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House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

Pastor Travis O'Neal, Christ Fellowship Church, Port St. Lucie, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, for hundreds of years, You have guided the men and women in this room. For hundreds of years, prayers have been prayed from this pulpit, and You have faithfully and consistently answered many of those prayers.

Today, Father, we humbly come before You and we collectively say thank You. Thank You for those answered prayers, and thank You for Your favor and blessing that has so clearly rested on this great Nation.

I pray that the men and women in this room will tune their hearts and minds toward Heaven. Protect them, Lord, speak to them, encourage them, and give them wisdom in every decision they make. May they always look to You for guidance as they make decisions that impact every American.

I pray for unity today, Lord, both in this room and outside this room, that from every corner of this country, people would unify around the truth of Your Word.

We are a grateful people today, and we continue to declare three words that have been long echoed in this room: God bless America.

In the name of Jesus 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 Idaho (Mr. FULCHER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FULCHER 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 PASTOR TRAVIS O'NEAL

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) is recognized for 1 minute.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I thank my pastor, Pastor Travis O'Neal, for coming to open the House with prayer this morning.

He has pastored Christ Fellowship Church for roughly the last 8 years in Port St. Lucie, Florida. He makes sure that there is a home and a place for people to find the Lord and to grow in their walk with the Lord to make disciples.

I thank the pastor for his prayer, and I ask that we heed the words that he said to us this morning that we seek the Lord's counsel.

I ask that his prayer be granted that the Lord's hand guide us in our work here, and most of all, I ask that the Lord fulfill what the pastor prayed for, which is that God bless the United States of America.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

HONORING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, as a 24-year Army veteran, I rise today in honor of the 80th anniversary of D-Day, a day etched in the annals of American valor and sacrifice.

It was on the shores of Normandy that our brave troops, with hearts full of patriotism and determination, stormed the beaches to confront tyranny head-on.

Let us remember those courageous souls who gave everything for the cause of freedom. Their bravery and unwavering spirit embodies the very essence of what it means to be an American.

As we reflect on this anniversary, let us reignite the flames of patriotism within our hearts. Let us stand united in our commitment to uphold the principles of liberty and justice for which they have fought so gallantly.

Today, we honor their legacy by reaffirming our dedication to the ideals that made America great. Let us pledge to never falter in our defense of freedom and to always remember the sacrifices made on that fateful day.

God bless America, and may we forever cherish the memory of our heroes.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRYANT JOEL ADSIT

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

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bryant Joel Adsit, who passed away on May 22, 2024, after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Bryant was an extraordinary individual whose life exemplified resilience, love, and an unwavering dedication toward work, country, and family.

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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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Bryant was motivated and worked hard to make a difference in the world, joining the Utah National Guard in 2009 and the Massachusetts National Guard in 2022.

Bryant excelled in the field of loss prevention and became a loss prevention manager at TJX, a role which he cherished.

Outside of his impressive career, Bryant loved motorcycles, hiking, fishing, and playing with his dogs. He found joy in the simplicity of life and enjoyed sharing it with his wife, Heather, and his two beautiful children, Jade and Calvin.

His life reminds us that even in the face of adversity, we can still leave an enduring mark on our lives and in this world.

Bryant was a soldier, a friend, a father, and, most of all, a hero to all the lives he impacted for the better.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Bryant Adsit, and I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his commitment to serving his community and serving our country.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL TRAIL DAY

(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 today to recognize National Trail Day and the amazing trails across my district.

The Pine Creek Rail Trail, located in Lycoming and Tioga Counties, is held as one of the 10 best places to take a bike tour.

The Allegheny River and Samuel Justus Trails pass through Clarion and Venango Counties and run through the heart of the Oil Heritage Region.

The Great Shamokin Path was once the route used by Native American Tribes and is in Armstrong County.

The Redbank Valley Rail Trail was named the Pennsylvania Trail of the Year in 2020 and crosses through Armstrong, Clarion, and Jefferson Counties.

Traversing Clarion, Elk, Forest, and McKean Counties is the Knox and Kane Rail Trail. This 74-mile trail is full of scenic trailways in and around the Kinzua Bridge State Park to Clarion Junction.

In McKean County, part of the Knox and Kane Rail Trail is the Mount Jewett to Kinzua Bridge Trail, which was recently awarded Pennsylvania Trail of the Year in 2023.

Mr. Speaker, this National Trail Day, I encourage you to get outside and explore the trails in your area.

CELEBRATING IMMIGRANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COUNTRY

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Immigrant Heritage Month, a time we recognize and appreciate the immigrant experience and contributions they have made to our country, and to also recognize individuals with temporary protected status, or TPS.

TPS provides temporary protection from deportation and work authorization for those who can't safely return to their home countries due to extenuating circumstances.

TPS protects immigrants like Ana Rodriguez. Ana is a janitor in Houston who fled the civil war in El Salvador and has lived in Houston for more than 20 years.

Thanks to TPS, Ana has spent 20 years making meaningful contributions to the greater Houston area and our Nation.

That is why my bill, the American Dream and Promise Act, includes TPS holders, because this is the country that they know and call home.

Mr. Speaker, I am the grandchild of immigrants. I stand with immigrants. I have seen the contributions that they make to this country every single day across America.

We must put people over politics, immigrants over ignorance, and protect these American families by expanding TPS and passing bills like the American Dream and Promise Act that will give unauthorized immigrants and Dreamers the right to be here.

BIDEN'S BORDER CRISIS IS DETRIMENTAL TO IDAHOANS

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

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, while the crisis at our southern border continues to worsen due to President Biden's blatant disregard for U.S. immigration laws, Customs and Border Protection officers are now seeing a spike in activity at our northern borders.

Last month, 16,750 illegal immigrants were encountered at our northern border, a staggering 1,240 percent increase compared to April 2021, and that is just what we know of.

CBP reports that most of these individuals are attempting to evade apprehension, unlike at the southern border, where groups often surrender knowing they will be released directly into the U.S.

Our national security is in shambles as this crisis continues to escalate with no end in sight. Unlike President Biden, I will not stand by and allow known gang members, terrorists, and foreign aggressors to waltz into our country through our northern border and Idaho.

I will continue to fight to secure our border, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

CELEBRATING IMMIGRANTS' POSITIVE IMPACTS

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize June as Immigrant Heritage Month. This month, we celebrate the invaluable contributions of immigrants and the positive impact that they have on our country.

In that spirit, I would like to share the stories of one of my constituents. Gerald Michaud is a temporary protected status recipient from Haiti who received TPS after the devastating 2010 earthquake. Gerald was in Florida on a business trip when he learned that his home country had been devastated by the catastrophic earthquake and that he would be unable to return home safely.

However, with his TPS status, he has been able to live and work in the U.S. and support his family in Haiti.

Gerald is a 32BJ-SEIU member who works as a security officer and wheelchair attendant at LaGuardia International Airport and, on the weekends, serves as a martial arts instructor with the dream to one day have his own studio.

TPS has allowed Gerald to contribute so much to our community in Brooklyn. TPS holders like Gerald across the country contribute some \$31 billion annually to the U.S. economy.

This Immigrant Heritage Month, I recognize the contributions of immigrants like Gerald to communities across the country.

RECOGNIZING SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE

(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, the sound of freedom is roaring at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Wayne County, North Carolina.

This past week, I visited the base with my colleague, Representative NICKEL, and Goldsboro Mayor Charles Gaylor.

It was a pleasure meeting the new wing commander. We had an extensive discussion regarding divestment, the new Air Task Force, and upgrading the combat range.

It is crucial to recognize that Seymour Johnson plays a vital role in eastern North Carolina's economy, which is economically distressed. It is imperative that we prioritize our national security interests and protect this community.

I support the National Defense Authorization Act, including a provision requiring the Air Force to contract with the Department of Defense to conduct an assessment and report back to Congress.

The Air Force must prioritize transparency and accountability to the Wayne County residents.