

Kevin was a man of many passions. He lived life like he was. He lived life big. He was known for giving his all in everything he worked on.

He served as chairman of the Savannah Economic Development Authority. He served on the boards of directors for the Georgia Ports Authority, the Georgia Economic Development Authority, the lottery, and so much more.

Despite his many obligations, he always looked out for his community, and his strong faith guided him to tirelessly serve others. He lent his talents to many wonderful organizations, including the Alzheimer's Association, Bethesda Academy, CASA, Leukemia Society, Cure for Cancer, Feed the Hungry, United Way, YMCA, and Savannah Christian Prep School.

I would be remiss if I did not mention his involvement in the organization Band of Brothers. In fact, for a while, we met at his business. The Band of Brothers is a prayer group, a Bible study that meets every week on Friday mornings at 6:30. Kevin was a big part of getting that started.

He was always there when you needed him, both in his career and his personal endeavors. His heart was always filled with gratitude, and his personality brought joy to all he met.

More than anything, he loved his family. I loved following him on Instagram, seeing all the different posts that he would have enjoying his grandchildren. He even built them a zoo, practically a zoo, a farm with all the farm animals.

Words cannot express the profound impact that Catfish has left on his community. He will be missed, but his career and service have created a legacy that will never be forgotten.

The Savannah and broader Georgia community are praying for Kevin's family. His memory will live on in our hearts forever. We suffered a great void in our community with the loss of Kevin "Catfish" Jackson, but his memory will live on forever.

#### RECOGNIZING DEDICATION AND SERVICE OF NICK SELIMOS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to be on this House floor and recognize people who have done great things for the community and for other people.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Nick Selimos, whose service and dedication to his work continue to unite and uplift Washington, D.C., where over 589,000 government employees work and live.

Nick has served as the maitre d' of The Monocle Restaurant for over 50 years this month. He is not an elected leader. He is not a lobbyist. He is not a congressional staffer. Yet, his impact and influence reaches as far as anyone with political power in this town would have.

Nick knows about the lives of individuals who have walked into The Monocle every day. Not only does he know political affiliations, not only does he know committee positions or the bills they are working on, but he also knows how their spouses are doing, where their kids just got accepted to school, and when their next grandkid is on the way.

It is his incredible memory paired with a genuine care for people that has made him a success in this town. When Nick started at The Monocle in 1974, Washington was a much smaller town, and the nature of politics and the entire political arena was much different. Nick has grown alongside it, matching the needs and changes in this town stride for stride.

Nick's deep knowledge and understanding of the needs of his guests exemplifies why people continue to return to The Monocle, along with the great food that they provide daily. It is why I take my staff, my friends, and my family time and time again to The Monocle. He is truly an outstanding leader. His demeanor and dedication to service guide the atmosphere of the entire restaurant.

As we recognize Mr. Nick Selimos, let us be inspired by his example so that we may do our work and that we may do it well for the betterment of the people we serve. He has set the gold standard for over 50 years, and his commitment and service will long be remembered.

Madam Speaker, I hope we will all join in giving Nick a big thank-you.

□ 1030

#### RECOGNIZING MAYOR ERNEST CHARGUALAF

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Mayor Ernest Chargualaf, who is retiring this year after over a decade of public service. Having been elected in 2008, Mayor Chargualaf holds the distinction of being the mayor of the southernmost village of Guam, the village of Malesso.

Mayor Chargualaf's history of service dates back to his time working for the Government of Guam. A lifelong public servant, Mayor Chargualaf was previously the Youth Center Supervisor with the Department of Parks and Recreation and held several positions at the Public Defender Corporation.

A few of his accomplishments during his tenure include: securing over 200 new crypts at the cemetery, completing the long-awaited land exchange for 32 families in the Land for the Landless program, repairing the community center, dedicating and renaming the pier park as the Malesso Veterans Sons & Daughters Pier Park, and the placement of four government lots behind the mayor's office.

Present day, Mayor Chargualaf is known for his leadership abilities, gen-

erosity, and his tenacity in advocating for the people of Malesso. He and his team continue to commit their time to ensuring there are programs for the elderly and sports activities for the youth.

I will certainly remember him as a gifted public servant who could make a village a family and carry out the spirit of "harmony," "inafa' maolek."

I would like to personally thank Mayor Chargualaf for his unwavering dedication and commitment to Malesso and its residents. I wish him the best in his retirement and thank him for his many years of service. I am confident his legacy will inspire future leaders to come. "Hooray," "Biba," Mayor Chargualaf. "Hooray," "Biba," Malesso.

#### SENDING A CLEAR MESSAGE TO TEHRAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. TIMMONS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to speak on the unbreakable bond between the United States and Israel, a partnership rooted not just in strategic interests, but in our shared values of democracy, freedom, and justice. This critical alliance not only shapes the destiny of our nations but also upholds the very principles that define our civilization.

When Iran launched an unprecedented attack on Israel this past weekend, we saw the forces of tyranny emboldened against beacons of freedom. We saw the importance of U.S. leadership and alliances in chaotic regions, but ultimately, we saw the result of inaction.

For 6 months, Israel, our greatest ally in the Middle East, has been at war for its very survival. We have supported them and prayed for their safety from the very beginning. In November, when they needed us, this House, the Republican majority, passed a bill to aid our friends. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle didn't want to take \$14 billion out of the \$80 billion they handed over to the IRS to pay for it.

The result of this was weakness. We showed weakness to our allies and to the world. This cannot stand. The United States has a moral obligation to support our allies in democracy and regional security against the forces of tyranny and terrorism. We have a moral obligation to bring another bill to the floor to support this alliance.

Let us send a clear message to Tehran and to the world: The United States stands unequivocally with Israel. We will not waver in our commitment to defend our ally from the threats of Iran and its proxies. We must do this to free the Palestinians in Gaza from the tyranny of Hamas. We must do this for Israel. We must do this to send a message to the world.

## 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 33 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. ROSE) at noon.

## PRAYER

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

Almighty God, You foil the plans of nations. You thwart the purpose of people. God, what hope do we who represent this Nation have? Lord, how can we, who work on behalf of the American people, get anything done without You?

When You look down from Your Heavens and see us, when You look from Your dwelling place and observe our lives, we pray You would consider our hearts and shape them according to Your perfect plan.

Blessed is the nation whose God is You, O Lord, for Your plans stand firm forever. The purposes of Your heart will sustain all generations who seek to serve You.

May our hope be ever in Your unfailing love. May all that we do revere You. Deliver us from the famine of our faith and the failure of our flawed designs. For You alone are our help and our shield.

Let Your unfailing love rest upon us, Lord, even as we put our hope in You.

We pray these prayers in Your sovereign 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 Illinois (Ms. BUDZINSKI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BUDZINSKI 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.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was commu-

nicated to the House by Ms. Avery M. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

## 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.

## FAMILIES ASSAULTED BY BIDENFLATION

(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, since Biden came to office, the pocketbooks of American families have been assaulted.

Upon his arrival, inflation was just 1.4 percent, but with Bidenflation of spend, borrow, and tax, inflation has reached a 40-year high, destroying jobs.

Bidenflation is a tax on American citizens and a direct result of the reckless spending of Biden and far-left Democrats, costing households over \$12,000 more a year just for the basics.

Examples of such price increases include eggs, which are up by 49 percent; baby food, up 31 percent; electricity, up 29 percent; pet food, up 24 percent; and coffee, up 20 percent.

House Republicans will continue to fight to reduce inflation and create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism moves from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new border laws. We need to enforce the current existing laws. Biden shamefully opens the borders for dictators as more 9/11 attacks across America are imminent, as warned by the FBI.

## REMEMBERING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. WILLIAM PATTERSON

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

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and celebrate the life of someone who served as a pillar of his community and beacon of light to the students of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Dr. William Patterson.

Dr. Patterson was a professor and community mentor who was dedicated to bettering the lives of the young people around him.

During his time as an associate professor at the University of Illinois School of Music, Dr. Patterson worked with the Moyer Boys and Girls Club and created new initiatives for Black middle school, high school, and college students, like the Hip Hop Xpress Urban STEM Lab.

Dr. Patterson's impact on our community cannot be overstated. He was known for always being fully present until the work was done.

As we mourn his loss, we also celebrate Dr. Patterson and his work, work that we must honor by continuing to follow his example of leadership and excellence. May his legacy live on to empower and inspire young people to blossom into bright, civic-minded leaders for generations to come.

## RECOGNIZING SERVICE CLUBS AND THEIR VOLUNTEERS

(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 recognize members of the Lions Club, the Rotary Club, the Kiwanis Club, and the Optimist organization, who are on Capitol Hill today.

Volunteer service is a cornerstone of a successful, strong, and healthy community. It is also an important staple of American life. I am a member of my hometown organization, the Howard Area Lions Club, so I know firsthand the good this club does around the world.

To share the impactful work of service clubs and our volunteers, Congressman JIMMY PANETTA of California, who is a Rotarian, and I founded the Congressional Service Organization Caucus in 2019.

Later today, the Congressional Service Organization Caucus will host a Member and staff briefing. Speakers from Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis, and Optimist clubs will share how their members strive to make the world a better place, one community at a time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join the Congressional Service Organization Caucus to ensure service to others remains a viable part of American life for generations to come.

## TAKING SPOONFULS' PLEDGE TO WASTE LESS

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I have officially taken the pledge. An incredible organization from Massachusetts called Spoonfuls is calling on all of us to reduce our wasted food footprint while helping those who don't know where their next meal is coming from.

I have always said that, in America, we have a mismatch: Acres of fresh fruits and vegetables and some of the most talented farmers in the world, yet nearly 40 million Americans go hungry. We have enough food to feed everyone, yet so much goes to waste.

In fact, about 40 percent of the food the U.S. produces ends up thrown in the trash, and too much of it is perfectly good to eat.