

Glen and Eric Kolkmeier, in Bates City, Missouri, since 1955.

ETS specializes in transportation of refined fuels, propane, jet and aviation fuel, and anhydrous ammonia. ETS has been in the propane industry for over 68 years and has continued to be a reliable company to haul our community's products. By the way, they also haul the fuel for the B-2 Stealth bomber at Whiteman Air Force Base.

We are so grateful for Energy Transport Solutions' support as we continue to support them. It is an honor to watch them go out of their way to hire and support veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Energy Transport Solutions on the well-deserved recognition of Small Business of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District of the great State of Missouri. Keep up the great work.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S ULTIMATUM TO ISRAEL

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concern over the President's ultimatum to the State of Israel.

Having recently visited Israel on the border with Gaza, I fully grasp the gravity of the situation right now. I witnessed the resolve of the Jewish people. Never have I seen such determination from a country and its people as I have there in the State of Israel. Their resolve is strong. They are resilient and ready to finish the job, bring the hostages home, and eradicate Hamas.

The White House's decision to halt weapons shipments to Israel is wrong, Mr. Speaker. It is just plain wrong. When the going gets tough, you do not abandon friends and allies. They are our greatest ally in the Middle East.

It is unacceptable that Hamas still holds Americans and others hostage. This could be over today, Mr. Speaker, if Hamas would release the hostages and surrender. We must help Israel eradicate Hamas. We must remove them from that region by any force necessary.

I call on the President of the United States and Secretary of Defense Austin to immediately lift the blockade and resume shipments to Israel. The future of the region depends upon it.

There is no excuse for pausing the weapons. It is an attempt to strong-arm Israel. The Biden administration has crossed the line.

Mr. Speaker, I can say with certainty that while the Biden administration does not stand with Israel, the American people do.

ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOL 2024 EMPLOYEE HALL OF FAME CLASS

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor an extraordinary group of educators and staff whose dedication has profoundly impacted the Alleghany Highlands com-

munity. This group was selected as the seven inaugural inductees into the Alleghany Highlands Public Schools Division Employee Hall of Fame.

This distinguished class, announced on May 9, symbolizes the unwavering commitment to excellence that defines our educators in Virginia's Sixth District. These individuals: Helen Harris, Brenda Holloway, Harold Lambert, the late Katharine Nicely, Donna Vaughn, Archie Wells, and Linda Williams, have each dedicated over 20 years of their lives fostering a nurturing environment for learning within the Alleghany County, Covington City, and Clifton Forge school divisions.

Their roles range from teachers of English, French, science, and art to counselors, coaches, and even a beloved custodian.

Each, in their unique way, has contributed significantly to the educational fabric of our community, guiding countless students toward achieving their full potential. Their legacy, now forever enshrined in the Alleghany Highlands Public Schools Division Employee Hall of Fame, reminds us all of the transformative power of education.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all of them on this well-deserved honor and I thank them for their significant contributions to education in the Commonwealth and Alleghany Highlands.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY TRAVEL ASSOCIATION

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an incredible milestone, the 100th anniversary of the Shenandoah Valley Travel Association, one of the oldest tourism organizations in the region.

Founded in 1924, the SVTA has played a pivotal role in showcasing the Shenandoah Valley's unparalleled beauty, cultural richness, and historic legacy.

Through collaboration with local businesses and national parks, the SVTA has consistently highlighted what makes the Shenandoah Valley special.

In honoring the SVTA's 100th anniversary, we recognize the profound impact that dedicated organizations and individuals can have in promoting the unique beauty and history of the Shenandoah Valley. Their efforts enrich our Commonwealth and indeed our country.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my congratulations to the Shenandoah Valley Travel Association on this significant anniversary and wish them another 100 years of success.

RECOGNIZING HELEN ZEBARTH OF BLUE RIDGE HOSPICE

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor a remarkable individual from Virginia's Sixth District, Helen Zebarth of Winchester, and her monumental legacy. She changed the face of end-of-life care in our community through the founding of Blue Ridge Hospice.

In recognition of her incredible impact, the Helen Zebarth Legacy Soci-

ety was established, symbolizing our community's ongoing commitment to support the mission of this noble organization.

Helen was inspired to establish the hospice here in Winchester after her experiences in England, demonstrating her foresight and dedication to serving others. It is awe-inspiring to witness how her vision of providing compassionate care at life's end has grown from serving 30 patients in 1974 to over 10,000 by 2014, with the numbers continuing to increase.

By acknowledging the substantial impact of Helen Zebarth and Blue Ridge Hospice on our community, we are all encouraged to support such essential organizations. Their work not only enriches our community, but also offers comfort to families during their most difficult times, exemplifying the utmost in human kindness and unity.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Helen Zebarth for her many years of success and for founding an organization that continues to shine as a beacon of hope and care in our cherished community.

CELEBRATING JACKSON RIVER TECHNICAL CENTER'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hub of education and workforce development in the Alleghany Highlands, the Jackson River Technical Center, as it celebrates 50 years of outstanding service to our community.

Established in 1974 as the Jackson River Vocational Center, JRTC has since flourished into a beacon of opportunity and growth, playing a pivotal role in the education landscape of the Alleghany Highlands Public Schools.

Over the years, JRTC has evolved to meet the changing demands of the workforce, offering a broad spectrum of programs that include automotive, building management, carpentry, culinary arts, drafting and design, early childhood education, electricity, marketing, nurse aide/health assistant, and welding.

Through these programs, JRTC ensures that our students are not just prepared for the jobs of today but are also poised to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all those educators, staff, and students, past and present, for their dedication and hard work. Their efforts have made JRTC a symbol of success in our community for 50 years. May they continue to inspire, educate, and empower for many more years to come.

HONORING AMERICA'S POLICE OFFICERS

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, this week marks National Police Week, a time dedicated to honoring America's courageous police officers who stand on the front lines to ensure our safety.

While certain voices on the left have demonized our police officers these past several years, it is important that we recognize and remember the profound sacrifices these men and women make protecting our communities every day.

In light of this, we must rally behind the bills proposed this week aimed at bolstering our local law enforcement and unequivocally denounce the left's effort to defund and dismantle our local police departments.

It is alarming that President Biden and many on the left support this defund the police movement and the soft-on-crime policies that have directly fueled surges in crime across the country, endangering both the public and the police.

Since 1776, over 26,600 police officers have lost their lives in the line of duty. In Virginia alone, 550 have made the ultimate sacrifice. These represent individual lives, families left heartbroken, and communities forever changed.

Mr. Speaker, as we honor National Police Week, I urge all my colleagues to join us in support by passing these bills.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALFORD). 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. CLINE) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, You are our refuge and our strength, a very present help in times of trouble. As evidence of Your divine protections, You have set among us brave men and women as Your own shield around us to keep us from all harm. On this National Police Officers Memorial Day, we pray on behalf of these heroes.

Thank You for the humble dedication that our brothers and sisters in blue have demonstrated on patrol, standing watch, guarding our streets, and walking our neighborhoods, safeguarding our communities and our country against all those who would shatter the peace You desire for us.

Remind us, O Lord, that the security they have committed themselves to uphold comes at their own personal cost. Aside from the countless missions that place each law enforcement officer at uncertain and inconceivable risk, these men and women are all too often called to put their service over self and the welfare of others before the preservation of their own life and limb.

As communities across the country honor the line-of-duty deaths they have sustained this year and over time, make it our duty never to take lightly

the weight of their faithful and sacrificial service. Speak comfort to the families of the fallen and all who have also paid the untold price for our peace and safety.

Keep watch over the lives of all police officers. As You have promised, watch over their coming and going, now and forevermore.

In the strength of 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 North Carolina (Mr. DAVIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina 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.

NONCITIZENS ALLOWED TO VOTE

(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, shockingly, some cities in America now allow noncitizens to vote, including in Ohio, but Republicans in that State, led by Secretary of State Frank LaRose, support only American citizens voting.

Election integrity with voter ID in person is crucial for democracy. House Republicans continue to work hard to protect Americans and strengthen our borders, not give illegal aliens the right to vote.

Every day, we have corrupt Judge Merchan, through incompetence and unprofessionalism, pave the way to reelect President Donald Trump.

The Democratic New York Times reports record support for Donald Trump by Blacks, Asians, and Hispanics due to Merchan judicial abuse, which they recognize. I so appreciate corrupt Judge Merchan reelecting Trump that I will invite him to be my guest at the Trump inauguration.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America with Biden's open borders for terrorists from dictator countries. It is sadly clear there are more 9/11 attacks across America imminent, as warned by the FBI.

END HUNGER NOW

(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, as working families try to get ahead, billionaire food companies and grocery giants continue to engage in excessive price gouging.

That is why I am joining my colleague from Massachusetts, Senator ELIZABETH WARREN, to call them out.

We heard good news this morning. Grocery prices are flat thanks to a rebounding economy under the leadership of President Biden, but times are still tough and grocery prices are still stubbornly high.

Meanwhile, corporate CEOs are raking in profits and urging people to eat cereal for dinner and urging people to eat Doritos as a side dish to save money. It is absurd.

Corporations can no longer hide behind the guise of inflation. At various points in recent years, grocery price increases have outpaced inflation, with families paying 25 percent more for groceries as compared to pre-pandemic.

I applaud the Biden-Harris administration for the economic relief they have already delivered for working families. Now, we are putting billionaire corporations on notice. Their time of greed is coming to an end. We all need to work together to end hunger now.

USAF CUTS MUST INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we aren't going to stand idly by as the proposed 520 job cut at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base threatens to damage eastern North Carolina's economy.

The Air Force's plan to eliminate an entire squadron at Seymour Johnson is absolutely unacceptable. Safeguarding our national security and preserving these jobs are not mutually exclusive, and the Air Force must acknowledge that.

Eliminating a fighter squadron in Wayne County would be devastating for this already economically distressed community. Unfortunately, this plan does not build the economy from the middle out and bottom up.

The Air Force must thoroughly examine the risk and consider the community impact. I encourage the Air Force to engage directly with the local community.

The Air Force must be more transparent and accountable to the people of Wayne County, eastern North Carolina, and the Congress.