

God of grace and God of glory, we turn our hearts and minds toward You. In these days of warring madness, bend our pride to Your control. Shame the wanton disregard for human life and dignity that scourges our communities, our Nation, and our world. Shame the selfish gladness for power and domination that plagues all corners of the Earth.

Grant wisdom and courage to those who stand up to the hegemonic overreach in Ukraine. Grant wisdom and courage to those who seek fair and peaceful resolution in Israel and Gaza.

In the facing of these hours of discontent and strife, grant us wisdom and grant us courage as we seek to serve You whom we adore.

In Your sovereign name we pray.
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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 403

(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 to recognize the Knights of Columbus Council 403 as they celebrate their 125th anniversary.

The Knights of Columbus Council 403 is located in Bradford, Pennsylvania, in McKean County, and this chapter has been instrumental in the history and growth of the city of Bradford. This anniversary is commemorated with a marker that was commissioned by Wright Monuments, and it was placed outside the St. Bernard Church.

To celebrate this anniversary, members gathered on church grounds before dinner and before socializing at the Bradford Club. The Catholic fraternal organization was founded January 29, 1899, and the council continues its deep history in the Bradford Catholic community today.

As members of the council, they aspire to live by four principles: charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.

I congratulate the council on this historical anniversary, and I am grateful for all the work they do within the Bradford community.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GEORGE SALLIE

(Ms. SEWELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mr. George Sallie who, at the age of 94, was among the oldest living Foot Soldiers from Bloody Sunday before his passing on January 18, 2024.

An Alabama native and the son of sharecroppers, Mr. Sallie dedicated his life to the betterment of his community.

A Korean war veteran who served honorably, Mr. Sallie risked life and limb to protect our American ideals at a time when our Nation refused to address the injustice of segregation.

After his military service, he became involved in the civil rights movement, a path that led him on that fateful day, March 7, 1965, otherwise known as Bloody Sunday. It was on that fateful day that he and his fellow marchers like John Lewis were brutalized by State troopers for their peaceful pursuit of racial equality.

Mr. Sallie's life stands as a testament to the power of ordinary Americans to achieve extraordinary social change. He never missed a bridge crossing commemoration, and I was honored to stand alongside him and President Biden last year as he marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge for one last time.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the inspiring life and legacy of Mr. Sallie. May his sacrifices and those of the Foot Soldiers not be in vain.

Congress should take up the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and pass it now.

BORDER CRISIS MISCONCEPTION

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to correct a misconception about the surge of illegal immigration plaguing our Nation, particularly since President Biden became Commander in Chief.

Under this administration, more than 8 million people have crossed our southern border illegally. That is more than the population of my home State of Tennessee. The misconception is that this is the result of failed policy, but it is not. This is the policy of the Biden administration.

On the campaign trail in 2019, then-candidate Biden told a crowd of Iowa voters: "We could afford to take in a heartbeat another 2 million. . . ."

Well, Mr. Speaker, that was a promise made, a promise kept, and a promise multiplied by four.

I continue to admonish the President to listen to the American people who desperately want him to rescind his disastrous executive actions that created this humanitarian disaster, to end his catch and release policy, and to finally begin to secure our borders.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AGREEMENT TO RESTORE GOVERNMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND

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

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the political parties at Stormont in Belfast as they near an agreement that will restore the executive government. After nearly 2 years of delay, Stormont is one step closer to resuming the people's business. This is a victory for democracy and for the people of Northern Ireland.

The Good Friday Agreement marked the end of the longest period of conflict in Irish history. It happened because everyone involved acted together in good faith. Almost 26 years later, the parties in Northern Ireland are doing precisely that: acting in good faith to restore government and resume the difficult work, indeed, of legislating.

When the United States helped broker the Good Friday Agreement, cementing its place as a guarantor of the agreement, it did so with one primary objective: ensuring every tradition in Northern Ireland had a voice in pursuit of peace and prosperity. With that restoration of power sharing on the horizon, people today in Northern Ireland are winners. Their voices will be heard once again.

HAMAS HOSTAGE INHUMANITY

(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, it has been over 100 days since the murderous invasion of Israel by Iranian puppet Hamas. There was merciless slaughter of over 1,200 Israelis and over 200 taken hostage, including Americans.

One of the hostages still being held in Gaza is American-Israeli Sagui Dekel-Chen. When terrorists invaded on October 7, Sagui locked his wife and children in a safe room. He bravely fought but was ultimately taken hostage. While captive, his wife, Avital, gave birth to their third child. In the name of humanity, Sagui must be set free. As long as there are Hamas hostages, there can be no good-faith negotiations.

All hostages should come home now to stop deaths caused by Hamas sacrificing human shields.

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 open borders for terrorists. It is sadly clear that there will be more 9/11 attacks across America imminent in our country as warned by the FBI.

Our sympathy to the families of the three Georgia reservists murdered by Iranian puppet Houthi.

**ELIZABETH JEAN CARROLL:
AMERICAN PATRIOT**

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the courage, fortitude, and the sheer patriotism of E. Jean Carroll.

Mr. Speaker, you may have heard something about her involvement in a recent court case which followed another court case in which Ms. Carroll received a very favorable judgment by a jury of her fellow citizens who heard and weighed all the evidence, free of political ads.

Here we shall not name the defendant because we are talking about an American hero, an immovable force, and an inspiration for all Americans.

We should be heartened that Ms. Carroll, at terrible personal cost, did not shrink from taking on the most powerful person in the world—it is not Taylor Swift but the other guy—to bring him to justice and hold him accountable for his terrible deeds. Ms. Carroll did not waiver even as the minions of her abuser attacked her in the most vile and despicable ways.

E. Jean Carroll exudes a steady grace and determination. The juries saw her, and they saw her truth. As she summed it up, her case is a huge defeat for every bully who has tried to keep a woman down.

I hope all Americans will find a glimmer of hope that we may be the country we must be to survive and that no one, no matter how powerful, is above the law.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. RAY
YOUNG**

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

Ms. LETLOW. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of a truly remarkable gentleman, Mr. Ray Young.

Mr. Ray was born in Hico, Louisiana, in 1929 and grew up no stranger to hard work or getting his hands dirty on his family's farm.

Building a successful agriculture business from the ground up and establishing deep roots in the ag community, he is well-regarded as the Nation's longest tenured crop consultant, a passionate and widely respected officer in both local and national organizations, and a tireless advocate for agriculture in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Ray grew to be loved by all who encountered him and quickly became an irreplaceable figure across the State of Louisiana.

Mr. Ray held a rare and unique quality, always seeing the good in everyone he met—even seeing the promise in a challenging piece of land. He was a friend to many and an enemy to none, never judging anyone by their limitations.

Beyond his extensive agriculture background and accomplishments, Mr. Ray's unwavering faith in the Lord served as an inspiration and showcased the very best of our Louisiana community.

He was a man of good faith and goodwill with a true servant's heart who sought to love others the way Christ loves us. I have no doubt he has heard the words from above: Well done, good and faithful servant.

□ 1215

AMERICA'S BORDER SECURITY

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, it has been nearly 100 days since my colleagues elected me to lead this Chamber, and I cannot express how grateful I am for their trust. This is the honor of my life and it means everything to us.

Despite the challenges that we face day in and day out and the tough fights that lawmaking inevitably brings, I still believe that we can, again, be a shining city on a hill. I believe that we can champion, again, what I call the seven core principles of American conservatism, but really they are the seven core principles of America.

They are our foundations. I believe that it boils down to individual freedom and limited government and the rule of law, peace through strength, fiscal responsibility, free markets, human dignity.

These are the things that made us the most successful, most extraordinary Nation in the history of the world. We are also the most benevolent, but it can't be maintained if we sacrifice those foundations.

Today, however, I need to address the burning issue, the unprecedented challenge that we find ourselves in, demands that we all address, the issue of the day, and it is no surprise to anyone in this Chamber that that issue is America's border security.

As I said here on the night that I took my oath, we have a catastrophe at our southern border. It is because the border has been deliberately opened wide that we see the terrific horrors that are taking place across our country right now.

Here is a short list. From Texas to New York, waves of illegal immigrants are now overwhelming our communities. Just since the time I was elect-

ed Speaker, less than 100 days ago, more than 700,000 illegals have been welcomed into our country illegally by the Biden administration.

American schoolchildren have been forced into virtual schools. Why? So migrants can sleep in their school buildings. Korean war veterans of the U.S. have been booted from nursing homes that were sold to house migrants. Our streets are being flooded with fentanyl. Hundreds of thousands of children and adults are being poisoned and losing their lives. Vulnerable children and women are being exploited and trafficked by cartels, and that is happening even within our borders.

The fallout goes on and on and on, and I am here this morning to beg my colleagues to help us force the administration to take action. We have to stop this now and put Americans and America's border security first.

In January, I took the largest ever congressional delegation down to the southern border. We had 64 Members, 64 House Republicans, representing more than half the States in this country. Why? Because now, every State is a border State.

During our trip, we met with senior Border Patrol officials and officers and local sheriffs and ranchers and landowners and community leaders who are dealing with this crisis right there at the line, and we heard about how they are struggling to deal with the overwhelming surge of illegals who are flooding into our Nation.

While the Senate and the White House were negotiating a so-called border security deal, one Border Patrol official, a 33-year veteran of Border Patrol, a high-ranking official in the agency, compared the situation this way. He said: What we are being asked to do right now is administer an open fire hydrant. He said: Please convey to our friends in Washington, we don't need more buckets. We need to turn off the flow. His metaphor explains the situation perfectly.

Since President Biden and Alejandro Mayorkas assumed office, there have been more than 7 million encounters with illegal aliens just at our southern border alone.

Mr. Speaker, 35 of our 50 States, including my home State of Louisiana, don't have a population that large, yet that is how many people have been apprehended in just the past 3 years.

Among those who have been apprehended on the southern border between ports of entry, more than 300 individuals were on our terrorist watch list. The frightening question is, if so many terrorists were caught attempting to cross our borders, how many have entered undetected? We suspect it is a much higher number.

We know that there are at least 1.8 million got-aways that we know have escaped CBP. Who knows what dangerous plans those got-aways are making and what foreign adversaries they may be speaking with?