

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.

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. Border security is national security for America.

HONORING OUR FALLEN CAL FIRE MEMBERS

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

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and memorialize our fallen heroes from CAL FIRE who gave their lives to serve our communities. Assistant Chief Josh Bischof, Fire Captain Tim Rodriguez, and pilot Tony Sousa, all sacrificed their life to protect their community while battling a fire in Cabazon.

Assistant Chief Josh Bischof was a devoted and loyal firefighter, husband, and father who never stopped serving others even in his last moments. He started his career in the fire service as a volunteer firefighter in Mountain Center at Volunteer Fire Station 78 and worked his way up through hard work, loyalty, and commitment.

In recent months, before his tragic death, Josh had been promoted to assistant chief with CAL FIRE Southern Region headquarters where he oversaw the training program before transferring to the tactical air operations.

Josh loved his wife of 24 years beyond measure and lived to make his children's dreams come true no matter the cost.

Josh was always up for an adventure and was known for his willingness to help others and was loved and respected by his friends, family, and community.

Now, Fire Captain Tim Rodriguez loved being a firefighter more than anyone could imagine. He was raised in Hemet and graduated from West Valley High School in 1997. He started his fire service career as a firefighter I, serving at Fire Station 41 in Mecca, and was soon promoted to firefighter II at Fire Station 79 in Coachella.

Captain Rodriguez married his wife, Dorothy, in 2001 and had three children: Josh, Haley, and Alexis. He will be remembered for the immense love he had for his family and his passion for staying active by hiking, camping, snowboarding, kayaking, and mountain biking.

Lastly, pilot Tony Sousa of Red Bluff, California, was fulfilling his lifelong dream of being a pilot before the tragic accident.

Before fulfilling his dream, Tony was a dairy worker, a sales representative for Outlaw Kart, a custom harvester, an avid water-skier, and finally a pilot.

In 2022, Tony played a pivotal role in implementing the CAL FIRE Helicopter Coordinator training program. Through this program, Tony guided and mentored a huge cohort of fellow aviators to help them obtain certifications for their aviation careers.

Pilot Sousa is survived by his wife, Rachele; sons, Connor and Carson; father, Ed; and mother, Sharon.

These men were husbands, sons, fathers, who now leave behind loving and caring families. Their bravery, courage, and devotion to duty will always be remembered.

Madam Speaker, I ask everyone present on the House floor to join me in a moment of silence for the CAL FIRE members—Assistant Chief Josh Bischof, Fire Captain Tim Rodriguez, and pilot Tony Sousa.

□ 1030

TRUTH TELLING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. VAN ORDEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. VAN ORDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to do a little truth telling.

I rise today as a proud member of the silent majority of United States citizens and the super majority of the Republican Party of this august House.

I will be plain. The motion to vacate the speakership is a fool's errand, and I can think of no greater leader in that effort than my colleague from the State of Florida.

The American people are concerned about crime. One of our colleagues was carjacked at gunpoint a mile and a half from where I am speaking today.

The border is open. There have been over 6 million illegal crossings since Joe Biden has taken leadership, 232,972 illegal immigrants were encountered on the southern border last night alone. That is a 27 percent increase from July.

The Customs and Border Patrol has seized over 25,000 pounds of fentanyl this year. That is enough to kill every American citizen over and over and over again.

Madam Speaker, 151 people on the terrorist watch list have been apprehended on the southern border on Joe Biden's watch. We don't know how many people who are plotting to destroy our Nation got across our border. Yet, today, we will spend the people's time so that someone can audition for a television show or possibly the Governorship of a State.

This is unacceptable, and the time for these antics are over.

HONORING NEIL McKIERNAN ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor Neil McKiernan, an outstanding public servant who just recently announced his retirement from the House of Representatives where he has worked for over 20 years; 17 of those years in my office and 7 of those years as chief of staff.

Neil is a native of the State of Connecticut and began his journey over 20 years ago on the Hill as a young assistant working in Congresswoman LINDA SANCHEZ' office. He then worked for a short period of time for my colleague, JOHN LARSON. Then when I was first elected in 2006, Neil joined my office.

Neil worked on a variety of issues during his time there. I see my friend Mr. KELLY from Pennsylvania here. We worked together to repeal the Cadillac tax in 2019, and Neil was part of that really massive bipartisan effort to protect and stabilize the health benefits of union and nonunion workers all across the country, which passed by a margin of 419-6 on the floor.

Mike and I were here that day, and Neil—actually, one of his rare visits to the House floor—was there to join us.

The centerpiece of Neil's work was the fact that I have the honor of representing the submarine capital of the world. It is the home of the oldest submarine base, the Naval Submarine Base Groton in Groton, where there are 16 attack submarines tied up and doing great work for our Nation every single day, as well as General Dynamics Electric Boat Shipyard, a 120-year-old company that is building submarines for the Navy to this day.

This is a picture in 2014 of myself and some staff from the House Committee on Armed Services. Neil is the gentleman on my far right with the glasses and the cup of coffee. It is before dawn at the naval port facility in Cape Canaveral, Florida. We were about to embark on the USS *Missouri*, the submarine right behind us, which was built in Groton and commissioned back in 2011. It is over in the Indo-Pacific region doing great work for our Nation.

Again, when I first came into office, the shipyard was in a dangerous downward spiral. After the Cold War, procurement for submarines had totally collapsed. The shipyard, which once had 28,000-plus workers, was down to roughly 6- or 7,000.

Beginning that year, we got a plus-up, working again with Neil's incredible work, Ike Skelton, and Jack Murtha, and others to turn around that spiral.

Today, the shipyard employs over 21,000 workers. We now again have a build rate of two attack submarines and now the Columbia-class ballistic submarine program is beginning its work. They just laid the keel for the second of those vessels.

It is a great legacy that Neil leaves behind him in terms of really reversing what really would have been a tragic loss of an industrial base with unique talents, but also making sure that our Navy has an undersea fleet, which today, with the threats from China and Russia, is still our strongest card in terms of rebutting and creating real deterrence to keep the world safe.

Admiral Gary Roughead once said our submarine fleet is the queen on the chessboard in terms of being able to go anywhere undetected with stealth and