

for pregnancy-related complications that not only endanger the life of the woman but also that of her unborn baby.

While members of the Congressional Black Maternal Health Caucus are working tirelessly to highlight and address the ongoing epidemic of Black maternal health, it is clear there is more work that needs to be done. Even to this day, we are still trying to convince colleagues on both sides of the aisle and in both Chambers how important it is that we care for women and care for mothers.

This is not a partisan issue. It is a human issue. Our Black mothers and babies in every district across the country deserve to live long, healthy, and happy lives.

I am confident that regardless of our political party, we can work together to improve health outcomes and deliver on the promise of better health, healthier lives, and brighter futures for all of us.

I call on my colleagues to join us in the fight to keep our moms and babies safe. Our mothers and babies simply cannot wait any longer.

Finally, I would like to recognize the many local organizations in Ohio's 13th Congressional District that are working each and every day to improve the health of Black moms and babies in our community. Organizations like Stark County THRIVE, Full Term First Birthday, Project Ujima, and the Minority Behavioral Health Group are all committed to improving maternal health outcomes and promoting equity in Ohio's 13th District.

Improving maternal health requires action and collaboration at every level, and I am extremely proud and grateful to these organizations for the work they are doing.

This Black Maternal Health Week and beyond, I am committed to improving healthcare access to all and giving women and families the tools they need to live healthy, happier lives in Ohio's 13th Congressional District and beyond.

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 25 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. CARL) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Holy God, You call us to hold fast to faith, to trust You, the creator of the universe, to answer our personal needs, even while You attend to the multitude of demands in our communities, our country, and our world. How is it that You can hear us when the whole world cries for deliverance from warfare and famine and disease? May our faith be strong enough to believe that You in Your divine power will replenish us, as well as these deserts of disaster, with Your ocean of grace.

Our despair has names like Israel, Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, and Taiwan. What answers are to be had which will address the injustices, the injuries, the inhumanity that overwhelm these regions? God, give us reason to hope in You, our redeemer, that we would be patient in tribulation and constant in prayer.

Transform our fears, our pains, our worries, and our concerns with Your love, a love greater than all that seeks to defeat or overtake us. For when all our efforts fail, when no solution is in sight, these three remain: faith, hope, and love. The greatest of these is the love we receive from You.

In the name of the one who loved us first, 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 House 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania 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.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF U.S. ARMY CAPTAIN HARRY CRAMER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and the legacy of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, native and U.S. Army Captain Harry Cramer.

In 1957, U.S. Army Captain Cramer was attached to the 14th Special Forces Operational Detachment when he was killed while training soldiers in Nha Trang.

In giving his life for his country, Captain Cramer became the first of 58,281 soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who would be killed during the Vietnam war.

Throughout his time in the Army, Captain Cramer showed incredible bravery and was awarded a Silver Star and two Purple Hearts during his service in the Korean war. Last week, Captain Cramer was recognized in Cambria County when Highway 403, a road that was originally built by his family in the 1890s, was renamed in his honor.

America owes a debt of gratitude to Captain Cramer that can never be fully repaid. May God bless him and the entire Cramer family.

CONGRATULATING NORTH HOLLYWOOD HIGH'S SCIENCE BOWL TEAM

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of smart, dedicated, and science-loving students in my district from North Hollywood, California.

Last month, the Science Bowl team at North Hollywood High School won first place at the LADWP Science Bowl, the regional qualifying tournament for the Department of Energy's National Science Bowl Competition.

The team, made up of Boheng Cao, Daniel Hong, Phoebe Xu, Connor Zhao, and Suzoko Ohshima, rose to the challenge and topped other formidable science teams.

North Hollywood High School has won an astounding 25 of 27 regional competitions and are two-time National Science Bowl champions, having won most recently in 2021.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the team coaches, Altair Maine and Len Soloff, for fostering a culture of academic excellence and spreading the love of science to these remarkable students. I wish them all the best in the upcoming 2024 national competition.

CONGRATULATING THE SIRMON FAMILY

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

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Sirmon family of Baldwin County, Alabama, on their family farm being awarded the 2024 Alabama Farm of Distinction.

Sirmon Farms is owned by Joel and Patti Sirmon. Joel's mother, Shirley, who bakes great cookies, and her brother, James, also help run the fifth-generation family-owned farm.

At Sirmon Farms, they grow cotton, peanuts, corn, and sweet potatoes on

over 4,500 acres in the Belforest community. They will go on to represent Alabama during the Sunbelt Agriculture Expo in the Southeastern Farmers of the Year contest this fall.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Sirmon family and their family farm. I am thankful for the impact they have made on our State, and I am proud to be their Representative.

BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this Black Maternal Health Week, we confront the glaring reality that Black women in America are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications across socioeconomic criteria and education than similarly situated White women.

Research highlights a disturbing attribution, that Black women are also significantly more likely to encounter disrespectful treatment during childbirth, facing scolding, threats, and even outright hostility.

These disparities in treatment are not new. They are deeply embedded in the fabric, unfortunately, of our healthcare system and our society.

The fact that maternal death in the U.S. has more than doubled over two decades, with Black mothers suffering the highest rate, is a national tragedy. Moreover, the CDC's finding that over 80 percent of those deaths were preventable should be a call to action.

As a mother of five and a mother for a daughter, I find the current trajectory deeply troubling and wholly unacceptable. It poses a severe threat to the health and safety of Black women and all women across our Nation. It is paramount that we improve awareness of the urgent maternal warning signs and ensure the provision of timely, respectful, and quality care. We must save these lives.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF OFFICER ROSS BARTLETT

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Officer Ross Bartlett of Ceresco, Nebraska.

Officer Bartlett died in the line of duty last week on April 12 in Nebraska. Bartlett served as a police officer for over 30 years. His three decades of service took him across Nebraska before arriving in the village of Ceresco.

He was not only a police officer. He was a husband, a dad, a grandpa, a friend, and so much more. He had a great sense of humor, and he loved to serve his community.

One way he did this was by volunteering at fire departments alongside

his wife, Tina. They had a passion for helping every community they lived in. I was fortunate to work with him as he served in Madison. I have great respect for him and his service in Madison County and beyond.

We have lost a great officer and an outstanding Nebraskan with a big heart for public service.

May God be with his family and friends during this difficult time.

HONORING VICTIMS OF COLUMBINE MASS SHOOTING

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

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the victims of the horrific mass shooting that occurred at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999, in Littleton, Colorado.

Twenty-five years ago, 12 teenagers and 1 teacher were killed just for going to school. Twenty-three were injured, and many still struggle with lifelong injuries.

Today, we remember those we lost: Cassie Bernall, Steve Curnow, Corey DePooter, Kelly Fleming, Matt Kechter, Daniel Mauser, Danny Rohrbough, Rachel Scott, Isaiah Shoels, John Tomlin, Lauren Townsend, Kyle Velasquez, and Dave Sanders.

We remember the families, the survivors, and the entire Columbine community.

Some became the country's first gun violence prevention advocates, like Tom Mauser, the father of Daniel Mauser. For 25 years, he has gone toe to toe with the gun lobby and the State and Federal governments to fight for change, all while wearing the shoes his son was wearing the day he was killed.

To honor their memories, we cannot allow another 25 years to pass before we say "never again" and finally mean it.

RECOGNIZING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DAY

(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 Assistive Technology Day.

Assistive Technology, or AT, is any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals living with disabilities and older adults.

Having spent nearly three decades as a therapist, rehabilitation services manager, and licensed nursing home administrator before coming to Congress, I have a personal understanding of the challenges faced with those who require assistive technology. Whether it is a veteran dealing with service-connected injuries, children with au-

tism, an individual diagnosed with debilitating cancer, or adults with cerebral palsy, the bottom line is that these technologies make people's lives better.

Mr. Speaker, not only do I want to celebrate and recognize the critical role AT plays in the lives of those who need it, but I also want to recognize and thank all the AT specialists, programs, professional organizations, and researchers who are dedicated to facilitating the access to and acquisition of assistive technology.

HIGHLIGHTING EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETICISM OF ELLISON "TARZAN" BROWN

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, this week, nearly 30,000 runners from 118 countries and all 50 States came together to run the 128th Boston Marathon. That makes this a fitting week to recognize the legacy of Ellison "Tarzan" Brown, a Rhode Islander and member of the Narragansett Tribe.

Born in 1913, Brown's exceptional athleticism earned him the name "Tarzan" after the popular films of the time. He was also known as "Deerfoot" to his Tribe.

Despite facing adversity throughout his life, and with no formal training or proper footwear, he emerged as one of the world's greatest athletes. He was a two-time winner of the Boston Marathon in 1936 and 1939 and represented the United States at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin.

Brown is one of two indigenous North Americans to have won the Boston Marathon and the only indigenous person to have more than one victory.

Today, I will take this moment to honor Tarzan Brown, a legend who brought honor to Rhode Island and the Narragansett people, and to echo the words of his nephew, Chief Sachem Sun Rise: "A lot of people leave a footprint. He left a trail."

□ 1215

BORDER CRISIS JEOPARDIZES AMERICANS

(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, President Biden and far-left Democrats continue to jeopardize the safety of American families and national security with open borders.

Mr. Biden's failure has allowed over 9 million illegal aliens to cross our borders, including more than 300 on the terrorist watch list. Due to Mr. Biden's irresponsibility, all families are at risk, as evidenced by the brutal murder of nursing student Laken Riley of Georgia.