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House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

The Reverend Brett Jamrog, Sacred Heart Parish, Norfolk, Nebraska, offered the following prayer:

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Father, You fashioned man and woman in Your own image and likeness so that we could know, love, and serve You. Today, we thank You and praise You for the opportunity to be here as men and women who represent our country. During this meeting, we invoke Your help, God, to help guide our thoughts, words, and actions so that they are in accord with Your providential plan. Grant that all the men and women here, inspired by the gift of faith, will be attentive to the needs of all, so that, sharing their grief and pain, they may constantly devote themselves to the service of all. Make all present here serve our country after the example of Christ, Your Son, so that our country can stand as a living witness to truth and freedom, to peace and justice, that all people may be raised up to a new hope.

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
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 Illinois (Ms. KELLY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois 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 REVEREND BRETT JAMROG

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

There was no objection.

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Father Brett Jamrog, who delivered this morning's prayer, as the guest chaplain for the day.

Father Jamrog is a native of Fremont, Nebraska, and a priest of the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Ordained in 2022, he has served my home parish, Sacred Heart in Norfolk, for the last 2 years.

Even at this early point in his ministry, he has had a big impact on his community by providing sacraments to the lay faithful on a daily basis and teaching in our school.

Father's presence here today reminds us of the foundational role that faith plays in forming leaders and guiding our country.

It is a great honor to host Father Jamrog here in Washington. His words of prayer this morning were a blessing to this Chamber.

May Father Jamrog's words continue to remain with us as he takes up our work for the day. Once again, we extend our gratitude to Father Jamrog for serving as today's guest chaplain.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

RECOGNIZING DUBOIS CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL'S SOFTBALL TEAM

(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 the extraordinary achievements of DuBois Central Catholic High School's softball team on their first-ever State championship victory.

On June 13, at Penn State's Medlar Field at Lubrano Park, this team made history by winning the school's first-ever PIAA single A crown State championship, defeating Carmichaels High School 2-0. DuBois Central completed its season with an outstanding 21-2 record.

Marina Hanes put DuBois Central Catholic on the board in the fifth inning with a line double to left field. At the top of the sixth, her teammate, Melia Mitskavich, added another run to seal the deal for DCC.

Mr. Speaker, this is a historic win for the Cardinals as it is their first State championship victory in program history. I am incredibly proud of the team and Coach Heigel for their heroic season.

I congratulate the DCC Cardinals on this impressive victory.

ELEVEN PEOPLE DIE OF GUN VIOLENCE IN AMERICA EVERY MINUTE

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

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, by the time I am done speaking, 11 people will have died from gun violence in our country.

By the end of the day, it will be 120. If we continue down this trajectory, more than 43,000 people will die from gun violence this year.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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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This legislative body needs to take more action beyond thoughts and prayers.

I introduced the Wear Orange Resolution this National Gun Violence Awareness Month in honor of Hadiya Pendleton. She would have turned 27 years old this month, but her life was cut short at 15 when she was shot and killed.

Every time I rise to urge Congress to pass commonsense gun safety laws, I remember Hadiya who should have been safe at a park.

Two years ago, we passed the first Federal gun safety legislation in nearly 30 years. We cannot wait another 30 years. It has only been a minute and 11 more people have died from gun violence.

DEBT BAILOUT DEEPENS DEFICIT

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the growing impact of President Biden's student loan bailouts on our Federal deficit.

Over the past 3 years, President Biden has repeatedly bypassed Congress and the courts to cancel student loans. His actions have fueled inflation and have now become the number one factor in growing the Federal deficit, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Let's be clear: Canceling student debt is not free. Just this year, student loan bailouts will cost the Federal taxpayers \$145 billion.

While debtors won't be responsible for their loans anymore, taxpayers will still be paying principal and interest.

Every dollar President Biden cancels in student loans adds directly to our country's crippling \$35 trillion debt.

It is only getting worse. Interest payments on our national debt have nearly doubled in the last few years, crossing \$1 trillion for the first time in 2023.

We cannot go on like this. It is time to stop these outrageous loan bailouts and restore fiscal sanity.

HONORING STEFANI BOOROOJIAN ON HER RETIREMENT

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stefani Booroojian, a pioneer in local journalism and one of the icons of journalism in the San Joaquin Valley.

After 42 years at KSEE24, the Fresno NBC affiliate, Stefani is sadly, for me, retiring from the news desk.

After graduating from Fresno State in 1981, and a loyal Bulldog, Stefani started in radio before landing her first job as a reporter. She worked on every newscast reporting stories on medical missions to Armenia, and women bat-

ting cancer as a part of the BuddyCheck24 project, in addition to many other stories, including the continued coverage of the COVID crisis. She never, ever shirked her responsibilities.

I have had the honor to know Stefani and her husband, Marc. She brings a wealth of knowledge and a real sense of compassion to journalism that resonates with my constituents and the people of our Valley. She, in a word, conveys trust.

Her legacy in so many different ways will continue to inspire the next generation of journalists. Stefani is a proud granddaughter of the Armenian diaspora, and she has always put the people of our Valley first.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Stefani for all her years of service to our Valley and keep up the good work.

CONGRATULATING NEW MANNA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM FOR THEIR VICTORY

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the New Manna Christian School baseball team for winning their second straight North Carolina Christian School Association's 1A title.

The WIND won a shutout victory of 10-0 in the quarterfinals, then went on to win the State championship 5-3.

This win continues a dominant run for New Manna's baseball program with their fourth consecutive year of double-figure wins, back-to-back State titles, and their third State championship in the past 4 years.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate New Manna WIND. They have again made North Carolina proud, as well as Marion, North Carolina.

PROTECTING OUR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

(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 on behalf of all the women who don't have the opportunity to stand here today.

Since the Dobbs decision, Republicans have imposed draconian bans to endanger women for the sake of power. Their obsession is power: power over their wives, sisters, daughters, every woman in our country.

Donald Trump, my Governor Greg Abbott, and their cronies seem to take joy in the harm they cause women, despite their oath to protect them.

Calls to the National Domestic Violence hotline about rape or sabotaged birth control have nearly doubled. Doubled.

The laws enacted by extreme MAGA lawmakers have increased domestic

abuse, and they carry this stain on their hands.

However, when Greg Abbott looks at these facts, it is like the porch light is on but nobody is home.

Back home in Texas, we say: Don't mess with Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to tell Greg Abbott and Donald Trump: Don't mess with Texas women. This is why we will always put women over politics and healthcare over bans.

CELEBRATING WOODRUFF, SOUTH CAROLINA'S, 150TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. TIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Woodruff as it celebrates its 150th anniversary.

Established in 1874 with a modest population of just 200, Woodruff has experienced remarkable growth over the past century and a half. Today, it proudly boasts about 5,000 residents and has ambitious plans to expand to 18,000 by 2029.

In addition to its impressive growth, Woodruff recently received exciting news that the BMW Group will invest over \$700 million to establish a high-voltage battery assembly plant along South Carolina Highway 101. This substantial investment signifies a new era of economic prosperity for the city.

To commemorate this historic milestone, the city of Woodruff will bury a time capsule on June 28. The celebration will feature live music and fireworks, creating lasting memories for the community. The time capsule will be a gift to future generations and is set to be opened in 2074.

OUR GUN VIOLENCE EPIDEMIC IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud Surgeon General Vivek Murthy for officially calling our gun violence epidemic what it is, a public health crisis.

The numbers paint the picture: 120 Americans are killed and more than 200 are wounded by guns every day. The leading cause of death among children and teens in America is gun violence, with 4,600 precious children killed in 2022 alone, and an average of two mass shootings each day for the past 3 years.

These numbers should horrify us because they are not numbers; they are people whose lives have been stolen, and families with unimaginable pain.

Dr. Murthy's declaration treats our gun violence crisis with the urgency it demands. It opens doors for us to build upon the small progress we are making.

Two years ago this week, we passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act,