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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SELF).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 24, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable KEITH SELF to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy Lord, receive us this day before Your throne of mercy, where no one is hidden, and all of us are vulnerable and laid bare before You. To You we must render account.

Whether we offer our prayers for Israel or Gaza, Russia or Ukraine, the other side or our own side, because of our prejudices, wrongs, violence, and disregard for Your precepts of love and concern for even our enemies, we are not worthy to stand in Your presence.

How dare we approach You so boldly in the hope that we would find Your grace in our time of need? All that we have endeavored to do to bring peace into these areas of trauma and conflict, our feeble attempts to mitigate the starvation and suffering have all fallen short.

As mortals, even our best efforts cannot achieve what, at this point, seems impossible. But for You, O God, all things are possible. In You alone can we and do we trust. We appeal this day to Your abounding mercy and steadfast love. Hear our prayers.

In Your sovereign 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 Virginia (Mr. CLINE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CLINE 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.

VISIT THE NATURAL STATE

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, the House recently, by unanimous voice vote, passed the EXPLORE Act to enhance outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans.

Arkansas is home to a wide variety of beautiful State parks. Many of these parks are in the Fourth District, but today I rise to highlight a unique park that is truly and literally a gem.

Murfreesboro, Arkansas, is home to the only public diamond mine in the world where visitors are allowed to keep their findings. The Crater of Diamonds is a 37½-acre field that became

an Arkansas State park in 1972. With over 75,000 diamond findings since the first discovery in 1906, significant diamonds that have been discovered here are the Amarillo Starlight, Esperanza, and the most notable, Uncle Sam. Uncle Sam is the largest diamond ever unearthed in the United States and is now one of two diamonds on display at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History in the Great American Diamonds exhibit.

I encourage the Senate to pass the bipartisan EXPLORE Act and for everyone to visit the Natural State. While you are there experiencing the great outdoors, be sure to schedule a visit to the Crater of Diamonds to discover your own piece of American history.

CONGRATULATING STACEY LEAVANDOSKY ON HER RETIREMENT

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

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize one of the most dedicated public servants I have worked with, Stacey Leavandosky.

Stacey has been on Capitol Hill for 27 years, including 18 years as my chief of staff. Her service to my California district, Congress, and the American people has been steady and invaluable.

She began her career as an intern for her hometown Representative in 1993. She rose through the ranks on Capitol Hill. During her time with me, 20 years, she has been a senior adviser for the California Democratic congressional delegation, House Administration Committee, Ethics Committee, Immigration Subcommittee, and Science Committee.

She has unparalleled commitment to our staff, our constituents, and the American people. She has been a constant voice of reason with a belief that

□ 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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government can be a positive force for change. She is the kind of public servant people aspire to be.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Stacey, and I wish her family the very best in the next chapter of her life as she retires.

BIG WIN FOR GEORGIA RESIDENTS

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the House's passage of the bipartisan Water Resources Development Act of 2024, which includes language to address an issue that is critical to the residents of my district.

I have worked for many years in Congress to find a permanent solution regarding the New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam, one that works for job creators, municipalities, and our community alike.

Unfortunately, the Corps of Engineers selected a rock weir option as an alternative to replace the lock and dam, which would drop the pool level far below the needs of the community, and in the Corps' simulation of that project had disastrous impacts up and down the riverbank.

I was proud to partner with Representative MIKE COLLINS to get language included in the Water Resources Development Act to stop the Corps' disastrous rock weir plan and clarify congressional intent to maintain our pool level at 114.5 feet. This is a big win for the residents of my district.

SARA IS AN INNOCENT CIVILIAN

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

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, this is Sara. Sara is a 17-year-old Palestinian girl whose entire body was burned by an Israeli bomb. She could not seek immediate medical attention because the IDF had her home surrounded. It is a miracle that she survived. Her brother and sister did not.

That Israeli bomb was paid for by the American tax dollar. We continue to fund the collective punishment of civilians in Palestine, in Gaza. Sara is not Hamas. She is a civilian. She is innocent. She loved to play volleyball. Her brothers loved to ride horses.

Now today, we have invited Binyamin Netanyahu, who is being charged with war crimes, to address this House. Are we a democracy for all? Are we a democracy that leads with our humanity or will we continue to support the war crimes of Netanyahu?

CONGRATULATING EDINBURG, TEXAS

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the great city of Edinburg, Texas, for being awarded the prestigious All-America City title for the fourth time. This honor was recently bestowed upon Edinburg at the National Civic League conference last month.

The All-America City award is the Nation's highest civic recognition, celebrating communities that exemplify outstanding civic engagement, inclusivity, and innovative problem solving. This award is a testament to the dedication and the spirit of Edinburg's residents. Their commitment to community programs, local initiatives, and neighborly support truly embodies the essence of what it means to be the All-America City.

This accolade not only honors Edinburg's past achievements, but it also inspires a future of continued excellence and innovation.

Please join me in congratulating Edinburg, Texas, on this remarkable achievement. Congratulations, Edinburg.

HONORING THE LATE CONGRESSMAN HENRY NOWAK

(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 with a heavy heart to pay tribute to former Congressman Henry Nowak, an 18-year Member of this body, who passed away on July 21, leaving an incredible legacy of service to our country and my community.

Congressman Nowak was a star college basketball player at his beloved Canisius University, a brilliant student of law, a dedicated public servant, and a veteran of the United States Army. Back home, he was known as Buffalo's billion-dollar man for his advocacy in Congress which delivered some of the largest infrastructure projects in our region's history, including Interstate 990 in the northtowns and U.S. Route 219 in the southern tier.

Those who knew him best remember Congressman Nowak as the perfect balance of kind and fierce, reserved and witty, a leader and a mentor, which he was to me. He will be missed dearly by family and friends, including his loving wife of 58 years, Rose; his son, New York State Supreme Court Justice Henry Nowak, Jr.; his daughter, Diane; and six grandchildren.

He was a statesman, a family man, and a patriot. We are forever indebted for his faithful service to our great Nation. May he rest in peace.

REMEMBERING TIM DOBOS

(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 remember

the life and legacy of Timothy Paul Dobos of Mill Hall, Pennsylvania.

Tim Dobos died on July 11 after a courageous 10-year battle with ALS. He was just 36.

Tim was a Marine Corps veteran. He worked as an electronic warfare analyst with the 2nd Radio Battalion, was deployed to Kuwait with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit. In 2010, when earthquakes devastated Haiti, Tim assisted in relief efforts, earning him a Humanitarian Service Medal. Tim rose to the rank of lance corporal before being honorably discharged in 2012.

In April 2014, Tim was diagnosed with ALS, but that diagnosis didn't slow him down. In 2018, Tim earned a degree in applied physics from Lock Haven University.

I was fortunate enough to call Tim a friend. His contagious personality brought happiness to all who had the pleasure of knowing him. He lived a life dedicated to service and caring for others.

I offer my deepest condolences to Tim's wife, Robyn, their sons, and his family. Knowing Tim was a blessing. Having him as a friend was a blessing, and may Tim's memory be a blessing to all.

WORKING TOWARD LASTING PEACE IN GAZA

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

Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my outrage. Gaza has been decimated by the Israeli military using weapons provided by the United States. Over 39,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, have been killed, and more are being killed every day. Most homes, most infrastructure destroyed.

Yet, what do we do? We welcome Netanyahu, the person responsible for this, to address Congress with open arms. As a student of history and as a Black woman in this country, I am keenly aware of the role that this very body has played in the marginalizing of Black and Brown folks domestically and abroad. This is why I refuse to remain silent.

When Putin commits war crimes, we condemn him. When Netanyahu commits war crimes, we give him excuses and bombs. This hypocrisy is not lost on the world. Americans are less safe, and our standing in the world is greatly diminished because of our inability to remain morally consistent.

Years from now, this body will be ashamed of its actions. The large majority of our constituents are ashamed today. It is well past time that we stop this moral inconsistency and start working toward a just and lasting peace for all in this region.