

Scouts must fulfill leadership roles, exemplify the Scout oath and law, display exemplary outdoor skills, earn at least 21 badges, and complete a comprehensive service project for their community. Well done, Spencer.

I also want to congratulate Spencer's family and everyone who walked and worked with Spencer on his journey to become an Eagle Scout. Congratulations, Spencer Johnson, on becoming an Eagle Scout.

#### PER MAR NAMED BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.** Mr. Speaker, today I rise to extend a heartfelt congratulations to Per Mar, the recipient of the prestigious 2023 Business of the Year award at the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce annual meeting.

Headquartered in Davenport, Iowa, Per Mar was opened in 1953 by John and Eleanor Duffy and has grown into a premier family-owned security company in the Quad Cities and throughout Iowa.

This achievement is a testament to the relentless pursuit of excellence by Per Mar's employees, led by president and CEO Brian Duffy.

What truly sets Per Mar apart is their unwavering commitment to their employees, a philosophy that has been passed down through generations. By prioritizing their workforce, Per Mar ensures that their customers receive exceptional service, resulting in the company's continued growth and success.

Per Mar's journey from humble beginnings to being named Business of the Year is a remarkable testament to the power of determination, dedication, and community support.

Congratulations to Per Mar on this well-deserved honor.

I also wish my sister-in-law, Susan Branthoover, a very happy birthday. Happy birthday, Susan.

#### CONGRATULATING CARTER CRAWLEY ON RECEIVING CLEAN SCANS

**The SPEAKER** pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI) for 5 minutes.

**Mr. CISCOMANI.** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an incredible constituent of mine, 9-year-old Carter Crawley.

Not only are Carter and his family constituents of mine, but I am also lucky to have coached Carter on my flag football team.

Carter has been through some battles leading our team as quarterback, but earlier this year he encountered the biggest battle of his life and was diagnosed with synovial sarcoma, a cancer that affects the tissue around your joints.

Well, I am excited to announce that just 3 weeks ago, following months of radiation and treatment, Carter received clean scans.

I have had the privilege of being Carter's football coach for several seasons now, and it has been a high privi-

lege of my life to watch him develop both as a player and as a leader.

When it came time to tackle cancer, Carter kept a good sense of humor and bravery, and his team and I look forward to having him back on the field leading our team once again later this year.

I also recognize his parents, Melissa and Kevin, and his 11-year-old sister, Emerson, for their strength and fortitude during this time.

Additionally, I highlight Dr. De La Maza and her fellow doctors, nurses, and staff at Banner UMC, where Carter was treated.

I am thrilled to share this incredible news on the House floor and can't wait to see Carter back on that field soon.

#### TUCSON BOULEVARD DIVERSION STRUCTURE PROJECT

**Mr. CISCOMANI.** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Tucson Boulevard Diversion Structure project, which was named one of our Nation's top public works projects by the American Public Works Association.

Pima County initiated this project to address the area's persistent sewer problem, which has plagued the community with sulfuric acid odor and a number of other issues. The outdated sewer was replaced with a new composite structure and a safe odor-free and corrosion-resistant system.

The crews on this project worked 6 to 7 days a week and up to 16 hours a day, which allowed the project to be completed on time. This achievement would not have been possible without the organizations and companies who partnered together, including Pima County, Hunter Contracting, Dibble, and the APWA Arizona chapter.

This project reflects the incredible impact strong partnerships have on the community. Congratulations to these awardees and all the well-deserved recognition on a job well done.

#### 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 28 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:

Generous God, in this season when we are all the more keenly aware of the responsibilities this body has to steward our country's resources with both prudence and compassion, we pray for Your clarity and courage.

To these men and women to whom You have given much—position, power, and perception—much is being demanded. Grant each the discernment to perceive what is of You and put off all else that is distracting and detracting them from heeding Your direction.

To whom You have entrusted much—the leadership of this country, the wisdom and opportunity to uphold our Nation's ideals—how much more is being asked—forbearance, flexibility, and foresight.

As You have with so many throughout history, those with whom You have entrusted the mantle of authority, grant each in this body the wisdom of Solomon, the patience of Job, the insight of Daniel, the courage of David, and the faithfulness of Abraham as they endeavor to do what You require of them in these days.

In the strength that we find only in Your name, 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. WILSON** of South Carolina. 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. WILSON** of South Carolina. 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mr. JOYCE** of Pennsylvania 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.

#### OUR NATIONAL DEBT

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

**Mr. JOYCE** of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week our national debt reached a record \$33 trillion. During the next 30 years, the interest payments alone on this debt will become

the Federal Government's single largest expenditure.

Now more than ever, we need to address the runaway spending that has created this debt crisis while sending inflation skyrocketing and costing American families an extra \$10,000 a year.

Pennsylvanians cannot afford business as usual from Washington. It is time to put an end to the wasteful spending in our budget. It is time to stop the inflation that has driven up the prices of gas and groceries. It is time to rein in the runaway spending and once again pass a budget that is truly worthy of the American people.

#### STATE OF EDUCATION IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, as we in Washington argue over the budget and the depletion of FEMA funds for rebuilding, children in the Virgin Islands are suffering from excessive heat in classrooms that has affected the academic calendar year of students in the territory. Excessive heat has literally contributed to substantial interruption of the learning at a critical part of the school year.

Students have been so deeply affected by these issues that they have taken to the streets on the island of St. Croix to protest what they believe to be the current administration's lack of maintenance of the school. Our students have embraced the spirit of protest that runs so strongly in the heritage of Virgin Islanders as a means of challenging the establishment.

A week ago, St. Croix teachers, led by a local arm of the AFT, executed a job action and staged a strike to call attention to a myriad of issues that continue to plague the schools in the territory—lack of AC units or fans amidst a heat wave, much-needed electrical upgrades, limited supplies, et cetera. The students themselves joined the teachers, and I am incredibly proud of the youth.

We need to put pressure on FEMA. We need to work collaboratively together to get these schools in the order they need to be for the children. Virgin Islanders must come together for our children.

#### HOUSE REPUBLICAN ACHIEVEMENTS

(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, 8 months into the newly elected House Republican majority, led by our Speaker, KEVIN McCARTHY, we are delivering on the Commitment to America.

On behalf of American families, we are fighting to tackle inflation and

lower the cost of living, defending national security, making America energy independent, securing the southern border, preserving constitutional freedoms, promoting fiscal responsibility, and much more.

Highlights of the accomplishments so far include defunding the Biden army of 87,000 IRS agents, eliminating the military vaccine mandate, establishing the bipartisan committee to strengthen America against the threats of the Chinese Communist Party, passing the Secure the Border Act to address the chaos at the border, passing the largest deficit reduction package in American history, passing the Parents' Bill of Rights, passing the Lower Energy Costs Act.

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

#### FOOL ME TWICE, SHAME ON YOU

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

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, there was a time in Washington less than a year ago when if the Speaker of the House of Representatives gave you their word, it meant something.

That is no longer true.

Earlier this year, Speaker McCARTHY stood in the Oval Office with the President of the United States and negotiated a deal to raise the debt limit and fund the government. Today, instead of keeping his end of the deal, Speaker McCARTHY is refusing to even allow bills to come to the floor that would honor that promise and avert a government shutdown.

His failures mean that 1.3 million Active-Duty troops will have to continue to work but not be paid for their service.

His failures mean that 7 million women and children will not receive the nutrition assistance that they depend on.

His failures mean that every one of you can expect flight disruptions, less border security, fewer food and rail safety inspections.

There is an old saying, Mr. Speaker: Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me. Shame on Speaker McCARTHY for forcing the American people to suffer all this foolishness.

#### CONGRATULATING CONSTABLE CHRISTOPHER BATES, SR.

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Constable Christopher Bates, Sr., of Jefferson County Precinct 2, for being named the 2023 United States Constable of the Year by the National Constables and Marshals Association.

Constable Bates is a mainstay in the Jefferson County community, a leader in his precinct and in his church. He is truly an amazing example of the best from Texas 14.

I could not be prouder representing Constable Bates, as he not only represents Jefferson County, but the entire United States. With this accomplishment behind him, I am very excited to see what Constable Bates' future will hold for him and our community.

Please join me in recognizing the extraordinary service of Constable Christopher Bates, Sr. We are extremely proud of him.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CISCOMANI). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OBERNOLTE) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### PROTECTING HUNTING HERITAGE AND EDUCATION ACT

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5110) to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to clarify that the prohibition on the use of Federal education funds for certain weapons does not apply to the use of such weapons for training in archery, hunting, or other shooting sports, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5110

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Protecting Hunting Heritage and Education Act".*

#### SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF PROHIBITION ON USE OF FEDERAL EDUCATION FUNDS FOR CERTAIN WEAPONS AND RELATED TRAINING.

*Section 8526(7) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7906(7)) is amended by inserting "except that this paragraph shall not apply to the use of funds under*