

life Sergeant Major Blaz was only awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions in Vietnam. As honorable as this distinction holds, many would agree that his acts of valor mirrored those throughout the Nation who were recognized with the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest of honors bestowed to military heroes.

Since the start of my term, I have prioritized ensuring that Sergeant Major Blaz and two other Guam heroes, who also qualify for the Congressional Medal of Honor for their acts of heroism from the Vietnam conflict, are indeed recognized so that a chapter spanning nearly six decades would finally be close to a conclusion.

HONORING CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR
RECIPIENTS

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, and I am happy to share that earlier this year an amendment I was able to offer was successfully included in the FY 2025 National Defense Authorization Act, which would award the Congressional Medal of Honor to Sergeant Major Juan Ogo Blaz, Army Command Sergeant Martin Manglona, and the late Army Specialist Joseph Perez. I was even more humbled when I saw the joy in the eyes of Sergeant Major Blaz when I shared the news in person and advised that we are almost there.

Sadly, the Sergeant Major passed away, and while he may not be here with us to accept his much-deserved Congressional Medal of Honor, if language remains in the final version of the NDAA, he will be here in spirit. More importantly, he will be smiling down on the island and Nation which he proudly and faithfully served.

I am committed to getting this job done.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that in these historic Halls, I would like to take this time to ask for a moment of silence to honor the late Sergeant Major Juan Ogo Blaz, a man of family, faith, patriotism, and a true hero of this Nation.

May he rest in peace.

□ 1230

IN HONOR OF IRA SULLIVAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FROST) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, we are nearing 4 years since we lost a jazz great. I rise today to honor the life of one of our jazz legends and icons, Ira Sullivan.

Ira was many things: a jazz great, an educator, a mentor, a father, a husband, and a friend of mine.

I remember first meeting him when I was in about the seventh or eighth grade, as a student of the University of Miami Young Musicians Camp Jazz Honor Program.

I remember walking in very young, and he asked me to play vibraphone to a jazz song, which was kind of weird for

me. I was pretty young in my jazz education career, and I didn't know about jazz vibraphone. It almost felt as if he was asking me to play a timpani to a jazz song. It was very foreign.

The next day, I came in, and he gave me a pair of Gary Burton mallets, and he told me to give it a try. Believe it or not, I was still very confused. Either way, that decision and that gift he gave me changed my life forever.

From then on, I would start practicing jazz vibraphone and became quite obsessed with it. I stopped auditioning on the drum set at my school and started auditioning to be a jazz vibraphonist.

Years passed. Ira would always invite me to go back to perform with him in whatever the new class was at the University of Miami for the summer camp. I got to meet all the young people from across the country who Ira had inspired and whose lives he had changed.

Ira Sullivan achieved technical skills not achieved by many: a multi-instrumentalist in the truest sense of the word, fluidly being able to play trumpet, saxophone, flute, and other instruments.

Ira also had the ability to be a jazz great in the history books but also remain an accessible educator for artists of many different levels. Ira mentored greats such as Jaco Pastorius and Pat Metheny, but he also continued to teach high schoolers and college-aged students at the Young Musicians Camp at the University of Miami, where I met him.

Today, I honor the life of Ira Sullivan because he inspired so many young musicians.

I stopped practicing swing many, many years ago, but I have been telling myself that I ought to get back to it. I am committed to starting back up in his honor.

The last thing I will say, too, is a quick story. I remember going into high school jazz band, and I hadn't practiced very much that day. I got yelled at by the band director, rightfully so.

That night, I went home and felt very defeated. My dad came into my room with the house phone, and he said: Ira Sullivan is on the phone for you. I said: The Ira Sullivan? He said: Yeah, the Ira Sullivan.

I spoke with him for maybe 30 minutes, 45 minutes, told him about my day. I remember hanging up and going to practice all night. God bless my parents.

I went into jazz band that next day. Not only was I able to play the song proficiently, but I did it with so much passion, some of the most passion I had ever played with before. I think it is because, number one, I got up off of my butt and practiced, but also because Ira Sullivan called me.

Long live the memory of Ira Sullivan, jazz great, educator, friend, and mentor.

ACKNOWLEDGING SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as Suicide Pre-

vention Month, a time for us to come together, raise awareness, and offer hope to those facing thoughts of suicide and other mental health issues.

This issue hits particularly close to home for our veterans as we lose 17 veterans due to suicide every day. These are our friends, loved ones, neighbors, and people who served our country with courage, but are now struggling in silence. Whether it is safe firearm storage, better and increased access to mental healthcare, or the immediate support of the 988 Suicide Crisis Lifeline, we can all play a part in saving lives.

People in a mental health or suicide crisis deserve and need a compassionate and an effective response. The path toward saving lives starts with a conversation. Talking openly about suicide prevention and mental health can break the silence, and sometimes just one conversation can make all the difference.

We owe it to those who we have lost and those still struggling to listen and to act and to work together toward a future where no one has to fight alone.

IN HONOR OF OMARI JONES

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Omari Jones, an exceptional central Floridian in my district who has made history as a bronze medalist in boxing at the 2024 Olympics.

Omari was just one of eight boxers to bring home a medal, demonstrating his skill, courage, and determination.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. MALLIOTAKIS) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Eternal God, every good and perfect gift is from You. 237 years ago, Benjamin Franklin prayed to You, Father of lights, to illuminate our understanding of this mantle that You have placed on the people of the United States. For it is by Your generous hand that this Nation was given freedom and liberty, as well as the noble and weighty responsibility to govern with integrity and honor.

Today, as we celebrate the signing of our Constitution on this day in 1787, we pray that we have stewarded Your gifts faithfully, as our Founders intended. We recommit ourselves to forming a

more perfect Union, to establishing justice, to ensuring domestic tranquility, to providing for the common defense, to promoting the general welfare, and to securing the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our prosperity.

More importantly, on this day, we renew our dependence on Your guidance as we do our part to uphold our Republic. In our efforts to preserve this democracy, may we continue to seek Your righteousness and to rely on Your gracious guidance. For in You, God of our past, our present, and our future, there is no shadow or change, no failing of Your compassion.

Great is Your faithfulness now and always.

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 Mississippi (Mr. EZELL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. EZELL 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.

NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize 3.6 million American truckers during National Truck Driver Appreciation Week.

Truckers keep our Nation moving forward. Every year, across more than 300 billion miles of highways and back roads, these men and women deliver 11.5 billion tons of goods to feed our families, fuel our industries, and sustain our communities.

Whenever you see a truck on the road, Madam Speaker, know that behind the wheel, someone is often miles away from home and family to deliver goods we usually take for granted.

Without these unsung heroes, grocery shelves would be bare, factories would shut down, hospitals would run out of medication, and cars would be stranded without fuel.

I thank all our truck drivers for their hard work in undertaking one of our economy's most demanding and vital jobs.

WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS

(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. Madam Speaker, fans were on the edge of their seats as the Pitt County Girls Softball League made history by winning the Little League World Series.

With exemplary skill and talent, they defeated Team Louisiana Southwest 1-0. They had a flawless tournament, and no one scored against them. They outscored their opponents by a whopping combined score of 44-0.

I thank the players, coaches, family, fans, and community for rallying in support of this remarkable and amazing team. Eastern North Carolina is proud to celebrate this victory.

The players reflect the best of America, and they should be extremely proud knowing they are the best in the world.

RECOGNIZING BORING BUSINESS SYSTEMS ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Boring Business Systems in their hometown of Lakeland, Florida, on the company's 100th anniversary.

Founded in 1924 as the Lakeland Typewriter and Supply Company, Boring's longevity is a testament to its leaders' vision to anticipate the continually evolving needs of the business community. From its humble beginnings as a retail provider of manual typewriters and adding machines, Boring now provides IT services, cybersecurity, document management, and comprehensive network support.

Less than one-half of 1 percent of businesses still exist after 100 years. Making this milestone even more special is the fact that Boring is now 100 percent employee owned, a result of chairman emeritus Dean Boring's commitment to ensure the company thrives as it enters its second century.

I salute all the member owners of Boring Business Systems on this momentous occasion.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARGARET DAVIS

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding nurse practitioner who is a dear friend of mine, who passed away a few days ago. Her name is Margaret Davis, and people would often ask if she was a relative, and I would always say: No, but I wish that she was.

She was, indeed, one of the most effective nurses I have ever known during my lifetime. She was also one of

the most intellectual persons I have ever known.

So we simply express condolences to her family and friends and cite her work as president of the Black Nurses Association in the city of Chicago.

Margaret, you have done well. Rest in peace.

NATIONAL PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION RECOGNITION DAY

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day to remember the more than 500,000 POWs who endured the horrors of enemy captivity. We remember the tens of thousands of our brave patriots who are still missing in action and have yet to return home safely to the warm embrace of their families and loved ones.

In an expression of solidarity, Americans will honor the lives of our greatest heroes, and the POW/MIA flag will fly proudly.

Our brave patriots and their families deserve more than just 1 day. They deserve a place to be honored and mourned all year long. That is why I have introduced legislation to designate the National POW/MIA Memorial & Museum at Cecil Field in northeast Florida as a national landmark.

Madam Speaker, on this day, we the people, with a grateful heart, salute those who endured great dangers in the hands of the enemy and those lost in service to our Nation. We reaffirm our commitment to resolve the accounting of our great American patriots.

May we never forget.

BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

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

Mr. EZELL. Madam Speaker, I am excited to share that Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, has recently been named one of the best places to live in 2024.

This charming Mississippi Gulf Coast town, often referred to as part of the secret coast, has gained national attention for its many outdoor activities and strong sense of community.

When I visit, I immediately can feel that the folks of Bay St. Louis take pride in supporting one another and working together to make it a better place for everyone.

Some of the city's main attractions include a resilient seaside downtown area with many historic eateries, monthly art walks, and, of course, the beachside atmosphere. It embodies the small-town feel with big cultural energy.

Also, because of its easy access to many waterways, including the Gulf of Mexico and the Jourdan River, flowing