

strengthening our local economy. Growing up in a Hispanic household myself, I can confidently say these are some of the best restaurants in our country.

As a Hispanic myself, I am proud to co-lead this resolution with a bipartisan group of colleagues to dedicate this week to Hispanic restaurants and thank all of the owners, chefs, servers, dishwashers, and more for all their work and contributions to our community and Nation.

ACCESS PROMOTES UNDERSTANDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th anniversary of the Arab-American Community Center for Economic and Social Services of WNY. ACCESS was founded to promote understanding and foster bonds of friendship between Arab Americans and people of all faiths, ethnicities, and backgrounds, recognizing the critical importance of dialogue and understanding.

Over the past 20 years, ACCESS has connected individuals with legal services, financial assistance, healthcare, and employment opportunities. It provides our young people, who often face uncertain and challenging circumstances, with the mentorship and programs required to enrich their lives and set them on a path of success for the future.

In addition, ACCESS is committed to aiding immigrants as they pursue their dream of citizenship, helping them navigate the application process financially, culturally, and linguistically. For refugees fleeing persecution, poverty, and violence, ACCESS offers programs that help people and families begin new lives, acclimate to life in the United States, and thrive.

I thank Executive Director Talib Abdullah and the leadership of the board for their extraordinary efforts meeting our community's needs and making western New York a more welcoming and connected home for all.

Our community and Nation look forward to their continued success and congratulate them.

SICKLE CELL DISEASE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the passage of the Sickle Cell Disease and Other Heritable Blood Disorders Research, Surveillance, Prevention, and Treatment Act.

I am proud to support this critical legislation to reauthorize Federal efforts to research, prevent, and treat sickle cell disease through 2028.

Sickle cell disease is an inherited genetic blood condition affecting approximately 100,000 Americans and a million people around the world.

As a clinical nurse specialist caring for sickle cell patients, my own mother knew firsthand the hardships stemming from this terrible disease, includ-

ing pain, anemia, infections, and stroke, as well as kidney, liver, and heart disease.

For those with sickle cell, life expectancy is 20 years shorter than the average.

We have more to do, especially as this disease disproportionately impacts Black and Latino people who are already facing health inequities.

To put it in perspective, in my home State of New York, one in every 365 Black babies is born with sickle cell disease.

During Sickle Cell Awareness Month this September, the legislation passed in the House will honor the resilience of those affected by this disease, advance important research to improve treatment options, and help ensure equitable access to care for all patients. The time to act is now.

COMBATING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the passage of two bipartisan bills that will continue our Nation's commitment to researching, treating, and ultimately curing Alzheimer's disease that has caused so much heartbreak and pain across the country.

Families are enduring the profound emotional, physical, and financial toll of Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Nearly 7 million Americans currently live with Alzheimer's, but their burden is not theirs alone. Each of those individuals have families and communities that are impacted. In fact, the Alzheimer's Association estimates that 11 million Americans provide unpaid support to patients every year, accounting for more than 18 billion hours of care.

This disease impacts families in every State, city, neighborhood, and of all races, incomes, and religions. My own family has felt the pain of Alzheimer's, as my grandmother suffered for years with this debilitating disease. I watched as my family provided 24-hour care for her in her home until the time that she passed.

It is critical that we make Federal investments to research and address Alzheimer's disease and provide resources for the patients and families who are impacted. The bipartisan legislation to extend and strengthen the National Alzheimer's Project and to develop the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services will go a long way to combat this terrible disease.

I thank the advocates who have volunteered their time caring for loved ones, fighting for research funding, and for always keeping faith for future generations that will hopefully not have to feel the grief of watching a loved one slowly slip away.

REMEMBERING MARK MORTENSON

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mark Mortenson, who passed on September 14 and whose life work always brought beauty and wonder to so many lives in western New York.

After taking on his most recent role as president and CEO of Buffalo and

Erie County Botanical Gardens in 2022, Mark was ready to take on a new multimillion dollar expansion to fulfill its mission to change the region.

His life will always be remembered in western New York. Our prayers are for his loved ones that he left behind: his husband, Curt Maranto; and his children, Nicolas, Kiara, Mikey, Elliott, Emily, and the late Clayton, who will always be remembered.

He will be missed. May he rest in peace.

□ 1100

COMMEMORATING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MIDDLEBURG'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Lord says that when two or more people gather in prayer, there He will be also. At the First Baptist Church of Middleburg this past Sunday, we certainly felt the Lord's presence.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a spiritual rock in northeast Florida. On September 22, First Baptist Church of Middleburg celebrated its 125th anniversary.

Abby and I had the privilege of attending the commemorative service this past Sunday, and when we entered the sanctuary, it was obvious the holy spirit was already there. The congregation, the choir, Pastor Chris Bonts, and the entire pastoral staff team were celebrating the church's long history and its future as a missionary church.

In 1899, a dozen citizens gathered in the back of a local general store to start a church that would honor the Lord and serve Middleburg. Mr. Speaker, 125 years later from those humble beginnings, First Baptist Middleburg has transformed the lives of thousands through the Gospel and community partnerships.

From youth outreach programs to food pantries to recovery ministries for those impacted by addiction and a robust missionary presence around the world, First Baptist Middleburg is spreading the good news to neighbors and strangers alike.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating First Baptist Middleburg's 125 years in service to Him and others. I congratulate First Baptist, and let's go get them on the next 125 years.

HONORING CAELEB DRESSSEL

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great northeast Florida athlete who made a big splash this summer at the Paris Olympics.

Caeleb Dressel is a Green Cove Springs native who was a Clay High Blue Devil who went on to earn—get this—10 NCAA national championships at the University of Florida as a Fighting Gator. Caeleb is a three-time Olympian, earning a career nine Gold Medals and one Silver, placing him in a very elite group of swimmers.

Caeleb has the type of résumé that can impress almost anyone. In addition to holding several current world records in swimming, Caeleb was the 2021 Sports Illustrated Male Athlete of the Year.

Caeleb is a husband and father who takes all his roles seriously.

In a recent interview, Caeleb talked about the importance of training and hard work and the honor of being part of a national team, as well as the joy of seeing other people—how about this—reaching their goals and dreams. In short, Caeleb Dressel is an inspiration to us all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me today in recognizing a great American athlete who continues to make Clay County proud. We are all so glad it went swimmingly.

Mr. Speaker, we are proud of Caeleb. Go get them, Caeleb.

HONORING RYAN MURPHY

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, northeast Florida has done it again. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a mainstay of U.S. swimming and a northeast Florida native who absolutely smashed it at the 2024 Paris Olympics, Ryan Murphy.

Ryan hails from Jacksonville and first dreamed about the Olympics when he was 7. This Bolles Bulldog has quite the résumé. In addition to an impressive five Olympic Gold Medals, Ryan is a former and current world record holder who medaled in the 100-meter backstroke in three Olympic Games.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a northeast Floridian who exemplifies American excellence and hard work. Ryan Murphy's pool résumé is very swim-pressive. Jacksonville and his country are proud.

Whatever his next race is, go get them.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH HONOREES

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

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize two constituents of our district who have impacted the history and culture of Hispanic Americans across Nebraska and the Second Congressional District.

Linda Rivera Garcia and Jose Francisco Garcia, descendants of Mexican-born grandparents, founded the Mexican American Historical Society of the Midlands. They have dedicated their whole adult lives to creating awareness of the rich legacy built by the presence of Mexican Americans in the Midlands.

Linda Garcia grew up on a farm in Papillion, Nebraska, my hometown, and attended a one-room country school. She graduated from Papillion High School with her brother, representing the only persons of color in the late fifties and early sixties. Linda would go on to obtain a degree in the

arts at the College of Saint Mary in Omaha, Nebraska.

For over 50 years, Linda has used her artistic presence as a community advocate for Mexican Americans. She has received many accolades, including being named Hispanic Woman of the Year by the Mexican American Commission. The Great Plains Museum in Lincoln and the Willa Cather museum in Red Cloud, Nebraska, featured Linda's art exhibits. She serves as a storyteller with the National Arts Council and Humanities Nebraska and is the artistic director and cultural curator of the South Omaha Museum of Immigrant History.

Jose Garcia was born and raised on the west side of Kansas City, Missouri. Growing up, Jose sold TV Guides and worked at a Mexican grocery store.

After graduating high school, he would go on to work at Macy's, Aetna Insurance, and the Commerce Trust bank, all while attending night school at a junior college.

In 1966, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Vietnam. Jose would then use the GI Bill to obtain a degree in psychology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and became involved in the Chicano student movement of the time.

Jose moved to Omaha in 1976 and married the love of his life, Linda, in 1977, starting a family just south of Saint Frances Cabrini Church in South Omaha. Jose directed the Chicano Awareness Center and, in 1980, began working with the Chicago & North Western Railroad. Additionally, he hosted a community news program called "Razatimes."

Aside from their accomplishments, Linda and Jose would establish three "Houses of Culture," "Casas de Cultural," in South Omaha. In 2009, they founded the Mexican American Historical Society of the Midlands to curate, preserve, collect, and exhibit the presence of Mexican-American and Latino history, culture, and traditions.

Through the historical society, the Garcias currently manage a 2,000-square-foot collection of Chicano, Latino, and Mexican cultural materials, images, literature, folk art, and objects documenting the postcolonial Spanish-speaking peoples with Midwestern ancestry. They also support the South Omaha Museum of Immigrant History.

The Garcias' lifelong commitment to preserving Hispanic heritage and culture will impact future generations. As we reflect on the significant contributions of Hispanic Americans to our society and culture, I recognize and thank both Garcias for the long-lasting legacy they have contributed to Nebraska's Second Congressional District.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Illinois) at noon.

PRAYER

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

From the bottom of our hearts, O Lord, we offer our prayers to You. Our whole being, we lay before You, trusting that You will receive us and will receive our prayers in the mercy of Your loving-kindness.

Now, having given ourselves to You, our hopes, our fears, our plans, and our control, we pray that we will have the faith to lean wholly on You and not on our own understanding, that we will believe in Your sovereignty that we don't feel like we have to figure everything out on our own.

Instead, may we yield our whole selves, submitting both our pride and our will to Your leading. May we loose our grip on the reins and let You direct our paths. In everything we do today and everywhere we go, may we listen for and heed Your voice.

In this may our whole spirit, soul, and body be found blameless in Your sight.

In Your gracious 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 gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BROWNLEY 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.

FOCUSING ON SUICIDE PREVENTION

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