

Before my mother married my father, her maiden name was Glass. The lady that we celebrate today and acknowledge as she celebrates her 100th birthday is Mrs. Vernetta Jordan Glass.

□ 1130

I am pleased to wish her a happy birthday and to wish all of my Glass relatives well as we celebrate a family reunion in Detroit, Michigan.

Vernetta Jordan Glass was born on May 27, 1923, in the historic town of Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

Mound Bayou traces its origin to the 1820s to a White planter, Joseph Davis, the older brother of Jefferson Davis, who was President of the Confederate States, which left the Union and formed the Confederacy, which led to the Civil War.

After the war, Joseph Davis sold his land to a former slave, Benjamin Montgomery, and it was Isaiah T. Montgomery who led the founding of Mound Bayou in 1887.

Vernetta was born on May 27, 1923, in Mound Bayou, Mississippi, and grew up in this all-Black town. She went to school and church, participated in community activities, and was taught values by her parents that have guided her life to this day.

She married Winston L. Glass, and she and her late husband migrated from Mississippi to Detroit, Michigan, in 1947, where they created for themselves very productive lives and raised seven highly educated and accomplished children.

After retiring from her nursing career, Vernetta increased her volunteer activities at her church, the community center, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, senior citizens centers, and other community places of interest.

Understanding the value of electoral politics and the civil rights movement, for many years, Vernetta worked as a judge of elections.

She is grandmother to more than 50 grandchildren and great-grandchildren and enjoys visits from friends and family. She also loves music and gardening and is a superb Scrabble player.

As she reaches the ripe age of 100, I am pleased to wish this dynamic lady, who has accomplished so much, a happy birthday. By the way, I am extraordinarily pleased that she is my cousin.

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 11 o'clock and 31 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:

Give ear to our prayers, O God. Do not hide Yourself from our supplication, but hear us and answer us, as there is so much this day that troubles us.

We look to one side of the world, and we see the extensive damage visited upon Guam by Typhoon Mawar. Its three-pronged attack of high winds, torrential rains, and life-threatening storm surge have wreaked havoc upon Your people.

Lord, grant them respite from storm and tempest. As they flee the destruction around them and huddle in emergency shelters, grant them Your comfort and hope. Wrap Your hedge of protection around those who bear the responsibility of guiding people to safety, tending to the wounds of the injured, or providing solace to the grieving.

So, too, do we find ourselves praying as we look to the other side of the globe where we are still witnessing the terrible devastation inflicted upon Ukraine at the hands of their aggressors. Their raging assault upon Ukrainian sovereignty, the leveling of whole cities, and the inhumane hostilities against innocents have caused unnecessary death and ruin. God, these, too, are Your children.

Lord, grant them respite from war's storm and tempest. As they continue to flee the destruction around them and huddle in emergency shelters, grant them, too, Your comfort and hope. Wrap Your hedge of protection around those who bear the responsibility of guiding people to safety, tending to the wounds of the injured, and providing solace to the grieving.

From the violence of nature's wrath to the vitriol of war, in the West and the East and around the world, Your people cry to You.

Give ear to our prayers, O God, and do not hide Yourself from our supplication. We trust in the strength of Your name as we call upon You this day.

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 gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. WILD 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.

AMERICAN FAMILIES AT RISK

(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. Mr. Speaker, the irresponsible policies of Biden have caused the most threatening border crisis in American history.

This illegal alien invasion exposes families to potential terrorists, human trafficking, and dangerous drugs.

Since Biden took office in January 2021, there have been over 5.2 million illegal crossings. Mr. Speaker, 10,300 illegal aliens came over the border on May 9 this year, the highest ever.

Gruesomely, another 1.5 million illegal aliens have crossed without being detained. That includes over 200 on the terrorist watch list, putting every American family everywhere at risk of mass murder.

Drug cartels are destabilizing Mexico and killing over 107,000 Americans annually, mostly due to fentanyl.

I am grateful House Republicans, led by Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY, have passed the Secure the Border Act, stopping illegal aliens.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues, moving from the safe haven of Afghanistan to America with open Biden borders.

MANUFACTURED CRISIS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, on Memorial Day, we honor veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect our country.

Many veterans return home with lasting effects on their health and well-being. This Congress should honor their service by making sure they have access to quality healthcare, food, and housing.

The default on America act undermines this commitment. To preserve tax cuts for billionaires, their plan would cut veterans' benefits and programs by 22 percent.

We are told that if they don't get everything they want, they will force a default, sending our economy into a spiral.

Under President Trump, the debt ceiling was raised three times. Now, by holding veterans' and other American priorities hostage, they are putting politics over people.

I urge my colleagues to honor our commitment to those who have served and end this manufactured crisis.

PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the legislation efforts that we have had recently to define fentanyl as poison and to address a very serious problem in the United States where we had 110,000 people die last year alone.

As an emergency medicine physician, to see anywhere from one to five overdoses per night, to see four patients come in that I could not revive and that are no longer with us is a serious problem.

I caution everybody in Congress—from my conservative roots and the conservative values that made this Nation what it is—not to turn to legislation to solve this problem. We need to understand that this is a people problem.

Ultimately, you can spend a trillion dollars overseas, you can fight wars, you can secure your border, but until we get our hearts straight, we will not solve this very real problem.

Until we understand that when our children are taught that they are supporting murderers and rapists and child traffickers, people who would do harm to all of us, then they will stop the incentive of creating the demand, and the problem will go away.

This is a problem of our house but not this House, the house of our family.

ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, particularly as it pertains to the struggles young people face in our Nation today.

Mental health is an issue close to my heart, and ensuring that everyone has access to the mental health care they need is one of my top priorities in Congress.

In a recent national survey, 71 percent of college students reported experiencing mental health issues such as stress, anxiety, and depression.

That is why I will soon be reintroducing my bill, Enhancing Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Through Campus Planning Act, which promotes positive mental health among college students and encourages

more comprehensive planning on college campuses to prevent suicide and other mental health crises.

Schools and college campuses do not have the counselors or services needed to ensure that every one of our young people has a bright future, and it is our job to make sure they do.

A STUDY IN CONTRASTS

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, the debt limit debate is a study in contrasts between responsible Republicans and dysfunctional Democrats.

On one side, you have responsible Republicans who have been working from the beginning to avoid default and reduce out-of-control spending.

Speaker MCCARTHY called on President Biden to negotiate on January 12. When President Biden ignored him for nearly 100 days, House Republicans passed the Limit, Save, Grow Act, the only plan that avoids default, lowers spending, protects Medicare and Social Security, and reduces our dependence on China.

By contrast, dysfunctional Democrats have ignored the exploding national debt, even though it was their reckless spending that brought us here in the first place.

President Biden knew the debt limit deadline was coming, but for months, he did nothing. Now, with only 8 days until Secretary Yellen's June 1 default deadline, he continues to act irresponsibly.

Mr. Speaker, my message to President Biden is simple: Get serious. Act urgently. Listen to the American people, not the far left in your party.

HEALTHCARE FAILURE

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, our profit-driven healthcare system is killing us. It is outrageous that the wealthiest country in the history of the world cannot guarantee healthcare for its people.

Our for-profit healthcare system, fueled by corporate greed, has failed us while enriching Big Pharma at the direct expense of everyday Americans.

Currently, more than 30 million Americans don't have health insurance, and many live in constant fear of losing their jobs, and along with it, their healthcare.

Every human being—every single one—has a basic fundamental right to healthcare. That doesn't change if you are rich or if you are poor. Healthcare, again, is a human right, not a privilege.

In the richest country on Earth, no family should ever face financial ruin because they got sick. No one should be forced to choose between putting food on the table or receiving lifesaving

treatment. No one should have to die because they are unable to afford care.

Congress must take bold action to transform our dysfunctional, broken healthcare system from one based on exploitation to one that prioritizes human dignity.

I am proud to join my colleagues in fighting to pass Medicare for All.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BERNARD BERNSTEIN

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend of mine and an even better lawyer that recently passed away in Knoxville, Bernie Bernstein.

My friend Jerry Becker delivered the bad news last week. Bernie and my father were good friends, and they served on a draft board together.

Bernie served in the United States Air Force and was a respected lawyer and leader not only in the Jewish community but in every community he was in, especially in Knoxville.

My dad had two compliments he would give people. He would say: "You would make a good marine," or he would say: "He is solid."

He always told me that if negotiations were ever going south, just let Bernie speak because he was solid. Mr. Speaker, he was that.

There is a Holocaust memorial that we built in the West Hills Park when I was in the State legislature with the help of some folks, and Bernie was one of those.

He gave the words that are on the stone that stands there today. I remember we were supposed to have the dedication at the memorial, but dadgummit, it was raining cats and dogs, so we ended up having it at West Hills Baptist Church.

Oddly enough, Bernie was dear friends with Pastor Prince who has since passed away. His son is now the pastor there, and he is my good friend.

I walked up thinking no one would be there. The doors opened, and it was completely jam-packed. It was packed because he was not only a leader in the Jewish community, he was a good friend to everyone he met.

My dad was right. Bernie was solid, and when he spoke, people listened. Thank you for being such a dear friend. You will truly be missed, Bernie.

He leaves his wife and two children. I wish him shalom.

REMEMBERING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE UVALDE MASS SHOOTING

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the heaviest of hearts to offer my sympathy and recognition to my fellow Texans and fellow Americans.