREENINGS SAVE LIVES

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the Colorectal Cancer Payment Fairness Act. It is a bill that I reintroduced today to include more colorectal screenings. Everyone knows that cancer screenings save lives.

My bill provides Medicare beneficiaries with complete coverage for cancer treatments performed during routine screenings by the end of this year.

Right now screenings are covered but treatments are not, so patients can wake up after the procedure with a surprise medical bill upwards of \$2,000.

Colorectal cancer is one of the deadliest cancers that we have, but it has one of the highest survival rates, if detected and treated early.

Too many Americans put off routine cancer screenings because they feel fine and worry about coverage. That can be a life-threatening decision.

This issue is very personal to me. I lost my father, the honorable and respected Congressman Donald Payne, Sr., to colorectal cancer in 2012. I don't want other families to lose their fathers and loved ones because they did not get screened regularly.

#### AMERICA SHOULD PAY ITS BILLS

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, America should always pay its bills, and we must do everything under the Sun to avoid a default. Failure to do so would trigger massive job loss, a recession, and rising costs.

Mr. Speaker, our national debt is over \$31 trillion, and we must look at ways while working together, Democrats and Republicans, to get this under control.

I encourage the President and congressional leaders to put the American people first. We must depoliticize debt ceiling negotiations.

Mr. Speaker, eastern North Carolinians elected me to fight for higher-paying jobs, policies that will boost our economy, and to end high prices. A default goes against all of this, and it would only make life harder for my constituents.

#### IN SUPPORT OF SMALL BUSINESSES

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

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of small businesses and to celebrate my friend Abdirahman Kahin, the owner of Afro Deli in my district who was named Small Business Person of the Year by the Biden administration.

My district was also chosen as one of the stops for SBA's national tour in honor of Small Business Week.

It was great to welcome Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff and Small Business Administrator Isabel Guzman to discuss economic development for new Americans and underserved communities at Adama Restaurant and Awash Bakery in my district.

We also discussed the critical role community development financial institutions play in helping small businesses. Also in that week we were able to host BIPOC women small business owners at a roundtable at Wildflyer Coffee in Minneapolis.

The Fifth District is full of thriving small businesses, many owned by immigrants and people of color, and we will continue to support them to make sure they have the resources they need to thrive in the future.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National Police Week.

Every day, from Tigard to Turner, McMinnville to Monmouth, tens of thousands of courageous Oregonians answer the call to protect and serve.

Law enforcement officers routinely step into harm's way to defend community members in crisis and to protect the rule of law. For that, we owe them