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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Senior Pastor J. Heinrich Arnold, Bruderhof Church Communities, Rifton, New York, offered the following prayer:

Lord our God, we lift up thanks and praise to You this day, for the beauty of this Earth, Your creation, for people of all lands and cultures, for our country and Nation, its founding values defending human dignity, liberty, and justice for all.

We pray for all the Members of this House of Representatives and for all who walk and work these storied Chambers, hallways, and offices of our government, all servants of the people, and of You our God.

Grant them wisdom, patience, understanding, determination, and hearts of love and self-sacrifice in order to make good law, uphold the Constitution, and legislate for the flourishing, unity, and strength of our people and country; to lead all nations in efforts of justice, peace, good will, and generosity to neighbors and even enemies.

Forgive us our faults, and heal our fractured world.

This we pray in Jesus' name.

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 New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GOTTHEIMER 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.

WELCOMING SENIOR PASTOR J. HEINRICH ARNOLD

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. RYAN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome and thank today's guest chaplain, Pastor Heinrich Arnold, representing the Bruderhof community in New York's 18th District.

Over a century ago, the founders of the Bruderhof were exiled from Germany for their refusal to fight for the Nazis. They eventually found refuge and freedom here in America.

Today, the Hudson Valley is proud to be the home to almost half of the worldwide community of Bruderhof members. They have continued their practice to lead a much simpler life, focused on family, faith, and selfless service, and their example has served and inspired our entire community.

Pastor Arnold's leadership extends far beyond his role as senior pastor for the Bruderhof communities. He also serves as chaplain for our Ulster County Sheriff's Department and as a teacher at the Woodcrest Elementary School. He has dedicated his life's work to speaking about forgiveness and reconciliation through the Breaking the Cycle of Violence program. His efforts in over a dozen countries and right in our own community have been remarkable to follow.

At a time where our country faces such great division, I am thankful for Pastor Arnold and the entire Bruderhof community for presenting this prayer today, blessing our government as we prepare to make critical decisions in the days to come.

I ask all of us to recenter ourselves and work together on these critical issues laid out before us. As the Bruderhof believe, when you truly love your neighbor as yourself, peace and justice become a reality.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia). The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING JACK MILLER, A PATRIOT

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Jack Miller, an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and champion of civic education.

He founded the Jack Miller Center, a nonpartisan, nonprofit dedicated to reinvigorating education in America's founding principles and history, an education vital to thoughtful and engaged citizenship.

He recognized that the future leaders of our Nation lack a fundamental understanding of the founding principles of our Republic as well as our history.

Madam Speaker, we can agree that Mr. MILLER's endeavor is of paramount importance, and it underscores a serious demand that we prepare future generations of Americans to become both informed and engaged citizens.

Thank you, Mr. MILLER, for your continued work in ensuring that America's bedrock principles remain alive and revered.

IN MEMORY OF SAKAYE ARATANI

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize a profound loss in the Japanese-American community, the passing of Sakaye Aratani.

Her death coincides with an ever-dwindling number of adult Japanese-Americans, who endured the injustice of being forcibly removed from their homes and imprisoned in World War II internment camps here in the United States.

She and her late husband, George Aratani, made a remarkable, successful post-war journey in business and became important philanthropic figures within the Japanese-American community and beyond.

Every year, I would see her at community gatherings for various Japanese-American organizations that she and her husband supported, and, every year, I was struck by her grace, elegance, and intelligence.

My heart goes out to the Aratani family, and I join with the rest of the Japanese-American community in mourning her passing.

PRAYING FOR THE RETURN OF THE MOUNTAIN GATEWAY MINISTRIES PASTORS

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

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Madam Speaker, evangelists with Mountain Gateway Ministries have worked across the country doing disaster recovery, providing food, clothing, and planting churches with the support and assistance of the Nicaraguan Government.

Americans and their Nicaraguan counterparts associated with Mountain Gateway have made it their mission to spread the hope of the Gospel to the Nicaraguan people for nearly 30 years.

In January, the attorney general of the Nicaraguan Government began pursuing charges against 3 U.S. citizens associated with Mountain Gateway and 11 of the Gateway Nicaraguan pastors on trumped-up charges of money laundering and organized crime. Since then, 11 pastors have been charged with up to 15 years in prison and a combined \$1 billion in fines.

These pastors were working to bless the people of Nicaragua, and now all their personal property has been seized. They have no legal representation, which is a violation of their human rights.

These sentences leave families without income, children without mothers and fathers, simply for sharing the good news of Jesus.

I am deeply concerned these citizens and pastors are being targeted for sharing their faith. I ask the Nicaraguan Government to release the imprisoned pastors immediately.

Matthew 5:10 says: "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven."

I am praying for a swift resolution to the persecution of these pastors and that they be safely returned.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BOBBY ALLEN

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

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Bobby Allen. Bobby was one of Jersey's best, a hero who put others first as a firefighter and an advocate for his brothers and sisters of labor. He recently passed away after a valiant fight with cancer.

Bobby started his career with the Paterson Fire Department in 1992. He was among the brave first responders on September 11.

In recent years, he became a labor leader, serving as president of FMBA Local 2 and chairman of NJFMBA's legislative committee for more than a decade.

Bobby will live on through his beloved relationships and big personality and those who loved him in the firefighter community, his family, of course, all of his friends, and the legislation he championed, which improved the lives of thousands of career firefighters and retirees. Because of his advocacy for the FIRE Act, firefighters nationwide are safer and better equipped to protect our communities.

As we mourn the loss of Bobby Allen, we think of his wife, Marianne; his parents, retired Paterson Battalion Chief Edward Allen and Peggy; and his many other friends and family members.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Bobby Allen.

CLOSE THE DE MINIMIS TARIFF LOOPHOLE

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

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today, 14 U.S. textile manufacturing plants stand idle, and much of the rest of American manufacturing is endangered by a new threat from China that this Congress could end at a stroke.

In just the last 2 years, roughly, Chinese online marketplaces have exploded in size, selling cheap goods at dumping prices into the American market.

What is causing this? Well, they learned to exploit fully the de minimis tariff loophole. In 2023, nearly a billion packages entered the U.S. through the \$800 de minimis loophole, nearly 4 million individual shipments per day. That is not de minimis business. It is big money.

Chinese companies Temu and Shein alone account for roughly one-third of all de minimis shipments. Temu ap-

peared on the American scene only in 2022, Shein not much earlier. You can go buy sneakers on Temu for \$5, and a sweater for \$7. Temu reportedly loses \$30 per order in a deliberate strategy to flood the U.S. market with cheap crap and move toward market dominance. It is not only textiles.

We should close this loophole today.

PEACE

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, together we are witness to war in the Middle East, yet so many of us are divided in our righteous anger and desire for peace.

At home, I speak with friends and family and constituents who want what is just. Nevertheless, I also see how we speak past each other, missing the common humanity of both Israelis and Palestinians, the innocent people on both sides who work, live, and play on lands now ravaged and scarred by war.

Let me be clear. I condemn Hamas, yet I decry Mr. Netanyahu's prosecution of this war. That is why I called for a bilateral cease-fire and a release of all remaining hostages in February.

I hold both beliefs, not as an equivalence or political spin, but as a principle to stand with the innocent, with Palestinians and Israelis who must know peace and security in their lifetime.

We must reject the far too tempting politics of hate and division and embrace the duty of peace and security for Israelis and Palestinians.

In time warped by hate, I lean on my faith, the wisdom of the Beatitudes: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."

□ 0915

CELEBRATING WORLD WAR II VETERAN ELMER COCKE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize World War II veteran Elmer Cocke of Danville, Virginia, who recently turned 100 years old.

After finishing high school, Elmer joined the U.S. Maritime Service Radio School. He underwent his training in New York and Massachusetts, learned Morse code, and was promoted to warrant officer.

In 1945, he joined the *William J. Palmer*, a Liberty ship carrying the products of the "Arsenal of Democracy" to American forces and Allies around the world.

When sailing across the Mediterranean in 1945, the *William J. Palmer* struck a mine in the Adriatic Sea.