

In his career, Commander Duncan had received many honors and awards, including the Transition Top Gun Award, Military Training Award, Flying Excellence Award, and the Order of Daedalians AETC Commander's Trophy.

On November 1, he retired from the armed services and is looking forward to opportunities with his family, Amy, Elliana, Micah, and Sarah.

I thank Commander Duncan for a career of service to our country and wish him the best in retirement.

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 9 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BICE) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, Your grace is sufficient for all that we will face this day. When we find ourselves faltering for want of a reason to hope, weakened from lack of energy or enthusiasm, dismayed by the complexity of the issues at hand, let us not, as Howard Thurman encouraged, shrink from the present intensity, lest we turn away from the power of Your love.

Yours is the power that is made perfect in our weakness. Yours is the strength that carries us through the difficulties of the day. Yours is the mercy that enables us to endure the repercussions of our own mistakes. Yours is the hope that gives us purpose when nothing in our lives is certain.

May we not shrink from the many challenges this day will reveal, and may we never turn away from the incredible power Your love provides.

In the strength of Your word we stand, and in the power of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the Chamber the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. HARD-

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

Mr. HARDER of California 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 PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

FOCUS ON HONORING VETERANS ON VETERANS DAY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, as we approach Veterans Day this coming weekend, we will remember that on the eleventh hour of the 11th day of the 11th month it was originally the end of World War I. It was known as Armistice Day, and in 1919 was the first Armistice Day until the Treaty of Versailles finally was done after several iterations of armistice was done back then.

Finally, in 1945, World War II veteran Raymond Weeks had the idea to expand it to all veterans. Raymond Weeks was later known as the father of what we now know as Veterans Day. In 1954 it was fully renamed Veterans Day.

To properly put the focus on the service and thanking of all our living veterans, this Saturday on November 11, I urge all Americans to pause and participate in honoring our living veterans at local events you may find in your area, Madam Speaker.

Let them know. It is not just a Friday off for Federal employees and the banks or no mail on Saturday, but a grateful Nation, instead, thanks them for preserving our freedom and that we should also be participants in our citizenship for our country.

END HUNGER NOW

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the Biden administration for meaningfully updating the Thrifty Food Plan as Congress mandated in the last farm bill.

Before the Biden administration took action, the Thrifty Food Plan had not been updated in 50 years. That is absurd. Needy families were having to make purchasing decisions based on data from one-half century ago.

Nevertheless, thanks to their updates, SNAP recipients now get an extra \$1.40 per day. It is a small increase, but it means more people can make ends meet.

Guess what, Madam Speaker?

It is something that is real that is already helping families buy groceries.

I am so sick and tired of hearing my Republican friends play the inflation blame game, but then, when it comes time to actually do something to actually help families pay for groceries, Republicans are floating the idea of rolling back the Thrifty Food Plan update. Really, that is a rotten thing to do.

As Congress works to complete the 2023 farm bill, I strongly urge all of my colleagues to join me in rejecting this cruel and cynical approach.

Enough for God's sake.

THE DEVOTED SERVICE OF COLONEL CHARLES ECKART OF CORYDON, INDIANA

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

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, if you ask anyone who knows him, you will learn that Colonel Charles Eckart of Corydon, Indiana, among other things, is devoted. He is devoted to his faith, to his family, and to his country.

Colonel Eckart served in the United States Army for 28 years. He served our Nation with unwavering dedication, protecting our freedom and ensuring our liberty. His service extended beyond the call of duty, making a profound impact on countless lives and communities. This is why he is being inducted into the Indiana Military Veterans Hall of Fame.

Colonel Eckart was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism during the Tet Offensive in Vietnam.

He taught English literature at his alma mater, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He was the battalion commander in charge of the U.S. Army Reserves in Jeffersonville and retired as a colonel in 1993 in Indianapolis.

Although he retired, his service never stopped. He has served his community of Corydon for decades and has served as the West Point liaison for Indiana's 9th District for the last 23 years.

This is where my staff and I have had the honor and privilege of getting to know him.

Colonel Eckart is loved by my staff, his family, his community, and his country. It is truly a blessing to honor him on the House floor today.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Colonel Eckart on being inducted into the Indiana Military Veterans Hall of Fame. Indiana is proud to call him one of its own.

HIGH AUTO INSURANCE RATES

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, auto insurance discrimination continues to keep our residents in the cycle of poverty in Michigan.

The Prohibit Auto Insurance Discrimination Act, or PAID Act, would prohibit auto insurance companies from using education level, marital status, credit scores, ZIP Codes, Census tracts, or homeownership status in insurance rating or underwriting decisions.

Madam Speaker, these factors don't determine your driving ability, yet our neighbors, especially in my district, regularly face higher auto insurance rates.

Currently many people are charged hundreds or even thousands of dollars more based on these factors, even though they aren't related to driving.

Madam Speaker, I don't know what the heck marital status or education level have to do with whether or not you are a good driver.

This summer Michigan residents saw a 42 percent fee increase adding on to higher fees that are still unaffordable for many families.

I am really grateful to be working with Congresswoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN on the PAID Act.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to please fight against this discriminatory practice.

HONORING MARY ANN RILEY OF INMAN, SOUTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Ann Riley of Inman, South Carolina, for her decades of service to our community and dedication to the South Carolina Republican Party.

Ms. Riley moved to South Carolina in 1982. That same year she began attending community meetings, getting involved in local campaigns, and was appointed president of the Spartanburg County Republican Women where she has served ever since.

More than politics, Ms. Riley is a major contributor to her local pregnancy center and supports upstate veterans undergoing hospice care. She is also active in her church and other organizations that work to assist our fellow South Carolinians every single day.

A former teacher, her life's work has been to make the world a better place for her students, her neighbors, and future generations.

Ms. Riley is a true public servant who has made a significant and lasting impact on South Carolinians. I thank Mary Ann for over 30 years of service to the people of Spartanburg County and the upstate as a whole.

CELEBRATING DIWALI

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

Mr. HARDER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Diwali and honor its message of light triumphing over darkness.

This Sunday, families in San Joaquin County and across the world will gather to celebrate the festival of lights with their families and friends.

Diwali holds a special place in the hearts of the South Asian community and serves as a beacon of hope, unity, and joy.

My wife grew up celebrating Diwali with her own family. From lighting diyas to decorating her doorstep with rangoli, it is a chance now to make sure that that tradition lives on with my own daughter and her Indian heritage celebrating the values that Diwali embodies.

I am so grateful to the South Asian community whose hard work, dedication, and vibrant culture are such an important part of San Joaquin County and across the United States.

Madam Speaker, I hope this year's Diwali is filled with joy, love, and plenty of good sweets.

RECOGNIZING MR. GERALD McCLELLAN ON VETERANS DAY

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

Ms. LETLOW. Madam Speaker, in honor of Veterans Day, I would like to take the time to recognize one of our very own veterans from the Fifth District of Louisiana.

Mr. Gerald McClellan, a resident of Pineville, Louisiana, is a retired Master Sergeant E-8 of the United States Army. He joined the Army straight out of high school in 1973, went through vigorous training, and spent his deployment in the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea.

He distinguished himself with outstanding achievements, going on to receive the Meritorious Service Medal upon retirement for impeccable service to the military.

On Veterans Day, we reflect on the service and sacrifice of our Nation's veterans like Gerald. They are responsible for protecting and ensuring that our freedoms continue to last from generation to generation.

We must never forget that we are the land of the free because of the brave.

Today we give our most sincere gratitude to our veterans. Their duty and fidelity to the cause of freedom is something for which they will forever be honored. Today and every day we thank them for their service.

REPUBLICANS ARE CUTTING FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

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

Ms. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to House Republicans' transportation and housing appropriations bill.

This week Republicans are fast-tracking a bill that would make it

more difficult for people in North Carolina to commute to work and find an affordable place to live.

Specifically, this legislation slashes funding for the HOME program, the sole Federal housing program dedicated to affordable housing construction.

Under their plan, funding will be cut by two-thirds, and 17,000 fewer affordable homes will be built or rehabilitated in the coming fiscal year.

I consistently hear from constituents about the high cost of housing and how it is an unbearable burden. Across North Carolina, 25 percent of all renter households are categorized as extremely low-income. These families need our help.

Madam Speaker, we must do more to make housing affordable, and we must reject this deeply flawed bill.

BIDEN DEFICIT THREATENS FAMILIES

(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. Madam Speaker, last month the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget reported on the final Monthly Treasury Statement for 2023 by the Department of the Treasury.

The U.S. deficit totaled \$2 trillion. This figure is double the deficit of 2022 and higher than the Congressional Budget Office projected in June.

Officially, the deficit grew \$320 billion from 2022. As a share of the economy, the deficit was 7.5 percent of the gross domestic product. This is larger than at any time in American history outside of war, recession, or national emergency.

Republicans, led by Speaker MIKE JOHNSON, will continue to fight to pass legislation to reduce the deficit helping American families.

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.

The New York Post this week warns a 9/11 attack in America is imminent.

□ 1215

HONORING AMERICANS WHO SACRIFICED SO MUCH

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 16 million brave men and women alive today who valiantly served this Nation in the United States military.

Every year, on November 11, we unite as a nation to celebrate and honor all veterans who selflessly put their lives on the line, fighting for the freedoms that make this the greatest country on Earth.