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NBC PALM SPRINGS EMMY AWARD

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate NBC Palm Springs for their remarkable achievement of taking home an Emmy Award at the National Academy of Television Pacific Southwest Chapter.

Last month, the NBC Palm Springs team won the Emmy Award for Best Newscast in a Small Market for their coverage of tropical storm Hilary in August of 2023.

Our district communities were impacted by this rare, dangerous, and unprecedented tropical storm that hit the desert in inland southern California.

Thanks to the coverage of the storm by Tim, Olivia, Tiani, Carmela, Jerry, and News Director David Reese, countless lives were saved.

The courage and professionalism of the entire studio prevailed throughout their coverage of the storm.

It is my privilege to honor them and their well-deserved award and the invaluable service they provided to ensure our community was kept informed and safe.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate NBC Palm Springs. They have made us all incredibly proud.

CELEBRATING NEW PRAIRIE
BASEBALL

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

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate excellence in athletics and to highlight a very special group of Hoosiers.

A year ago, the New Prairie High School girls softball team won the 3A State championship, marking the Cougars first-ever State title in any sport.

Apparently, the boys didn't want to be shown up by the girls because last month the New Prairie baseball team also won the 3A State title for their first title in program history.

In their 7-2 win over the Brebeuf Jesuit Braves, the Cougars were carried by a stellar and outstanding performance from starting pitcher Tyson Greenwood.

All season long, the Cougars counted on the bat of sophomore sensation Reed Robinson whose 43 RBIs were the second most in all of Indiana.

Congratulations to Cougars Head Coach Mark Schellinger and all the young men on an incredible season and for bringing another State title back to Indiana's Second District.

Mr. Speaker, I thank them for making the New Prairie community very proud.

May God bless them, and go Cougars.

UKRAINE DEFENSE

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the bipartisan Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2024.

Let me thank my fellow bipartisan Congressional Ukraine Caucus co-chairs and other Members who are strong supporters of Ukraine for introducing this legislation.

Our bill renews the Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2022. It enables resumption of the previously granted enhanced authority for the President to lend or lease military equipment and weapons to Ukraine. It will assist Ukraine to defend its people and sovereign territory as they face illegal and unprovoked Russian aggression orchestrated by Russian tyrant Vladimir Putin.

The Ukrainian people are fighting fiercely for their homeland. During World War II, after the United States was attacked by Imperial Japan, we projected strength and liberty as the arsenal of democracy. We utilized authorities like those contained in this bill to support and defend our besieged Allies. Without such effort, the Axis powers would have won the day.

As democracy's shield, our Nation, together with our Allies, must stand against tyranny. By engaging every avenue of support available, including through the authorities in this legislation, that will yield victory sooner rather than later.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all of our Members to join us to cosponsor this bill.

WELCOMING THE USS
"EISENHOWER"

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

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome home the aircraft carrier, the USS *Eisenhower*, to her aircraft carrier battle group, and all of its sailors and marines home to Hampton Roads this weekend after an extended 9½ month deployment.

The USS *Eisenhower* carrier battle group has been deployed in the Red Sea off the coast of Israel for more than 8 months in what was the greatest concentration of naval power deployed to the Mediterranean in a generation.

The selfless service of the men and women aboard the USS *Eisenhower* led them far from home during dangerous times for a purpose greater than themselves. We owe them a debt that we can never repay.

Earlier this year, I traveled with other Members of Congress to Israel where we met with different groups, from senior military officers to everyday Israeli citizens. I cannot count the

number of times we were thanked for sending the USS *Eisenhower* to sit off the coast of Israel after October 7.

The Israeli people truly believe that because of our U.S. naval presence in the region, countless lives were saved, and Hezbollah never invaded Israel from the north.

Tomorrow, I will proudly watch four of the USS *Eisenhower*'s squadrons fly into Naval Air Station Oceana with their families and look forward to thanking them on behalf of a grateful nation.

It is truly an honor to represent these servicemembers in Congress and to fiercely defend their mission and to advocate for them and their families.

As a former Navy helicopter pilot and a Navy spouse of an F-18 pilot, I know the uncertainty their families faced during this extended deployment, the milestones missed, and the challenges they endured. I cannot wait for them to be reunited with their loved ones.

I thank all those serving aboard the USS *Eisenhower* and her battle group, and welcome them home.

SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESS

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

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, we need to level the playing field in North Carolina to ensure that underrepresented entrepreneurs have a seat at the table.

That is why I am introducing the Supporting Diverse Entrepreneurs Act alongside Congresswoman ALMA ADAMS. This bill will broaden the scope and funding for programs that support minority-owned businesses.

Our bill would expand Minority Business Development Agency business centers near historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

Doing so will help create a network of accessible business resources to help young, diverse entrepreneurs thrive.

I will continue to work with every ounce of my energy to expand economic growth and opportunity, increase access to capital, and support North Carolina's small business ecosystem.

SECURE OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

(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, yesterday, the House passed the SAVE Act to prevent noncitizens from voting in American elections.

Unfortunately, this has become a dire necessity to secure our elections after the President and his administration have allowed millions of illegal immigrants to enter our country. Not only are our elections at risk of interference from this influx of illegal immigrants, but so is our national security.

More than 350 individuals whose names appear on the terrorist watch list were found trying to cross our southern border. Surely there are many more who have successfully made their way through the border.

Mr. Speaker, what will it take for the President, his administration, impeached Secretary Mayorkas, and congressional Democrats to wake up to this impending disaster?

I hope it doesn't come to that.

For the sake of all Tennesseans, I will stand firm to support policies that secure our borders.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUAN MALDONADO

(Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and times of my good friend, Juan Maldonado.

Juan served his country faithfully during the Vietnam war. His perseverance and determination later translated into public service and political activism. During the Carter administration, Juan served on the Economic Opportunity Council and proudly represented the United States on an official delegation to Latin America.

As State chairman of the Mexican-American Democrats and a local Democrat, he paved the way for Tejano Democrats in south Texas working to elect the first Hispanics to public office in the Rio Grande Valley.

He was a devout Catholic, devoted educator and coach, and an institution in our community.

We will remember his faith, his devotion to south Texas, and his service to the people of the Rio Grande Valley.

Today, let us honor his life, accomplishments, and impact on our community and our country.

CONGRESSIONAL RUGBY CAUCUS

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

Mr. MOONEY. Mr. Speaker, as a former avid rugby player at Dartmouth College and founding member of the Congressional Rugby Caucus, it is my honor to welcome the U.S. Men's Eagles to the House of Representatives.

Tomorrow, the Men's Eagles host Scotland right here in our Nation's Capital City.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage you to watch the game.

Scotland is a nation with a proud rugby heritage, and rugby continues to grow in popularity in the United States of America.

This game on Friday will be a great rematch as 6 years ago the USA defeated Scotland in a historic upset of the number 6 ranked team in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome the Scottish team to Washington and wish both teams a good game.

HONORING THE OLD PINK TAVERN

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the loss of a local institution, The Old Pink, a neighborhood tavern where western New Yorkers ended a night out on the town with a drink and one of The Old Pink's famous steak sandwiches.

On June 17, a fire broke out at The Old Pink, and it was damaged beyond repair.

The Old Pink was founded by Kevin and Dennis Brinkworth in 1968 and has remained in the family since, with Molly Brinkworth managing the iconic landmark for the last three decades.

Molly's famous last call at Buffalo's 4 a.m. closing time gave everyone a heads up that was their last drink and to find a ride home or figure out their next stop.

As the saying goes: You don't have to go home; you just can't stay here.

While Buffalo has undergone numerous changes over the years, The Old Pink was a constant. Countless bartenders would head to The Old Pink after their own last call for a nightcap and late dinner, further cementing the bar's legendary status in Buffalo.

To Molly and her team who gave us so many unforgettable nights, we are heartbroken at the loss of this institution, an irreplaceable part of Buffalo's nightlife. We offer our hopeful cheers to the idea that perhaps this isn't The Old Pinks's last call.

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HONORING BARBARA "BOBBIE" STONE

(Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, today it is with profound respect and pride that I stand to honor a remarkable patriot from my district, Ms. Barbara "Bobbie" Stone.

Bobbie, who recently passed away at the age of 102, served as a U.S. marine during World War II and was a formidable member of America's Greatest Generation.

On this past Memorial Day, we recognized Bobbie at the Santa Clarita Eternal Valley event, celebrating her and other women's crucial roles in our military history. Despite her having Alzheimer's, her spirit of gratitude was evident and her legacy was undeniable.

Bobbie was more than a veteran; she was a beacon of courage and an inspiration to all who knew her. Her strength, patriotism, and pioneering spirit were immeasurable. Like the heroes who served before and beside her, she fought not just for victory abroad but for recognition and equality at home.

As we honor her memory, let's remember Bobbie as she was: a fierce warrior, a dedicated marine, and a cherished member of our community.

Heaven has gained what we have lost, and she is now by the Lord's side. May God bless Bobbie, and may God bless the United States.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ELLZEY) laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 11, 2024.

I hereby designate the period from Thursday, July 11, 2024, through Sunday, July 21, 2024, as a "district work period" under section 3(z) of House Resolution 5.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

AND STILL I RISE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, very proud to be a Member of the House of Representatives and very proud to be a citizen of the United States of America.

I love my country. I love it because of what it stands for. I love the words in the Pledge of Allegiance: liberty and justice for all. I love the words in the Declaration of Independence: all persons created equal and endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among them life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

I love my country notwithstanding the fact that my country has not always loved me. I am a son of the segregated South. There were times in my lifetime when I had to go to back doors to enter facilities, when I had to drink from colored water fountains, and when I literally had to step off the sidewalk so that others could pass.

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Notwithstanding all of this, I love my country. Today, I rise to call to the attention of my country and all who are assembled the fact that August 20 is Slavery Remembrance Day because it was on August 20 of 1619 that the White Lion docked in a place called Point Comfort, near where we now call Norfolk, Virginia.

On the White Lion, there were 20 persons of African ancestry. These were the first 20 persons introduced into slavery by way of the colonies in what would become the United States of America.

Notwithstanding August 20 of 1619, which was a seminal moment in time that has impacted the rest of time in this country, I still rise and say: I love my country.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate for me at this time to pause. The minority leader has arrived, and I have a duty,