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House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

Rabbi Levi Slonim, Chabad of Binghamton, Vestal, New York, offered the following prayer:

Master of the universe, in beseeching You for blessings, we act in kindness and charity. Bless these distinguished Members of Congress, chosen by so many, who fulfill one of the seven Noah high commandments You gave unto humanity; namely, to govern by just laws.

In these unprecedented and challenging times for our Nation, we recall the timeless words of my revered leader, global spiritual leader and teacher, the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of righteous memory, whose passing 30 years ago we commemorated earlier this month.

He taught: Difference need not lead to division. On the contrary, true unity comes from a synthesis of different, even opposite, thrusts. Differences between people are overshadowed by what is common to all of us. We are God's creations.

Merciful Father, today we pray for a swift and safe return of the hostages being held in Gaza and an end to all conflict in Israel and throughout the world.

Almighty God, please bless the Congress so that they foster an environment of love and acceptance, a deeper appreciation that within each individual lies untapped potential.

In the words of Maimonides, each person must see themselves as though the entire world were held in balance and with a single deed they can tip the scales, ushering in the era of redemption as proclaimed by Isaiah when nation shall not lift a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

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 gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. TOKUDA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TOKUDA 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 RABBI LEVI SLONIM

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, it is truly a high honor to have Rabbi Levi Slonim as our guest chaplain today.

Rabbi Slonim codirects Chabad Downtown in Binghamton, New York, alongside his wife, Hadasa, and is also the director of development at the Rohr Chabad Center for Jewish Student Life at Binghamton University.

His faith journey began as a child in Binghamton when his parents, guided by the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, established a Chabad presence there in 1985. What started in a modest one-bedroom apartment has grown into a thriving hub that welcomes over 1,500 students each semester.

Rabbi Slonim's work has also taken him across the globe, providing programming in the United States and communities across Europe.

Since returning to Binghamton in 2008, he has initiated impactful pro-

grams like the Binghamton JGC, the Listen Up mental health fellowship, and has led over 800 students on birth-right trips to Israel.

We welcome Rabbi Levi Slonim and thank him for being here today. We thank him for his leadership. We thank him for his strong faith, and we thank him for being a light in a sometimes dark world. His dedication to faith, education, and community service is an inspiration to us all. We thank him for joining us this morning.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

CONGRATULATING MAYOR DAVE KLEIS ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. EMMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, a public servant, a veteran, a small business owner, and my friend, St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis is retiring after nearly 30 years in office.

Dave found his passion for politics while serving in the Air Force and working as a congressional liaison at the Pentagon. He then represented the St. Cloud area in the State senate for 10 years, eventually becoming the Senate minority leader.

Dave is a customer service representative. During his 20 years as mayor, he hosted over 1,000 townhalls, including multiple 24-hour marathon townhalls and frequently invited residents to his home for dinner.

Dave has been an incredible partner working with us on hard infrastructure projects in the St. Cloud COP House. I thank Dave for his service to St. Cloud, Stearns County, and the State of Minnesota. Enjoy your retirement.

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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CONGRATULATING DANIEL HOLT ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank an incredible member of my team, my director of operations, Daniel Holt, who is retiring later this summer after 25 years of public service.

Daniel's title doesn't even begin to reflect all that he does. Daniel is a rock star. He always knows who to call, what to do, and how to get it done. He makes sure that everyone in our district has an open door to my office. He has served this institution, this country, and the people of Massachusetts with incredible integrity and dedication, and, in the process, he has made the world a better place.

On a personal level, Daniel is like family to me and my wife, Lisa, and my kids, Molly and Patrick. I also want to recognize his family: Denise, Eleanor, Isaac, and Ava.

I know Daniel will continue to do great things in the future. On behalf of team McGovern, we are full of gratitude to Daniel, and we will forever be grateful to call him a mentor, colleague, and friend.

STOP DOJ WEAPONIZATION

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

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, at this moment, Mrs. Paulette Harlow, a 75-year-old Catholic grandmother, is locked in a Federal prison cell. Why? For peacefully and prayerfully blocking access to a third-trimester, late-term abortion mill.

Mrs. Harlow is one of many convicted under the Biden administration for violating the FACE Act, which prohibits any obstruction to abortion clinic entrances. For that offense, this wheelchair-bound grandmother will spend 2 years in jail. Meanwhile, the same prosecutors declined to prosecute 67 percent of all people charged with a crime in Washington, D.C., even violent crimes.

At sentencing, the judge mocked her and her faith, demanding that she "make every effort to stay alive" as part of the "tenets of [her] religion."

Biden's DOJ is politically weaponizing our justice system through selective enforcement, disproportionate sentencing, and bigotry. Congress must stop these political persecutions and help save the lives of unborn babies.

THOMAS BATTS HONORED AS 2024 NORTH CAROLINA STATE COOP- ERATIVE EXTENSION AGENT OF THE YEAR

(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, let me tell you what the buzz is about in Wilson, North Carolina. Thomas Batts, a commercial horticulture agent with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service in Wilson County was honored as the 2024 North Carolina State Cooperative Extension Agent of the Year in recognition of his service to agriculture and beekeepers.

Thomas is known for his hands-on and engaging horticulture programming, which includes beekeeping school and commercial vegetable production workshops. Thomas was instrumental in forming the Wilson County Beekeepers Association, which now has over 125 members.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Thomas on this well-deserved award. His hard work is a testament to his care for eastern North Carolina.

CONTRAST FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE COULD NOT BE CLEARER

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

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, last week, I couldn't help but notice the stark differences in the plans that Democrats and Republicans laid out for America's future.

During my townhalls, Kansans demanded that we address our national debt and crushing inflation. They are shocked about the millions of illegal immigrants who have and continue to enter the country and the risks that they pose to the integrity of our elections. Our country is going down the wrong path, and we need to fix it, quickly.

During our convention, President Trump and the Republicans laid out our vision to make America wealthy again, safe again, strong again, and to make America great again.

Meanwhile, President Biden withdrew from the race, propping up Vice President HARRIS as the Democratic nominee. Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, Vice President HARRIS is the chief executive officer of President Biden's border crisis and is the mastermind behind his pro-abortion policies. A Harris administration would simply be a more radical continuation of the last 3½ years. Americans deserve better.

The contrast could not be clearer. The Republican Party is the only party that is prepared to get America back on track.

HONORING BOB PALMOSINA ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of my

friend, Bob Palmosina, who retired last week after more than 8 years as the public works manager for Collier Township.

Before this role, Bob worked for more than 30 years in public works for the city of Pittsburgh and for Allegheny County. Collier is a growing municipality in my congressional district, and Bob led the Public Works Department to take care of a bunch of things: Clearing the roads from snow, road repairs, maintenance of parks and fields and courts, street signs, crosswalks, picking up leaves, and a heck of a lot more.

Public service is not for the weak of heart. The work and the hours can be grueling. Bob always remained focused and committed to his work and the shared prosperity of our community.

Bob continues to serve on the Allegheny County Council, and he is a dedicated coach and mentor to so many youth athletes in our area. I thank him for his service and wish him good luck in his next chapter.

KOREAN WAR ARMISTICE DAY

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

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, July 27 marks 71 years since the Korean Armistice Agreement.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., reads: "Our nation honors her sons and daughters who answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met."

We will never forget the sacrifices of the American and Korean soldiers who gave everything to defend them and to defend freedom. As a Korean American who grew up in South Korea after the Korean war, I know I am here because of them. I am a proud American serving in Congress, and this is not something I take lightly.

While the war ended 71 years ago, we must remain clear-eyed on the threat that is posed by North Korea. I will do my part as chairwoman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific.

□ 0915

CALLING FOR TRANS- FORMATIONAL POLICE REFORM

(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, we should all be outraged by the murder of Sonya Massey, an unarmed 36-year-old mother of two who was killed in her own home, clearly struggling with mental illness.

The police officers did not know how to respond. They threatened to shoot her in the face, and they actually shot her in the face.