

to serve this beautiful country in this capacity.

In a time marked by stark political division, it was inspiring to witness both Democrats and Republicans unite in support of honoring this great man who epitomized the pinnacle of American valor and empathy.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Bill Reynolds, a true American hero, by supporting this special tribute.

May God bless Bill Reynolds and his family, and may God continue to bless this beautiful country, the United States of America.

CELEBRATING MEMORIAL DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Memorial Day. Our Nation's greatness was earned by the sacrifices of a few so that freedom and liberty would come to all. This weekend, we remember their sacrifices and service.

We are very proud that the tradition of Memorial Day originated in a Pennsylvania community located in my district, Boalsburg, Pennsylvania.

Dating back to 1864 in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, the birthplace of Memorial Day, three ladies decorated the graves of fallen Civil War soldiers. They met in the graveyard and promised to come back the following year to do the same thing. From that simple beginning act of love and remembrance came the observance of Memorial Day.

Now, every year, on the last Monday of May, the people across this Nation gather in town squares, at memorials, and in the cemeteries of fallen heroes to pay tribute to those who gave their all. This includes our servicemembers who are missing in action or are prisoners of war.

According to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, more than 80,000 American citizens who served in the Vietnam war, Korean war, and World War II are still missing in action.

That is why I am proud to have introduced H. Con. Res. 64, which urges our mutually beneficial trade agreements to include a commitment from trading partners to continue search and recovery efforts of our Nation's missing servicemembers.

In August 2023, I was notified by the POW/MIA Accounting Agency that two MIAs from my district were identified and returning home. Army Corporal Francis James Jury of Clearfield, Pennsylvania, and Army Sergeant Richard M. Sharrow of Marienville, Pennsylvania, were deemed missing in action during the Korean war. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the POW/MIA Accounting Agency, these two heroes were able to be returned home and receive the proper burial that they deserved.

This Nation is united by our liberties and freedoms that our men and women

in uniform take an oath to protect and defend. We will always honor our brothers and sisters who fought in battle to uphold our way of life.

May God carry them in the palm of His hand and all of our servicemembers in the palm of His hand.

This Memorial Day, as we raise the Stars and Stripes, as we lay wreaths at monuments, memorials, and cemeteries, let us remember that our freedom is thanks to those who served and died in sacrifice.

PROTESTS AT UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN AT MILWAUKEE

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to comment on a controversy affecting the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee this past week.

Wisconsin at Milwaukee, like many universities in America, has been the site of bizarre protests in favor of Hamas. Milwaukee is the second largest university in the State of Wisconsin. While the response to these protests by universities around the country can best be described as pathetic, Milwaukee is one of the worst.

Israel has suffered an attack almost unprecedented in its brutality in which Hamas and its supporters reveled in the horrific deaths of civilians, including young children. Israel's response can best be described as very measured, particularly given that Hamas has decided to hide among hospitals and other civilian locations.

Certainly, Israel's response was more measured than our response during World War II when you look at what was done to Tokyo and Dresden, so by comparison, there is no comparison.

Hamas could end this war tomorrow if they would surrender, show Israel its tunnels and its arms, and surrender the hostages. They are entirely responsible for allowing this war to go on.

The university's statement to the protesters appears to blame Israel. Even before the October attacks, it should have been obvious who wears the white hats here.

Israel is a modern, prosperous, and tolerant country in which even Muslims can build mosques and are allowed to vote. In Gaza, from childhood on, children are raised to hate Jews. People from Thailand, the Philippines, and Latin America—non-Jewish people—flow to Israel to live and work there.

Hamas' leadership, meanwhile, takes their foreign aid from Europe and lives in Qatar and Turkiye. The descendants of Yasser Arafat himself don't want to live in Gaza. They live in Paris.

Even with this, UWM feels they should side with Hamas. The university has tried recently to amend their position, but they still display a moral equivalence in which they can't bring themselves to say there is a right and

a wrong, a good and an evil, in this conflict. Their bias shows further in that their first impulse was to meet only with representatives of the protesters and not with the broader community, this despite the fact that public opinion polls consistently show the American public as a whole, including presumably the taxpayers who fund the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, have no problem figuring out who is good and who is evil.

The university should apologize for developing their own foreign policy and spend some time with the broader community to learn what the vast majority of Americans and Wisconsinites think.

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 27 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:

Immortal and invisible God, all power belongs to You. Gracious and merciful God, in You is found unending love.

With You, O Lord, are not competing natures but the whole of life. In You we discover both tenderness and strength. You love us with a parent's compassion and guide us with Your firm hand.

In our lives may we learn to strike the balance between patience and persistence. May we show no ill will toward others but have the wherewithal to bear their criticism and their ridicule. And when our anger is justified, may we be just as quick to forgive those who repent of their offenses.

May those who are strong bear the feelings of the weak, and may those who are vulnerable bear witness to the strength of their empathy.

In this body may we acknowledge that we belong to one another and reconcile with those who attempt to dismantle our mutual purpose. In You, may we strive for restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, and live in peace.

God of justice and mercy, abide with us this day. In the power and love of Your eternal 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 California (Mr. TAKANO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TAKANO 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.

FARM BILL

(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, farming is more than a profession. It is the true cornerstone of American society. Moreover, no group has had a more significant impact on the evolution of modern society than our hardworking farmers. From the earliest days of our Nation's founding, the work ethic and devotion of our producers is what pushed us forward.

Before the sun rises, our Nation's farmers, ranchers, and foresters have already been hard at work for hours tending to their fields and caring for their livestock. Providing for our families goes beyond putting food on our tables. It includes clothes on our backs, heat in our homes, and fuel for our vehicles.

With each harvest, our farm families ensure that America and the world has access to a safe and abundant food supply.

American agriculture remains America's backbone, and we must support the families who give us so much by passing an effective 5-year farm bill.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL R. MCCORMICK

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michael R. McCormick, the remarkable superintendent of the Val Verde Unified School District, as he embarks on a well-deserved journey into retirement.

With over 27 years of dedicated service to the field of education, Michael McCormick's career has been defined by an unwavering commitment to fos-

tering educational excellence and nurturing innovation.

Before assuming the role of superintendent, Mr. MCCORMICK served as the assistant superintendent for education services at Val Verde. Under his stewardship, the district earned numerous awards and accolades owing to his thoughtful and diligent focus that put students first.

From championing STEM education to striving to close the racial education gap for his students, Val Verde has thrived under his guidance. Superintendent Michael McCormick's dedication to education has left an enduring legacy of inspiration and empowerment.

I congratulate Mr. MCCORMICK on his retirement. We thank him for his tireless commitment to excellence in education.

REMOVAL OF KLAMATH DAMS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, in my district in northern California there is this catastrophic removal and destruction of the Klamath dams. These are hydroelectric dams that provide clean, CO₂-free power for about 70,000 homes. It is reducing the renewable grid that everybody seems to want, eliminating recreational assets, hurting property values, damaging the local economy, and making it tougher on agriculture in the Klamath Basin.

Mr. Speaker, many of these products right here that are grown in California, 90 to 99 percent of what America relies upon. Even 100 percent of some of those same crops are grown in the Klamath Basin. They won't be able to do that much longer if they keep tearing down our infrastructure and taking water away.

The removal of these dams currently has released many millions of cubic yards of accumulated silt which has ruined the water quality and killed hundreds of thousands of fish and their spawning beds that they have laid new smelts in.

We have seen even full-sized deer getting stuck and dying in the mud. The Governors of California and Oregon seem willing to ignore these because they think it is a win to tear out the dams.

Local farmers, again, are suffering. The project borrowed water from the dams to extend irrigation systems. We won't have that flexibility anymore with that out. We won't be able to grow some of these crops that Americans enjoy and rely upon.

We have this devastation going on all in the name of the environment and all in the name of saving some fish, and in the meantime they have destroyed and killed hundreds of thousands of fish and will continue to do so with this reckless dam removal that won't end here. It will keep going. We will have

less hydroelectric power, less stored water, and less recreation with this crazy type of thinking.

ISRAELI HOSTAGE FAMILY

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, 228 days. That is how long it has been since scores of people were violated, maimed, tortured, and killed in Israel.

It has been 228 days since 252 people, including children and the elderly, were abducted from Israel into Gaza.

Yesterday, I met with four of their families, Alex Danzig, a 75-year-old, was taken from Kibbutz Nir Oz. He spent the last 30 years working at Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust remembrance center, educating about the lessons of World War II.

Ohad Ben Ami, a dual Israeli-German citizen, was kidnapped from Kibbutz Be'eri. Ohad's daughter showed me one of the last photos she has of him which depicts him being dragged into a van by a terrorist.

Shaked Dahan, whose dog tag I wear in his honor, was a 19-year-old IDF soldier killed on October 7. Footage of his lifeless body being dragged from the tank he drove was shown to me by his family. His body was taken to Gaza, and his family prays for its return so they can give him a proper burial.

Matan Angrest, a 21-year-old IDF soldier, also abducted, status unknown, is believed to be alive. He shares a November 28 birthday with his younger sister. This past year was the first time they had ever marked their birthday apart.

Mr. Speaker, it has been 228 excruciating days for these families. We must not forget them. Until they are released, I will keep saying their names and standing with their families.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

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

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate National Emergency Medical Services Week and honor the EMS professionals and paramedics who provide lifesaving care across the Nation every day.

EMS professionals like Nick Oleck, chief of Scott County EMS in my home State of Indiana. Ever since he started serving in Scott County more than a decade ago, Nick and his team have turned around the Emergency Medical Services department, and it is now self-funded, saving taxpayer money while also saving lives.

This can be a heart-wrenching line of work. Last year, Nick suddenly lost a friend and colleague, and yet still he perseveres. While suffering through his