

He also offered a variety of community programs to further the sheriff's office mission to enhance public safety and education and promote community-based relationships between law enforcement and the public, including his support for establishing drug courts where those battling addiction could be better treated and not only treated but provided with a path to recovery.

To facilitate these missions, he created the Sheriff's Citizens' Academy along with the Sheriff's Volunteer Program. He also launched the Anchor Initiative Program in 2018 to help those suffering from addiction start their recovery, providing hope for those suffering from their addictions and breaking the typical continual cycle of continued drug use and crime.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Ingram has been recognized for his leadership on all these fronts. He was elected to the board of directors for the National Sheriffs' Association and served as president of the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association from 2019 to 2020.

Most recently, he was awarded the prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine, a recognition considered North Carolina's highest civilian honor.

It is an honor to recognize a friend who is a no-nonsense individual with such a sense of duty, integrity, and distinguished service to the people of Brunswick County.

On behalf of the citizens of North Carolina's Seventh Congressional District, I congratulate and extend my sincere gratitude to Sheriff Ingram for his extraordinary service and commitment to protecting our communities.

May God continue to bless him, his family, and the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office. I am proud to call him my friend.

#### RECOGNIZING SSAB STEEL

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize SSAB Steel for taking a big step toward a more sustainable future with SSAB Zero steel.

SSAB is the largest producer and supplier of steel plate in North America, and their facility in Muscatine, Iowa, in my district, is the first in the world to produce steel with zero emissions from the source without any credits or offsets.

SSAB Zero steel is made using recycled steel—almost all steel in America is almost 98 percent recycled—and it is produced with biogas and renewable electricity. The rollout of zero-emission steel will continue through 2023 with the goal of having a wide range of products available to meet the increasing demand for environmentally friendly alternatives.

SSAB Zero is an important step in their efforts to lead the steel industry

to a decarbonized future by creating an emission-free value chain for their customers.

We are proud to have such an innovative company pursuing climate-neutral solutions in Iowa and wish them the very best as they continue to lead the industry to a cleaner, healthier future.

PBMS ABUSING PATIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the HELP Copays Act.

Too many patients are seeing large copays at the pharmacy counter because of pharmacy benefit manager, or PBM, accumulator programs. PBMs are the middlemen in the distribution chain between drug manufacturers and pharmacies and were originally designed to help negotiate with manufacturers to lower costs for patients.

Unfortunately, we are seeing patient assistance programs being abused by PBMs. Patients often receive drug coupons from manufacturers for high-cost medicines to reduce their out-of-pocket spending. However, PBMs, who are also the insurer in many cases, do not allow the coupon to apply toward the patient's deductible.

This is not the proper role of insurance. Health benefits should be serving the patients, not their shareholders at the expense of patients.

The HELP Copays Act would put an end to these abusive practices and improve patient access and affordability by requiring insurance plans to apply patient assistance toward their copay.

There simply can't be a discussion on lowering healthcare costs for patients without addressing the role of middlemen. Banning the use of copay accumulators is a readymade policy to do just that.

#### POLYCRISIS HURTS SENIORS

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Chamber for 5 minutes and to talk about what political scientists are calling a polycrisis.

A polycrisis is multiple events that have happened globally that have an enormous impact not only on the world but here. I am going to focus on just three of them right now: the pandemic that we are currently going through, Mr. Speaker, which has been extraordinary, as well as the supply chain issues that have happened; a global pandemic creating global supply chain issues, which led to ensuing global inflation; and in the midst of that, the Ukraine war, which has become a global war, again, impacting supply chain and other issues.

Who in the United States of America has this impacted the most? In our country, this pandemic has impacted the elderly. Of the 1.2 million people who have passed away, over 850,000 were over the age of 65. With regard to

inflation, the group that is hurt most by inflation are people on fixed incomes, and that would be close to 70 million Social Security recipients here in this Nation.

We have a crisis in this country: a pension crisis and a crisis that Congress has neglected for more than 52 years.

1971 was the last time that Congress did anything to enhance Social Security benefits. A gallon of milk was 72 cents at that time. A lot has changed since 1971, but what hasn't changed is Congress' recalcitrance to address the needs of our seniors.

Social Security is the number one antipoverty program for seniors and the number one antipoverty program for children, yet there are 5 million Americans currently who get below-poverty-level checks from the Federal Government after having paid all of their lives into the system.

The only reason that is so is because Congress hasn't acted. It is long overdue for Congress to act. We have legislation that we will be introducing in the Ways and Means Committee that will enhance Social Security with across-the-board increases for everyone to lift people out of poverty and provide every single district with economic recovery.

Why? It is because, on average, there are 145,000 people per congressional district who are on Social Security, and that money is spent right back in that congressional district. People are not buying back stock options with their Social Security checks. They are spending it at the grocery store. They are spending it on rent. They are spending it on prescription drugs. That is what is needed.

It is long overdue for Congress to act. It is not simply a question of protecting or saving Social Security. It is doing something to end this crisis in the midst of the worst pandemic, in the midst of inflation, and in the midst of a supply chain issue to make sure that our elderly and our people are being protected.

#### PREPARING FOR TYPHOON MAWAR

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday afternoon, Guam, a territory of the United States, my district, and my home, will be moving to Condition of Readiness 1 as Typhoon Mawar makes its way to the Marianas region.

On its current track, the system is expected to bring tropical-storm-force winds as early as Tuesday afternoon, with the possibility of typhoon-force winds of 81 to 110 miles per hour by Wednesday morning, along with gusts projected to reach 100 to 120 miles per hour. This, along with heavy rainfall, certainly places Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands in a serious predicament, with a major natural disaster at our doorstep.

While our community is resilient and has overcome such perils of Mother Nature many times in the past, when it comes to a typhoon of this magnitude, a direct impact over any of the islands will sadly lead to severe damage of homes, businesses, crops, and livelihoods, and will certainly lead us to a long road toward recovery.

Within these sacred Halls, I humbly ask my colleagues to pray for Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands and that we can dodge this massive bullet called Typhoon Mawar.

God Almighty, please protect our community and our people.

□ 1215

CELEBRATING THE PHILIPPINES 125TH  
INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 12, 2023, the Philippines will be celebrating the very day in 1898 when the Philippines declared its independence from Spain. They will, in essence, commemorate 125 years of independence.

While it still took nearly another half decade for the Treaty of Manila to be signed to secure its full independence from the United States, it is still recognized as a historic transition to allow the country to preserve the very culture, language, and traditions that we appreciate today.

The proud relationship between the Philippines and Guam has been prosperous over the decades. A good percentage of our island's population either relocated from the Philippines or have roots tied back to the Philippines.

Due to Spanish influence, there are many similarities with our cultures, food, traditions, and language. Many of the surnames are also similar.

Our island has developed greater ties with the Philippines, which includes medical tourism for islanders to seek medical care in one of the many world-class facilities in the Philippines.

Our H2B labor solely arrives from the Philippines and has been remarkable for our economy. Flights to and from Manila are almost always full on any day of the week, to continue the enhancements of economic activity for both Guam and the Philippines.

While we recognize the independence of the Philippines, I take this time to honor and commend the Filipino Community of Guam. The FCG is a non-profit umbrella organization for 29 Filipino member-associations in Guam.

For 69 years, the FCG has continued to perpetuate and promote the culture of the Philippines on Guam and in the region. On June 3, they will be hosting the Philippine Independence Ball to highlight this historic occasion.

To president Patrick Luces; vice presidents Romy Angel, Elizabeth Cena, and Loisa Cabuhat; secretaries Trixie Naholowaa-Torres and Nilfa Milan; treasurers Frank Huelar and Allan Camacho; auditor Linda Caasi; public relations officer Eileen Igcasenza; and to the board of trustees, on behalf of a thankful Nation and island and under these sacred Halls of de-

mocracy and history, I say thank you for your service to the community and for your efforts to keep the Filipino traditions thriving on Guam and the region.

Finally, to the Philippines, an ally of the United States, a friend of Guam, a country of hardworking people with pride and humbleness, Happy 125th Independence Day. "Philippine Independence Day," "Araw ng Kalayaan."

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

We approach You, Lord our God, embraced in Your perfect love. In You do we find all we need. If we are afraid, we find courage. If we are despairing, we find hope. If ill, we find healing. We need only give up all that holds us back from receiving the grace and mercy You offer so freely to each of us.

May we not allow ourselves to be caught up in the fear of failure, the fear of the unknown, or the fear of our enemies, but by Your grace may we discover the courage to move forward where You would have us go.

May we not be inclined to look through the lens of despair, the despair of loss, the despair of rejection, the despair of death, but in Your mercy may we gird ourselves with the hope of Your presence in these shadows.

May we be willing and open to find the strength You provide to endure our suffering. Be we ill in mind, body, or spirit, may we find healing in Your peace, a peace that surpasses our understanding.

In You, O Lord, do we find all that we need this day: courage, hope, and healing. O holy one, may we not live our lives for desires that fall short of Your grace plan for us, but open our eyes to Your provision and recognize Your un-failing love for us.

In the name of the one who is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine, we pray.

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, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ALLEN 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.

RECOGNIZING NICOLE  
MORADZADEH

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

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Nicole Moradzadeh of Merced for her outstanding submission to the congressional art contest.

A junior at El Capitan High School, Nicole's artwork titled, "Give Thanks," highlights the hardworking families who are the foundation of California's Central Valley.

Nicole has beautifully expressed a unique perspective through her captivating work. The piece resonates deeply, inspiring appreciation for our working families. It serves as a reminder of the power of art to transcend boundaries and unite us all.

I chose this piece because it pays such excellent homage to the hardworking families that come to the Central Valley today to pursue the American Dream as so many generations have before from all over the world.

I am here in recognition of Nicole to express my commitment to make sure that the American Dream stays alive today for future generations as it has for all of those generations that have come before.

CELEBRATING ASIAN AMERICAN,  
NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC  
ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of Asian American, Native