

Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Chamber of Commerce recently held its annual State of Economic Development meeting to recognize outstanding businesses in our community.

On behalf of the Ninth District, I would like to honor this year's winners.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Development Authority of Lumpkin County's Economic Investment Award recipient, DahloneGO, a successful transportation and tour company in north Georgia. This honor is well-deserved as DahloneGO continues to make incredible investments in the Lumpkin County community.

Additionally, I recognize this year's Corporate Responsibility Award recipient, R-Ranch in the Mountains, which creates a positive impact in Lumpkin County by offering northeast Georgians and tourists alike exceptional experiences through its more than 800 acres of campsites, trails, and lodging. Nestled in the beautiful north Georgia mountains, R-Ranch brings tremendous value to the community through its unique amenities and activities, cultivating economic growth and providing memorable adventures for families and outdoor enthusiasts.

I also congratulate Blue Coolers, the recipient of the Workforce Development award. In addition to manufacturing top-notch, durable coolers, this thriving company received this exciting honor for its impressive initiatives to train and equip individuals with skills and knowledge needed to maintain a strong workforce.

Next, I recognize Satellite Industries, a leading innovator in the portable sanitation industry, for receiving the Business of the Year Award.

For over 65 years, Satellite Industries has been advance engineering their products, such as portable restrooms and restroom trailers to be strong and user-friendly for customers across the country. I congratulate Satellite Industries on this outstanding achievement.

In addition, the city of Dahlonega Downtown Development Authority recognized several downtown businesses for their significant impact on the community this year.

These honors include Black Bear Mercantile as Emerging Business; Dahlonega Inn on Main for Downtown Investment; The Station, as the Local Favorite; and Connie's Ice Cream and Sandwich Shop for Downtown Business of the Year.

I congratulate the Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Chamber of Commerce's 2023 State of Economic Development award winners.

Mr. Speaker, I thank each of the recognized businesses for positively impacting our community, strengthening the future workforce in north Georgia, and fostering economic prosperity in Lumpkin County.

#### SINGLE SUBJECT RULE

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the former majority leader on

the Democrat side, just reminded us of our single subject rule that our Speaker cosponsored back in 2015. That is the current rule of the House, and yet my Democrat colleague wants us to violate it by lumping in aid for Ukraine, Taiwan, and Israel together with border security in one bill. No.

We have already passed a bill to support Israel. We have already passed a border security bill, H.R. 2. Both are languishing in the Democrat-controlled Senate. Where was the call for the Senate to stay here and do their job? He should have called upon the Senate, as I do now. Pass the Israel bill, pass the Secure the Border Act, and give both countries a merrier Christmas.

#### HIGHLIGHTING THE WORK BEING DONE FOR OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the work being done on behalf of our veterans, the work that my office has been working on.

Arizona's Sixth Congressional District is home to over 70,000 veterans. Our district has a historic legacy of service to our country from the servicemembers at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base and Fort Huachuca to incredible veterans like Walter Ram, a World War II veteran and Purple Heart recipient.

In my role as their Congressman, I have made it my mission to secure as much assistance as possible for those who risk their lives for our freedom. That is why I made it a priority to help our veterans, servicemembers, and their families as they navigate Federal agencies. This year alone, my team has been able to return \$345,000 to veterans.

The responsibility to provide for them is not one I take lightly, and I am committed to ensuring they receive the care and support that they deserve.

This is something that extends to my time here in Washington. As a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, I have made a concerted effort to introduce commonsense bills to improve the lives of those who serve. My first bill ever introduced in Congress, H.R. 1378, the Veterans' Appeals Backlog Improvement Act, aims to address the lengthy waiting period our veterans face when trying to appeal a claim at the VA.

I also led an effort to ensure and expand access to our veterans in rural areas seeking disability claims with two pieces of legislation: H.R. 5470, the Veteran Medical Exams for Distant Areas Act, and H.R. 5938, the Veterans Exam Expansion Act. It is critical that we ensure our veterans receive the same care no matter their ZIP Code.

The same goes for the educational benefits they receive. That is why I spearheaded H.R. 5702, the Expanding Access for Online Veteran Students Act, legislation to ensure our student

veterans taking classes virtually receive the same housing benefits as their counterparts taking classes in person. I learned about that need when I visited the veterans center over at the University of Arizona. This was highlighted, and we took immediate action.

We must ensure our veterans are equipped with the tools they need to successfully transition out of uniform and into civilian life. That includes a meaningful career, which is what led me to introducing H.R. 1669, the VET-TEC Authorization Act. The bill reauthorizes a popular VA program that covers the cost of veterans seeking job training in high-tech industries.

Each of these bills is a small effort to improve the lives of those who sacrifice so much.

On behalf of the people of Arizona's Sixth Congressional District, I extend my deepest gratitude to the incredible men and women who have served our country. While we will never be able to fully repay all of them who have served, we have a duty to fight for them as they fought for us.

□ 1130

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL (RET.) FRANCIS D. FAULCONER

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

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a proud Kentuckian, a great American patriot, and my great-uncle, Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Francis D. Faulconer, who passed away on October 19 at the age of 100.

My grandfather's younger brother was better known to many of us in central Kentucky as Fearless Frank Faulconer, the first weatherman for WKYT, later WTVQ, and finally WKQQ, where he delivered for us the weekly "Fearless Frank's Five Day Forecast."

What many don't know, however, is that before he became our weatherman, Frank had a distinguished military career.

After graduation from Lafayette High School in 1941, he enlisted in the United States Army in 1943 and took basic training at Camp Crowder, Missouri, a signal training facility. Overseas in Europe in 1944, Faulconer was transferred to the Liaison G3 Section of the First United States Army. In this capacity, he traveled with Combat Command A of the 3rd Armored "Spearhead" Division from Meaux, France, to Roetgen, Germany.

Service in the European theater of operation earned him five Bronze Stars for his service in Normandy, northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe, and the Ardennes.

Additionally, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for helping to escort the reserve elements of the combat command at night, from the rear to the forward elements of the battle line.

I will always remember my uncle telling me about tearing down Nazi swastikas from the churches along the battlefield so that American flags could signal the path of liberation.

Frank has now taken his rightful place in Heaven and in the history books, chronicling the story of American freedom alongside his beloved brother, my grandfather, Major General J. B. Faulconer, Army veteran of the Pacific theater, with the millions of other heroes of the Greatest Generation.

God bless all these heroes. We thank them for their service and for serving as a continual and powerful reminder to all of us that freedom requires sacrifice. It must be fought for.

May their example, the example of the Greatest Generation, always inspire us to continually fight for freedom and democracy.

#### 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 34 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

#### PRAYER

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

Sovereign God, we pause in this brief moment, acutely aware that beyond these Chambers are a host of issues that demand urgent attention and compete for increasingly limited resources. Outside the silence of this place, the drumbeat of need is deafening and resounds across the globe.

We pray to You, O Lord, for our world, for the ever more precarious position in which Ukraine finds itself, for the fog of war that has descended on Israel and Gaza, and for discord in our own discourse on just these two topics alone. Each of these is a crisis in its own right, and each is fraught with competing concerns that complicate even our best intentions.

Lord, You are not the author of confusion but of peace. Bring Your peace into our world and into this place, that our eyes would be open to Your leading, that our ears would hear, among the cacophony of voices that clamor to be heard, Your word of truth and justice. Out of our mouths may our words sow Your peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.

We give ourselves fully to the work of You, O Lord. May our labor for You and for this Nation never be in vain. In Your merciful 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 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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

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

#### CELEBRATING CLARA BARTON

(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 to celebrate Clara Barton, the founder of the American Red Cross.

Clara is one of the most honored women in American history. From a young age, she was dedicated to service and helping others.

Clara started her career in Washington, D.C., working in the Federal Government. She was in D.C. at the start of the Civil War. Clara recognized the immediate need to help these newly recruited troops.

Clara spent the early days of the war collecting food and supplies for the Union Army. She would later risk her life heading to the field hospitals to volunteer and deliver medical services.

More than 140 years later, the Red Cross continues its service through its strong network of volunteers, donors, and partners. They continue to serve those in need by mobilizing the power of volunteers in times of emergencies.

Mr. Speaker, Clara Barton's birthday is on December 25. Her passion for service is an example to all of us. Her selflessness and determination to help others continues to inspire us to this day.

#### RECOGNIZING SARA CAPEN

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Sara Capen, chair of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas.

Sara, who also serves as executive director of the Niagara Falls Heritage Area, is a dedicated leader, collaborator, and facilitator committed to preserving and celebrating the Niagara region's rich history.

From the growth of the Discover Niagara Shuttle to the success of the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center, Sara has been the energy behind projects connecting people to stories, destinations, and to one another.

At the national level, Sara was the driving force behind approval of the National Heritage Areas Act, which reauthorizes all 45 heritage areas for the next 15 years, safeguarding and strengthening economic opportunities across the country.

We thank Sara Capen for her passion and commitment to ensuring America's history is woven into our future for generations to come.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF HAROLD HUDSON "RIP" WALLACE, JR.

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a cherished son of south Texas, Mr. Harold Hudson "Rip" Wallace, Jr., who was called home earlier this year.

Rip lived a life marked by service, dedication, and love. His 58 years of marriage to his beloved wife, Donna, stands as a testament to his commitment and love.

A respected rancher and community pillar, Rip's contribution to local agriculture, the Texas Farm Bureau, and his unwavering support for the Live Oak County Fair enriches our lives.

His legacy as a lifelong member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will not be forgotten.

My heart goes out to Donna, their family, and to all those who were touched by Rip's remarkable life.

#### HONORING MAJOR-SELECT TERRELL K. BRAYMAN

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow I rise to acknowledge the loss of U.S. Air Force Major-Select Terrell K. Brayman of Pittsford, New York.

On November 29, Major-Select Brayman, an Osprey pilot and flight commander, perished during a training exercise off the coast of Japan along with seven of his fellow airmen.

Major-Select Brayman, who would have celebrated his 33rd birthday a week from today, grew up in Rochester and was described as hardworking and hilarious by those closest to him.

Following his graduation from high school, he enrolled in Ohio State's ROTC program, successfully becoming