

American citizen, the guy who gets up and works every day?

President Biden has suggested what we need to do. Because these programs are all paid for and don't impact the debt or the deficit and are an earned benefit, he has suggested that we have people making over \$400,000 pay their fair share. Currently, billionaires pay next to nothing. Millionaires are done paying Social Security on February 2. Everybody else has to pay in.

Mr. Speaker, it is about time we own up to our responsibility.

#### HONORING IRA SULLIVAN

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, just 1 week after his heavenly birthday, to honor one of the legends and icons of jazz music, the great Ira Sullivan.

Ira was many things: a jazz great, an educator, a mentor, a father, a husband, and a friend of mine. I remember first meeting Ira as a jazz student at the University of Miami's Young Musicians Camp Honors Jazz Program.

I remember walking in when I was very young. I think I was in the eighth or ninth grade. He asked me to play vibraphone on a jazz song. I had auditioned as a drummer, so to me that was a very foreign thing. I wasn't hip to the history of jazz vibraphone, so I felt almost like he was asking me to play timpani and play timpani on a jazz song.

Either way, the next day, he came in and gave me a pair of Gary Burton mallets and told me to try playing the vibraphone to jazz. Believe it or not, I was still very confused.

Either way, that decision changed my entire life. From then on, I started practicing jazz vibraphone and became very obsessed with it.

Years passed, and he would always invite me to come back to perform with him in the new class he was teaching, all young people that Ira had inspired and whose lives he changed.

Ira Sullivan also achieved technical skills not achieved by many, a multi-instrumentalist in the truest sense of the word, fluidly being able to play the trumpet, the saxophone, the flute, the drum set, the piano, and many other instruments.

He was born in Chicago but moved to Miami in the sixties to perform and teach. Ira had the ability to be both a jazz great in the history books but also remain an accessible educator for artists of many different levels and calibers.

Ira mentored jazz greats like Jaco Pastorius and Pat Metheny. He also taught high schoolers at the Young Musicians Camp at the University of Miami, where I met him.

Today, I want to honor Ira Sullivan for inspiring so many people.

I stopped playing jazz a few years ago, and I have been telling myself I

would get back into it. Just a few days ago, I joined a high school jazz combo from central Florida, Freedom High School, and played drums on a standard tune. I am going to start practicing again in honor of Ira.

May Ira rest in peace, a jazz legend and great teacher.

#### CELEBRATING ROSEN COLLEGE OF HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Rosen College of Hospitality Management at the University of Central Florida.

Established through a transformational \$18 million donation from Mr. Harris Rosen, the college advances educational and community development initiatives that bolster Florida's leading industry, tourism and hospitality.

UCF Rosen College is consistently ranked as the top hospitality college in the Nation and among the top five globally, a testament to its educational excellence and leadership in hospitality research.

Committed to advancing knowledge, embracing innovation, and serving humanity through hospitality, the college stands out not only for its top rankings but also for its extensive range of programs that provide a 99 percent job placement rate for their graduates.

It is an honor to be able to represent the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management here in the Halls of Congress as they propel Florida's primary economic sector forward and enrich our State and the global hospitality landscape.

#### WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONOREES

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor four extraordinary women for their impact on central Florida and beyond. Their tireless efforts, unwavering determination, and profound achievements have shaped our local history and continue to inspire generations to come. We honor them for their strength of character, unwavering spirit, and profound influence they have on our community.

They are Onchantho Am, associate general counsel at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine; Graciela Noriega Jacoby, chief operating officer for Heart of Florida United Way; Dr. Marie-Jose Francois, founder of the Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention; and Pastor Sharon Y. Riley, founder and pastor of Agape Perfecting Praise and Worship Center.

I celebrate these women for all that they are: trailblazers, visionaries, scientists, educators, and leaders. Among countless others, they have left behind a legacy of compassion, innovation, and empowerment in a State that needs that now more than ever.

#### GOP ATTACKS ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

California (Ms. BARRAGÁN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the name of freedom, the freedom that women should have to make decisions about their own bodies and have that ability, a sacred freedom that House Republicans are fighting to take away from your mother, your sister, your daughters, and every woman in America.

This week, Republicans are holding votes to say the government should not be involved in households having more efficient appliances, yet they have no problem saying government should tell women what to do with their bodies and limit their access to women's healthcare.

While House Democrats will continue to fight to restore Roe v. Wade so women have the freedom over their bodies, we must call out the extreme Republican agenda that is focused on a nationwide ban to access women's reproductive healthcare.

This assault on women and our freedoms is already underway in many Republican-led States where women are now subject to cruel abortion bans which have brought fear and danger, but also have brought heartbreaking experiences that will have lasting impacts.

For example, in Mississippi, a 12-year-old rape victim was forced to carry a baby to term.

In Ohio, a woman was criminally charged for having a miscarriage after she went to the hospital to seek care when her doctor said that the fetus was not viable.

Republican-controlled States throughout the South and Midwest have passed extreme laws that leave no options for women to access reproductive healthcare. These women have no choice but to travel hundreds of miles to a State where access to care is still available.

A Missouri woman had to travel to Illinois to save her own life after both the States of Missouri and Kansas health systems refused to provide care when her water broke at just 4 months and doctors said she was at risk of losing her uterus.

Mothers who cannot afford to travel out of State for reproductive care have been forced to endure painful pregnancies and risk their own lives when advised of serious consequences.

□ 1100

Bans make access to reproductive care unobtainable for low-income women, many of whom are Latinas and other women of color. Over 6.7 million Latina women live in States that have banned, or are likely to ban, abortions. More than 3 million of these women come from families that earn below 200 percent of the poverty line.

Access to reproductive healthcare is a women's rights issue, and it is a racial justice issue.

Republicans in Congress also want to strip women of their fundamental right

to decide when to start a family. Just look at their policies and their voting records.

Mr. Speaker, 127 House Republicans are cosponsors of a bill that will threaten access to IVF nationwide and have blocked legislation by Democrats that would protect IVF access, and 195 House Republicans have voted against legal contraception. House Republicans voted unanimously against the restoration of *Roe v. Wade*.

Moreover, extreme MAGA Republicans plan to go further and let States monitor women who are pregnant to restrict their ability to access reproductive care.

House Democrats will not stand by and let MAGA Republicans restrict the freedom of women from getting the lifesaving care they need. We will continue to fight to make reproductive freedom the law of the land and allow women to make decisions about their own healthcare again.

#### 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 1 minute 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. DESJARLAIS) at noon.

#### PRAYER

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

As we face the day that lies ahead, send us out to serve You, dear God. May we be faithful to keep Your commands. May we take time to enjoy the fellowship You provide. May we be eager to be loyal to You and may our deep desire to be worthy of You sustain us when so many other things clamor for our attention.

These are, indeed, challenging times, but we trust that You hold them in Your care. Give us wisdom to appreciate the steadfastness of heart and soul our service to You requires.

In a world where efficiency all too often overrides effectiveness, may our goal be Your intent for our energies. While whole communities are rent by the contest of wills and divided by the race for power, may we live into Your plan which transcends all selfish desire. As we watch as even the slightest disagreement becomes grounds for discord, may we step up and step in to be instruments of the reconciliation You desire for Your creation.

Make us strong and courageous. You have commanded us to serve You and have blessed us with Your trust. We

need not fear nor be dismayed, for You, O Lord, are with us this day and in the days ahead.

In Your abiding love we stand, and in Your name 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 Alabama (Mr. CARL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CARL 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.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated 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.

#### RECOGNIZING DOUG STRALEY

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the extraordinary service of Louisa County School Superintendent Doug Straley.

Mr. Straley has worked tirelessly for many years to improve the lives of students, teachers, and staff in Louisa County Public Schools. For his effort, Mr. Straley was named the 2024 Virginia Superintendent of the Year by the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, recognizing his outstanding leadership of the county schools.

Mr. Straley began his career as a teacher and served as an athletics director, high school principal, and assistant superintendent before assuming his current position as superintendent.

As a lifelong resident of Louisa County, Mr. Straley has proudly dedicated 29 years of service to Louisa County Public Schools. His contributions to the Louisa community are immeasurable, and he is a most worthy recipient of this award.

I thank Mr. Straley for his exceptional achievements in Louisa County.

I wish him continued success as he strives to impact students in the county.

I am honored to represent Superintendent Doug Straley and all the incredible public servants of Virginia's Fifth District.

#### CELEBRATING NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Nurses Week and to celebrate the incredible contributions and sacrifices that nurses make each and every day.

As an occupational therapist myself, I have seen firsthand how important nurses are, not only in the delivery of healthcare but in their daily interactions with patients. They build connections and tend to a patient's needs, serving as the main conduit to a patient's medical care.

My grandmother, Dechantal O'Brien Kennedy, was a nurse. My mother, Mary Wilson Kennedy, was a nurse for more than 54 years and went on to teach nursing at D'Youville University in retirement.

We should be grateful to our nurses, but we need to do more to support them. This Congress should prioritize the passage of H.R. 2530. This legislation will mandate specified minimum nurse-to-patient ratios in hospitals, ensure Medicare payments reflect those ratios, and empower nurses to speak up if those ratios are violated.

It is common sense that we protect patients and reduce burnout and fatigue among nurses. It will save lives. Let's get it done.

#### BIDENFLATION HURTS FAMILIES

(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, disastrous decisions by Biden and far-left Democrats continue to cause distress for families and destroy jobs.

The Federal Reserve announced that they would keep interest rates at a two-decade high because of Bidenflation, making homeownership unattainable for millions of Americans.

Biden has produced the highest inflation in 40 years, with higher prices every day since he took office. Egg costs are up 49 percent, baby food is up 31 percent, electricity is up 29 percent, poultry is up 24 percent, and coffee is up 20 percent.

Corrupt Judge Merchan has unintentionally confirmed the deranged Big Government corruption to defame Donald Trump. This helps Donald Trump. This corrupt judge now will be my guest. I invite him to come in January