

I was happy to meet with these young ladies and their parents and see firsthand how their app works. I congratulate them and all the winners.

IN CELEBRATION OF MODERN WOODMEN PARK

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate Iowa's very own Modern Woodmen Park for once again being named the number one minor league ballpark in the country.

Modern Woodmen Park is home to the Quad City Bandits and seats more than 17,000 people. This stadium is perfect for baseball fanatics, as well as families who want to spend quality time together.

Attached to the field is a kids' amusement park that features roller coasters and the State's only double-decker carousel. This park has been a staple of Davenport since 1931 and provides the city with a much-needed economic boost.

I am proud of all those who help maintain this beautiful park, and I look forward to my next game there.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAITLIN CLARK

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Caitlin Clark, the University of Iowa's superstar player, for being selected first overall in the 2024 WNBA draft by the Indiana Fever.

Following back-to-back seasons of playing in the national championship game, Caitlin now finds herself competing for the most prestigious award in all of women's basketball, a WNBA championship.

Caitlin finished her illustrious college career as the highest scorer in NCAA basketball history, surpassing legends such as "Pistol" Pete Maravich and Kelsey Plum. She also won all major Player of the Year awards in her junior and senior years.

I could not be prouder of Caitlin and all that she accomplished at her young age. Additionally, even Coach Lisa Bluder said: When she came into the locker room as a freshman, she said: We are going to go to the Final Four.

No one believed her, but she inspired her coaches, her team, and her community to make it happen.

I can't wait to see the impact she has on the WNBA. As always, Go Hawks.

IN MEMORY OF CANDACE CARROLL

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

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Candace Carroll, a longtime San Diego attorney, constituent, and friend.

To say Candace was a trailblazer would be an understatement. I don't know how many women entered the legal profession in 1974, the year Candace graduated from Duke Law School. I do know that, just 4 years earlier, there were only 13,000 women lawyers in the entire United States.

Today, there are more than half a million.

Candace said of Duke Law: It was the first place I had ever been where, if you were a fairly loud, smart, and opinionated woman who put your hand up all the time, you were welcomed.

Indeed, Candace was never one to stay silent. Her accomplishments reflect that.

Her impressive legal career included a clerkship with the D.C. Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, 7 years as an appellate attorney for the National Labor Relations Board, and she practiced with Sullivan Hill Rez & Engel in San Diego for 30 years.

A mother of three, she advocated for women attorneys who were struggling to juggle a work-life balance, and she was also a champion for underserved communities, serving on the boards of San Diego Volunteer Lawyers, the national and local ACLU, and the San Diego chapter of the International Rescue Committee.

She cared about the next generation of attorneys. She taught seminars at Duke Law and the University of San Diego School of Law, where she supervised a Ninth Circuit legal clinic. She and her husband, Len, established fellowships at Duke to aid students working in nonpaid public interest positions during law school.

Candace also loved the arts. She served on the board of directors of the San Diego Opera and was credited with helping save the organization from being forced to shut down.

Madam Speaker, if everything I have mentioned doesn't reflect someone who has embraced a life of giving back, Candace also served as President of the San Diego County Bar Association and the California Women Lawyers, and chaired Senator Barbara Boxer's San Diego-area advisory committee for Federal judge and U.S. attorney nominations.

Sadly, Candace died from leukemia at her home in San Diego on January 24 with her husband, Len, and her sons, Daniel, Matthew, and David by her side. She was an inspiration to those who were lucky enough to know her friendship, compassion, and commitment to service firsthand, and San Diego is a better place because of her.

DESIGNATION OF TIJUANA RIVER AS ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST ENDANGERED RIVERS

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to mark the unfortunate designation today of the Tijuana River as one of America's most endangered rivers. While it gives me no pride that the Tijuana River is receiving this distinction, it will help bring critical attention to this environmental catastrophe and public health threat.

The sewage crisis has plagued the river for far too long, harming the environment, public health, tourism, our national security, and residents' quality of life.

We are finally beginning to turn the page on this crisis, thanks to advocacy efforts like this, and soon the story of

the Tijuana River will, I hope, be one of triumph and not tragedy.

Last month, we celebrated a victory when we secured \$156 million for the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission's construction budget. This money will go toward fixing and upgrading the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant. It keeps us on track to begin work this year, but there is still a lot more to be done.

We will need to secure additional funding over the next few years to ensure this project is completed without delay and at the fully intended capacity.

I will continue working with my colleagues here in Congress to end this crisis so that, one day, the Tijuana River earns the distinction of being an environmental jewel and not an environmental disaster.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PICKETT COUNTY LADY BOBCATS

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, for many folks I represent in the Upper Cumberland Region of Tennessee, this year feels a lot like 1989. That is the last time that Pickett County Lady Bobcats were named TSSAA girls' basketball State champions.

They reclaimed that title last month when they defeated the Moore County Lady Raiders 56-45 in the class 1A final. The championship, Madam Speaker, was a family affair. Lady Bobcats guard Zoe Nicholas now joins her aunt and grandmother in having been members of a Pickett County State championship team.

It doesn't stop there. Nicholas' cousin, Callie Reeder, is also on the winning team and was even named Tournament Most Valuable Player.

The coach that led the team to victory, Brent Smith, has a brother named Barry, who happened to coach the last winning team 35 years ago.

It is important to note that, even though this is the first State championship in a while, the program does very well every season. It is also important to note that, each time the Lady Bobcats have made it out of the quarterfinals and advanced to the State championship, they have won.

I congratulate the current champions for keeping that now six-time winning streak alive.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent Pickett County and many places like it that take so much pride in their families, communities, and their home team.

Again, I congratulate the Pickett County Lady Bobcats 2024 TSSAA Single A girls' basketball State champions.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2024-2025 TENNESSEE FFA STATE OFFICER TEAM

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the 2024-2025 Tennessee Future Farmers of America State Officer team.

I commend FFA for all it does to support our Nation's young people and the many ways it has helped produce some of our Nation's best and brightest.

For countless elected officials, including me, FFA is where it all started. It is where we began honing leadership skills, learning ways to meet challenges, big and small, and seeing the value of hard work.

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The experiences FFA students are afforded in those few short years will continue to matter to them throughout their lives.

Serving in an officer role can be transformative. I know because I had the chance to be one myself. I was elected FFA president of my local chapter in Cookeville, Tennessee, in 1982. The following year, I was fortunate enough to be elected Middle Tennessee State vice president.

My time as an FFA State officer taught me tremendous lessons I am proud to hold on to until this very day. I still keep two of my FFA blue corduroy jackets in framed cases on my office wall as a reminder of the lessons learned from that experience.

I say all of this to send a message to FFA students everywhere: Living to serve isn't just part of the FFA motto; it is a lifestyle.

I congratulate the newly elected Tennessee FFA State officers: T. Wayne Williams, State president; Emily Whitehead, East Tennessee State vice president; Skylar Baird, Middle Tennessee State vice president; Sarah Ault, West Tennessee State vice president; Shelbi Wallace, State secretary; Eli Julian, treasurer; Paige Pardue, reporter; and Lexi Rush, sentinel.

FFA chapters across Tennessee are preparing student leaders for big things. In fact, it is those chapter officers and this slate of State officers that give me so much hope for the future of our State.

Madam Speaker and Members of Congress, please join me in recognizing the newly elected Tennessee FFA State officers. I congratulate each of them.

AMERICA STANDS WITH ISRAEL

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

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to make it crystal clear: America stands with Israel.

On October 7, 2023, Iranian-backed Hamas terrorists invaded Israel, killing and kidnapping both Israelis and Americans, resulting in the deadliest day for the Jewish people since World War II.

In the aftermath of the October 7 attacks, House Republicans made it clear that we always have been and always will be staunch supporters of Israel. Unfortunately, the Biden administration and some radical Washington Democrats have taken a different approach.

Since day one, President Biden's mission has been to appease the Iranian re-

gime in Tehran as if it would be effective in discouraging bad behavior. President Biden took a sledgehammer to President Trump's policies, which actually worked and deterred terrorism, by reversing permanent sanctions on Iranian drones and missiles, allowing them to expire in October 2023.

In September of last year, President Biden unfroze \$6 billion in Iranian funds for the release of five American hostages. While we are grateful that those Americans are free, exchanging \$6 billion in assets sets an alarming precedent that only further incentivizes hostage-taking by Iran and other bad actors. America does not negotiate with terrorists.

The President's appeasement in dealing with the terrorist regime in Tehran backfired and put American and Israeli lives at risk. After 4 years of peace in the Middle East under President Trump, President Biden has empowered Iranian proxies and put the entire region at risk.

If it isn't clear enough to the Biden administration, here is a wake-up call: The President's policies aren't working. They are failing. In fact, President Biden's policies are so disastrous that for the first time in history, Iran has launched a direct military assault on Israel.

Some people are claiming that Israel should not respond to Iran's attack based on the punches thrown but rather on the punches that landed. Of the more than 300 drones, cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles that Iran launched at Israel, fortunately, the Iron Dome and other defense mechanisms protected Israel from much of the damage that Iran intended to cause.

In no other country would we spew such a nuanced foreign affairs strategy. America would not tolerate this behavior from any neighboring country, and neither should Israel.

Since October 7, House Republicans have passed legislation to support our ally. We supported Israel's right to self-defense, condemned Hamas terrorism, rejected anti-Semitism, reaffirmed America's commitment to Israel's security, pushed the Biden administration to reinstate and refreeze the Iranian assets and further prevent Iran from funding terrorism. We have fully funded U.S.-Israel cooperative missile defense programs and supported the expansion of the Abraham Accords to encourage peace in the Middle East.

This week, Congress will again vote on legislation to condemn the behavior of the Iranian regime and show our unequivocal support for our ally, Israel. For House Republicans and for me, there is no question: America stands with Israel.

Now, Mr. President, the choice is yours. Abandon our strongest ally in the Middle East or join House Republicans in standing with our ally and sole democratic partner in the Middle East, Israel.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF KEVIN "CATFISH" JACKSON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, as you know, I come down here quite often. I consider this to be one of the great privileges that we have in Congress—to recognize people in our districts for the lives that they lived, for the achievements that they achieved.

Some of them I know, and some of them I don't. All of them deserve to be recognized because all of them have done great things.

Today, I come down to honor someone who was a dear friend.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of my dear friend, Kevin "Catfish" Jackson.

Kevin grew up in Cartersville, Georgia. Those who knew him recognized his talent and motivated him to pursue a future in athletics and academics. He actually wanted to quit high school. He wanted to become a lineman for Georgia Power. His coaches saw his athletic ability and encouraged him to continue on, and he did. He will be remembered for, among many things, being a member of the 1980 University of Georgia National Championship football team. He played under Coach Vince Dooley and Coach Erk Russell.

In fact, Coach Russell told the story about how he got his nickname, "Catfish." Some people say it was because the coach said he fought like a cat and drank like a fish. The coach also said that it might have been because, one day in practice, he was waddling around in the mud and looked like a catfish.

Due to his dedication, teamwork, and love for the sport, he was voted by his teammates as co-captain for the Georgia Bulldogs in 1983. Later, he was selected by his coaches for the Coach Wally Butts award for "the player who pays the price," a title that recognized his willingness to sacrifice for others without any ends.

After graduating with a degree in business education, Kevin moved to the city of Savannah, my hometown, and he became a very prominent businessman and a very important member of our community. He applied what he learned both in the classroom and on the field to his business ventures and earned a reputation for treating staff with the respect that he hoped to receive in return.

His sales career started in 1985. He first worked as a salesman for the Georgia Fastener and Safety Company in Savannah. Then, he went on to serve as vice president of marketing at Scapa Group.

In 1999, he founded his own business, EnviroVac Holdings, a company committed to environmental and industrial cleaning services. As president and CEO, he successfully expanded his company across the southeastern region of the Nation.