

Senate Office Building. It is easy to do. Just let it revert back to the name it had before it became the Russell Senate Office Building. Let it become the Old Senate Office Building.

If you need more time, take an infinitum and decide the name that you most prefer. I have no name to recommend. I only recommend that you take Russell's name off. It took less than 2 weeks to revert back to the old dress code. It has been more than 50 years that Richard Russell's name has been on this building.

Have you no shame, Senators? Do you not respect the people of African ancestry who go in and out of this building? I refuse to enter the Richard Russell Senate Office Building. I am a one-person protest. I refuse to disrespect myself by entering a building named after a bigot and racist who authored the "Southern Manifesto" and fought antilynching legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

CONGRATULATING JAMES SIMMONS

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate James Simmons, a dedicated construction teacher at North Scott High School in Eldridge, Iowa, who will receive the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence. This prestigious national recognition awards Mr. Simmons with a \$50,000 grant for his school's skilled trades program.

Teachers, students, and the North Scott principal have been working together to surprise Mr. Simmons today with his award by orchestrating a surprise celebration at his school, held outdoors by the tiny homes his students tirelessly built.

The Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize spotlights the exceptional yet often overlooked contributions of high school skilled trades teachers. This year, the program saw a record number of applicants, with over 1,000 teachers from all 50 States competing in the rigorous selection process.

We are immensely proud of Mr. Simmons. I congratulate him on this well-deserved honor.

HONORING CINDY MONTANEZ

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true champion of the San Fernando Valley, a trailblazer, a leader, "y una de las nuestras," "and one of ours," the Honorable Cindy Montanez from the city of San Fernando.

Cindy and I have had the privilege of representing the northeast San Fernando Valley for the past 27 years. Cindy is a strong, unwavering community leader who, throughout her years of public service, has made sure that the voices of the people of the valley are heard and that they have a seat at the table.

Cindy has lived a quintessential American immigrant story, just like the monarch butterfly. They are bicultural and bring beauty everywhere they go.

She is the proud daughter of Miguel and Margarita Montanez, immigrants from Veracruz and Chihuahua, Mexico. The Montanezes came to the city of San Fernando, where Cindy and her five siblings were born and raised. Together, her family pursued the American Dream, a dream that includes giving back to the community and the country that has given us so much.

Cindy's activism began in 1993, as she pushed to establish the Chicano studies department at the University of California, Los Angeles by participating in a 14-day hunger strike.

At the age of 25, she won a seat on the San Fernando City Council, and 2 years later, she became the mayor of that city. Her exceptional leadership extends to the California State Legislature, where Cindy was the youngest woman elected to the California State Assembly at the age of 28 at that time. At the age of 30, she became the first Latina to chair the powerful assembly rules committee.

She fought for workers' protections, consumer rights, and healthcare access. Out of these accomplishments, what Cindy is best known for is her environmental work.

She continued her environmental activism to become the CEO of TreePeople, one of the largest environmental organizations in all of southern California. With over 3 million volunteers, they planted hundreds of thousands of trees, from San Fernando to Huntington Park.

In 2020, she was called back to her role in public service. She returned home to serve as a councilmember for the city of San Fernando.

Cindy is a titan who has worked tirelessly for her community. It is an honor to stand before you today to tell Cindy Montanez's story. I am not the only one highlighting her and her accomplishments. Last month, the city of San Fernando and the city of Los Angeles voted to rename Pacoima Wash Natural Park, which is shared by both cities, to Cindy Montanez Natural Park.

On August 28, the California State Legislature declared January 19 as Cindy Montanez Day.

These distinctions are well deserved, built on years of tireless service.

I just saw Cindy when I had the privilege to join our community in a celebration to rename Cindy Montanez Natural Park. Cindy was surrounded by dozens and dozens of community mem-

bers, full of love and prayer. It was a beautiful tribute to a hero in our community. For all of this and more, I honor my friend and my "hermana," "sister," Cindy Montanez.

Every time I see a monarch butterfly, I will think of the impact she has had, from the tree-lined streets of San Fernando to the committee rooms of Sacramento and all across our great State of California.

I had the pleasure of meeting Cindy Montanez when she was running for city council 28 years ago. I remember her coming into my office and saying some of her supporters had abandoned her, and I listened to what she had to say. I stood up and said: "I will support you. What I see in you is someone who is running for the right reasons. You care about the community." She said thank you. That is where she launched her career in 1995.

Sometimes in life we meet people and never know where our journeys are going to go, but I am so honored to have called Cindy Montanez my colleague and friend. I am so honored to be able to witness one of the first people who got elected to the State legislature out of our community of the San Fernando Valley who could speak to every constituent both in Spanish and in English. That had never happened before in our community, even though our community of northeast San Fernando Valley was over 75 percent Latino by population, parents like Cindy's parents and my parents who came from Mexico to make a better life for the next generation and the next.

Once again, it is my honor to speak before all of you in this beautiful House about an amazing, beautiful person, Cindy Montanez.

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HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JACK TRICE

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

Mr. FEENSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Jack Trice—Iowa State University's first African-American athlete, and the namesake of the college football stadium in Ames, Iowa—he is an inspiration.

Trice enrolled at Iowa State University with the desire to play football and graduate with a degree in animal husbandry and to help and support farmers.

Tragically, 100 years ago, on October 8, 1923, Trice passed away at just 21 years old after sustaining severe injuries during a game.

While his life was cut short, his legacy prevailed. In 1997, Iowa State University renamed their college football stadium the Jack Trice Stadium, and it remains the only major stadium in college football that is named after an African American.

Today, Iowa State University supports thousands of students through

the Jack Trice Character Award and Jack Trice Endowed Scholarship helping generations of Cyclones succeed.

This October will mark the 100-year anniversary of Jack Trice's tragic death. To honor him, Iowa State will host the Jack Trice legacy game on October 7 and hold the ceremony at the same location where his funeral was 100 years ago at the central campus lawn on October 8.

I am proud to introduce a House resolution that recognizes the life and legacy of Jack Trice, a young man that passed away way too soon, but inspired our communities and the Cyclone nation.

HONORING OFFICER KEVIN CRAM

Mr. FEENSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Algona Police Officer Kevin Cram, who was senselessly murdered while doing his job.

Officer Cram was a 10-year veteran of Iowa law enforcement and a member of the Algona Police Department. He was also a son, husband, and father who is remembered as a family man and a true hero.

Proudly wearing the badge, he dedicated his career to protecting our families and keeping our streets safe. Words cannot accurately express my gratitude for his service and sacrifice. Officer Cram gave his life to protect the lives of fellow Iowans.

There is no greater sacrifice than this.

My prayers remain with his family, the Algona Police Department, and everyone who knew and loved him.

Madam Speaker, Officer Cram will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING GOVERNOR REYNOLDS AND KEVIN REYNOLDS

Mr. FEENSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend and Iowa's conservative champion, Governor Kim Reynolds and her husband, first gentleman, Kevin Reynolds.

We both came to the Iowa Senate together, serving the rural communities that power our economy and feed and fuel the world. I can tell you that she was the leader back then and she is still a tremendous leader today.

Since day one, she delivered real victories for our State. As promised, she signed into law the largest tax cut in Iowa history, gave parents a voice in their children's education, and she secured a \$1.83 billion surplus for our State budget with no debt. She has also deployed the Iowa National Guard to the southern border to do what President Biden will not do: secure our border and protect our families.

While Governor Reynolds continues her selfless work in Iowa, my prayers are with her family and her husband, Kevin, who was recently diagnosed with cancer. I have no doubt that through their faith in God they will overcome this challenge and they will continue delivering results for Iowa.

Madam Speaker, I thank Governor Reynolds and Kevin for their dedication to our great State.

HONORING UCLA CHANCELLOR GENE BLOCK

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

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in honor of UCLA's Chancellor Gene Block to thank him for 17 years of leadership at America's premier public institution of education, UCLA.

Since 2007, Chancellor Block has increased accessibility and diversity, grown enrollment, and doubled funding for research at UCLA. Today, nearly a third of UCLA graduates are first-generation college students, as Chancellor Block was himself.

Madam Speaker, as a proud UCLA alumnus, I thank Chancellor Block for his service to the public and to the Bruin community, and for keeping UCLA as a top research institution in the Nation. Go Bruins.

RECOGNIZING GUSTAVO OCEGUEDA

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a young man in my district, Gustavo Ocegueda, a remarkable young man whose journey is one of determination and inspiration.

When he was a boy, Gustavo looked at the sky and began collecting model planes, dreaming of becoming a commercial pilot.

As a proud Godinez Fundamental High School alumnus, he stayed focused on his dream, worked hard, volunteered in the community, and played basketball.

He grew up in an underserved community, but his parents' support and sacrifice and hard work pushed him to study at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University where Gustavo spent long nights studying in the library. In the end, it was all worth it.

The multiple jobs and family sacrifices were all worth it when his mother joined him as his first passenger on a commercial flight. He is now a commercial pilot and has finally achieved his dream.

Madam Speaker, I thank Gustavo for his great work and keep flying high.

WHY NOT VICTORY?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, America is sadly in a conflict of dictators with rule of gun opposing democracies with rule of law.

This conflict, we did not choose, was begun by war criminal Putin on February 24, 2022, invading Ukraine, in the murderous tradition of Hitler invading Poland on September 1, 1939, and Stalin invading Poland 2 weeks later on September 17. In 5 weeks, over 70,000 Poles were killed in 1939 by the Nazis and Communists, and now thousands of Ukrainians have been killed by Putin.

I am grateful to have read the book by Senator Barry Goldwater in May

1963, "Why Not Victory?", proposing the ultimate achievement of democracy over Communism.

The Goldwater Presidential campaign led to the hallmark speech, "A Time for Choosing," by Ronald Reagan in 1964. This led to the Reagan Presidency and hundreds of millions of people being liberated from totalitarian communism. More countries today live in freedom and democracy than in the history of the world due to American military strength defeating Communism.

The Russian Embassy in Berlin, Germany, which I visited outside on May 1 this year, clearly reveals Putin's murderous goal of recreating the evil Soviet empire. The hammer and sickle communist symbol is maintained over the massive building, revealing that the Russian people are still being oppressed by a despotic dictator.

With the invasion of Ukraine, Putin now has troops in Moldova and Georgia with direct threats to Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, and even Poland to realign international boundaries. The murderous conquest of Ukraine would be a green light for more conquests putting American families at risk of attack.

It is reassuring that NATO has never been stronger with Finland and Sweden joining the alliance. Finland has an 830-mile border with Russia, and Sweden has given up 200 years of neutrality to stop dictators.

The European Union has doubled the aid correctly provided by America, according to analyst Luke Coffey of the Hudson Institute. Additionally, more than 160 officials across Federal oversight agencies monitor the U.S. aid to Ukraine.

Democracies must continue to stand together to support the brave Ukrainians to restore peace through strength. Goldwater was correct in his book, "The only alternative to victory is—obviously defeat." Putin can end this war today by living up to the agreements that Russia has already signed for Ukrainian territorial integrity.

The Chinese Communist Party is watching as it plans world domination by 2049, with the largest peacetime military build-up in world history. The regime in Tehran continues its chants of death to Israel, death to America with drones to Putin to murder Ukrainians.

The axis of evil is clear: you have dictator Putin, dictator Xi, dictator Raisi. They must be stopped now, or every American family will be threatened by murderers, which I have seen when I saw the murders that were conducted in Bucha, Ukraine, where innocent civilians, with their hands tied behind their backs, were brutally executed and buried by the Putin troops.

As a teenage Republican supporter myself of Barry Goldwater, who attended the National Draft Goldwater Rally in Washington on July 4, 1963, I will always be grateful for his vision for freedom.