

Cindy; his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren. We won't forget Ed's service to this country and the impact he had on those he loved, Mr. Speaker.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROSS BAGWELL

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Ross Bagwell, Sr., who passed away on November 23 at the age of 91.

Ross grew up in east Tennessee where he watched his first television broadcast. He was not only a loving husband and father but also a trailblazer for television producing, bringing east Tennessee to the forefront of America's television production.

Most people think that it all happens in Los Angeles or New York; but, no, it happens right there in my hometown of Knoxville, Tennessee.

He originally worked on the Howdy Doody show. He produced hundreds of hours of programming, including "I-40 Paradise," "Club Dance," "America's Castles," and Nickelodeon's "Hey Dude," shows that I actually watched a lot of, especially the country music.

Ross was always very kind to me. He always catered in barbecue when I would visit him. He was a dreamer with a genuine love for creativity.

He always talked about wanting to build a waterfall in Knoxville on the Tennessee River, right there on the riverfront. I, of course, was the county mayor at the time. We couldn't make it happen because it would have been a city project.

Through CineTel and RIVR Media, the do-it-yourself concept, which you see so prevalent out there now, was actually a creation of Ross Bagwell.

He met the love of his life, Sue, in the eighth grade. They were together their whole lives until her passing in 2022.

Ross is survived by his daughter, Dee; brother, Joe; two grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He will be missed by those who love him, Mr. Speaker, but he will not be forgotten.

#### 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 10 o'clock and 35 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 (Mr. BOST) at noon.

#### PRAYER

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

Eternal God, shine Your light in the darkness of our world, in our Nation, and in our lives. Illumine the hiding

places where evil resides and rout it out. Expose it to Your divine justice.

For malice breeds in the soul of humanity and takes hold of the hearts of nations and authorities who wield its destructive power against whole peoples and who care not for the suffering of the innocent in their path.

Show mercy on the hostages in the Middle East and free them from the grip of power and prejudice. Reveal Your peace in the conflict still raging in Ukraine and still the weapons of hatred and hubris.

Then examine our own hearts, O Lord. Judge our intentions and test our motives so that we ourselves would not be drawn into evil's attempt to hold sway over our lives. Let us not be overcome by evil, but may we serve You in committing ourselves to overcoming evil with good.

We give thanks that You would want to enfold us in grace this day and every day, and we offer our prayers in Your most holy name.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. TOKUDA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TOKUDA 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.

#### CONGRATULATING STANTON MUSTANGS FOOTBALL ON FIRST STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Stanton High School football team for winning the first State football championship in their school's history.

The Mustangs hail from Stanton, Nebraska, a town of less than 2,000 people in Nebraska's First Congressional District. The Mustangs, with a roster of 29 players, went undefeated in their 2023 season and finished it off by winning State at Memorial Stadium in Lincoln.

This was Stanton's first State appearance in almost two decades.

With two Mustang touchdowns within 13 seconds in the fourth quarter, the 8-man team pulled off a comeback for the Stanton history books.

The team dedicated this season to their late coach, Patric Brechbill, who passed away just weeks before the season started. The boys said they knew he was with them through every tough play.

Congratulations to the Mustangs' players and coaches. They have made their hometown proud and Coach Brechbill very proud.

#### ADDRESSING THE DIRE HOUSING CRISIS ON MAUI

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, even before the fires destroyed over 2,000 homes on Maui, our entire State faced a dire housing crisis.

Three months later, over 6,500 people find themselves living temporarily in hotels. While many have had to move multiple times, these hotels have served as respite from an uncertain future.

Yet, hundreds of survivors will be moved again today as some hotels opt against renewing their contracts. In the coming months, hundreds more will be moved, too. At the same time, efforts to secure long-term housing through existing short-term rentals on Maui have stalled. In both cases, the underlying motivation is the same—to accommodate the return of tourists to Maui.

This isn't "pono," "right." This also isn't about choosing one over the other. Rather, it is a challenge to us to prioritize what is the most important: taking care of our people. That includes giving them stability and security when it comes to having roofs over their heads.

For everyone in our Maui "ohana," "family," this is a time of shared sacrifice, but it is also a call to live aloha.

For too many, August 7 will be the day they lost their house to fire. Let's work together to make sure they know that they still have a place to call home.

#### RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN AND GERMAN PARTNERSHIP

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of our strong partnership with Germany. Our partnership runs deep, with Germany being the third largest foreign employer in the United States and Germans investing more than \$1.8 trillion in the U.S. from 2020 to 2022.

Today, there are more than 40 million Americans of German descent living in the United States, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania boasts one of the largest German populations in the country.

As co-chairman of the Congressional German American Caucus, I was proud to be joined today by my colleague, Congressman KEATING, in introducing the resolution on reaffirming German-American friendship and cooperation initiative. This resolution reaffirms the importance of the alliance between the United States and Germany, underscoring our shared commitment to democracy and freedom.

In addition, this resolution highlights the great connections between the United States and Germany. Our bond is based on friendship, historical ties, and shared values. These historical ties include the Wunderbar Together program as well as the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange program, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

Earlier this month, we celebrated the 34th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Let's continue our strong bilateral ties and close cooperation on the global stage.

#### CELEBRATING SIKH AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION MONTH

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

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Sikh Awareness and Appreciation Month.

Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world, with over 250,000 Sikhs calling California home. The Sikh community has given so much to California and, in particular, to my district in San Joaquin County. In fact, the Sikh community helped build Stockton and San Joaquin County into what they are today. The very first gurdwara in the United States was founded in Stockton over 100 years ago.

Sikh farmers, truck drivers, doctors, and business leaders have contributed so much to making our community what it is today. My wife, Pam, and our daughter, Lillian, are proud of their Indian heritage.

The Sikh community has opened their arms to my family, sharing their traditions, warmth, and hospitality. I am eternally grateful.

As November comes to an end, I hope we can all take some time to celebrate our Sikh loved ones and recommit to our shared values of equality, justice, and religious freedom.

#### BORDER CROSSINGS AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, as a Representative of a northern border district, I rise today to address the bor-

der crisis impacting communities across the country, including those in my district.

What is unfolding at our southern border is a humanitarian and national moral crisis. Under the Biden administration's failed policies, every State has become a border State.

Border crossings are at an all-time high and include people on the terrorist watch list and child sex predators. Fentanyl flows freely over the border and then is trafficked across the country.

I have been to both the north and south borders and talked with border agents. They feel like the administration has abandoned them, as have our constituents.

In May, House Republicans passed the strongest border security package in history, yet the Senate refuses to vote on H.R. 2 or any other border solution.

We can't wait any longer, Mr. Speaker. The Senate must vote on H.R. 2, secure our border, and protect our communities.

#### CELEBRATING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WELDON'S YOUTH CENTER

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the grand opening and dedication of the youth center at the First Baptist Church of Weldon, North Carolina.

Faced with determining the best use of the church's parsonage, Pastor T.J. Walker and church leaders, who could have done many things with it, decided to renovate the parsonage and turn it into a youth center. The youth center includes game, pool, reading, and study rooms.

The First Baptist Church of Weldon realizes that children in small rural communities need opportunities. The youth center will be a safe haven for young minds, a place for them to flourish and to prepare them to live the American Dream.

Indeed, the First Baptist Church of Weldon has demonstrated through their actions that we must train up children the way they should go so they don't depart.

#### CONGRATULATING THE SALEM RESCUE SQUAD

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Salem Rescue Squad for being awarded the 2023 Volunteer EMS Service of the Year Award.

For the past 90 years, the Salem Rescue Squad has displayed selfless service to the city of Salem. Today, under the leadership of Chief Glen Gray and Cap-

tain Darlene Gee, the Salem Rescue Squad is the second oldest all-volunteer rescue squad in the United States.

Operating out of one station, the squad responds to approximately 2,000 calls per year and provides standby coverage for large events in addition to responding to any disaster in the area.

Recruitment and retention for a small volunteer service can often be a challenge, but due to aggressive efforts, the squad has successfully doubled its staff over the last 2 years and has 29 active members. The volunteers serve as paramedics and offer prehospital care, giving up their time and energy to help others in the community.

Congratulations again to Chief Gray, Captain Gee, and the entire Salem Rescue Squad on receiving this incredible award.

#### RECOGNIZING GUSTAVO CARUSO

(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, I am grateful to recognize the 2023 Army Congressional Fellow, Major Gustavo Caruso, for his service to the office of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina.

His yearlong service in Congress is ending, and Gus will be missed. He has been an indispensable contributor to legislative goals, including the fiscal year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act. He has been a valued team member for the military and veterans.

Gus has received deserved awards in his 14 years of service, including combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. He was deployed to the Poland-Ukraine border to face the murderous invasion of Ukraine by war criminal Putin.

Gus hails from Georgia, has a bachelor's degree from the University of Hawaii, and holds two graduate degrees. His next assignment will be at the Pentagon, where Gus will continue his promotion of peace through strength.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who have successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues, moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. Senator TOMMY TUBERVILLE is correct that there will be 9/11 attacks "every few days" due to Biden's open borders for terrorists.

#### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I seek recognition to give notice of my intent to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Resolution impeaching Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of