

HONORING LONG'S DRUG STORE

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Long's Drug Store, a family-owned and operated pharmacy that has been serving the Knoxville community since its opening in 1956. After 67 years, Long's had its last day on January 16.

My very good friend Hank Peck and his family has kept the store running for over 60 years. His dad became a pharmacist at Long's in 1959 alongside Clarence Long and John Benson. Actually, Mr. Peck was my Sunday school-teacher for a while, so if you all need to blame anybody for anything, that would be him.

When Long's first opened, the idea was to open a drugstore that would also be Knoxville's first shopping center. It was a place where you could stop and pick up your prescriptions, enjoy a milkshake, and pick up some comic books. All the folks at Long's Drug Store are wonderful people. I am so grateful I got to know Sharon, who worked behind the pharmacy counter; Ruth, who has been working there for 47 years and who is pictured right there with Hank; and all the other lovely folks at Long's Drug Store.

They have been good friends to me and my family for a long time, and I wish them very well in the next chapter of their lives.

Knoxville will not forget Long's Drug Store and its many years of service to our great community.

CELEBRATING JOE DUNCAN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Judge Joe Duncan as he celebrates his 100th birthday.

Joe was born February 11, 1924, in Scott County, Tennessee.

He was raised on a farm with his nine siblings where his parents taught him all the values of hard work, responsibility, and a good education.

During World War II, Joe enlisted in the United States Army Air Corps, and he was honorably discharged in 1945. He then got his law degree from the University of Tennessee. Later on, he worked as a special agent for the FBI and was given a letter of commendation from none other than J. Edgar Hoover when he retired.

He also served as the Knox County criminal court judge and spent 15 years on the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals.

In 1946, Joe married the love of his life, Louetta; and they had a son, Philip, and two grandchildren, Meredyth and Tyler.

Joe and his family have been working in public service in east Tennessee for many years. Joe supported his brother John's successful bid for Knoxville mayor in 1959 and 1963, as well as John's successful campaign for U.S. House of Representatives in 1964. Joe also supported the political careers of

his nephew, my predecessor, John Duncan, Jr., who was Tennessee's Second District Representative in Congress before me; as well as his niece, State senator, Becky Massey; and his son, Falls Church city councilor Phillip Duncan.

Judge Duncan has lived a beautiful and full life in public service, and I am honored to wish him a happy 100th birthday on the House floor today.

RECOGNIZING CHARLIE AND PATSY DANIELS' 70TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Chair, I want to recognize my dear friends, Charlie and Patsy Daniels, who are celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary this year.

Charlie spent 60 years as a successful political cartoonist in east Tennessee, and he just retired a few years ago. Many of his cartoons are hanging on the walls of my Knoxville office. As you can see on one of them in the poster beside me, during my first years of Congress, I spoke here on the House floor about his retirement. I said back then—and it is as true today—that I have been made fun of by people all over the world, but my friend, Charlie, is my favorite.

His cartoons were razor sharp while still being very respectful. Charlie's lovely wife, Patsy, has been at Charlie's side since they were childhood sweethearts. They made their home in Powell, Tennessee, where Charlie cooks breakfast for Patsy every morning.

Charlie and Patsy often attend reunions for the alumni of Fork Union Military Academy where Charlie attended high school, as well as Tarheel football games. When they travel for reunions or to visit family, Charlie is always the willing chauffeur.

They have a great love for their children, Charles, Jr., and Sarah, as well as their grandkids and great-grandkids.

Madam Speaker, I wish a happy anniversary to Charlie and Patsy. They are an example to all of us of a faithful and loving marriage that has lasted a lifetime.

I would be remiss if I did not note that Charlie is also a member of the United States Marine Corps.

□ 1100

CORRUPTION IN THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, for a long time, there have been rumors that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency had a relationship with Hamas. Last week, those rumors were confirmed when we discovered that 12 members of the agency were directly involved in the horrific attacks by Hamas on our friends in Israel on October 7. Another 1,200 employees of the agency have direct connections to Hamas. That is 10 percent of all the agency's employees in Gaza.

The State Department did the right thing by pausing its funding to the agency, but it is also something President Trump did years ago. The Biden administration restarted the funding in 2021. Clearly, the administration did

not do proper research to ensure this funding wasn't going to friends of terrorists.

Also, pausing the funding did not have the huge impact they want us to think it did, since the United States has given them at least \$730 million in taxpayer dollars since 2021. That is about 99 percent of what has been allocated, and we only paused about \$300,000 in the remaining funding.

Now, an Israeli firm is investigating the United Nations Relief and Works Agency's digital wallets to see where their cryptocurrency is going. The firm has found that at least one digital wallet that belongs to Hamas is still active.

We need to defund the United Nations, Madam Speaker.

GUARANTEED INCOME FOR FOSTER YOUTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROBERT GARCIA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to help improve the lives of thousands of vulnerable youth across our country.

Our Guaranteed Income for Foster Youth Act will create a new Federal program to provide \$1,000 a month to young adults exiting foster care and helping them pull themselves out of poverty, as well as build healthy economic communities across the country.

It is no secret that there are major gaps in the Federal foster care system. More than a fifth of foster care youth experience homelessness within 1 year of emancipation. It is critical that we uplift our foster youth during such a transformative and vulnerable time in their lives.

For my entire career, I have been a strong advocate for guaranteed income programs. When I was the mayor of Long Beach, we built and launched a transformational guaranteed income program that is now directly helping over 900 low-income individuals, including over 500 children.

I have also had the pleasure of working with the Mayors for Guaranteed Income, to show how providing direct payments can end poverty in the United States.

Across the country, guaranteed income programs have done incredible things for families. They have pursued higher-paying jobs, obtained undergraduate degrees, paid off debt, and afforded basic necessities like food and utilities.

The evidence across the country is clear: Guaranteed income programs have been incredibly successful in lifting people out of poverty and helping to preserve economic freedom and independence.

Working together, we can ensure that children leaving the foster care system can have the foundation they need to thrive in our community.

PROBLEM AT OUR BORDERS

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

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about an issue. In my lifetime, I always heard the saying: There are no problems in our family. There are just a lot of things we don't talk about.

What I am talking about today is the fact that we have an incredible problem at our borders, and not just the southwestern border, by the way, but also our northern border.

Now, if these people coming into our country were wearing the uniform of a foreign country, we would swear we had been invaded and overrun. The other part of that is: It is okay, though, because we will do everything we can to accommodate them while they are here. It doesn't matter if they came here legally or illegally. We are America and those are the things that we do.

Madam Speaker, I bring this thing up because I listen to telecast after telecast from the current administration that says: Well, if Congress would just do something to help us, we would jump on it. We would do everything we can.

I would like to remind the executive branch that we legislate. We make laws, we debate laws, we pass laws, and then it is the executive branch who is responsible for enforcing those laws.

We have an administration that continues to say: There is no problem at our borders; this is imaginary; we don't have a problem; but if it were up to me, I would do something about it.

These are the eight authorities that the President could put into effect: End catch and release, reinstate remain in Mexico, enter into asylum cooperation agreements, end parole abuses, detain inadmissible aliens, use expedited removal, rein in taxpayer-funded benefits for all illegal aliens, and issue a proclamation to suspend or restrict entry.

Madam Speaker, you and I know because we face this every single day. The issues that face America today are America's issues. They do not simply rest in this body. We will do things according to what the laws are and what we structure. The executive branch must be held accountable for enforcing those laws.

We wonder what in the world happened at our southern border. My goodness, the numbers are in the millions of people who have come in. One of the things we don't pay attention to is our northern border.

I brought a picture of this—I know it is very hard to see, but in the whole world, the longest continuous border is our northern border. It is 5,500 miles long and virtually unprotected because we don't have enough people to do it. In one stretch, over 500 miles, there are two Border Patrol agents responsible. That would be like driving from Philadelphia to Columbus, Ohio, and back

again and saying: I didn't see one State policeman. I didn't see one law enforcement officer. I wonder where they are.

Well, the truth of the matter is, we have people pouring in from all over the world; some of them for the right reasons, others for the wrong reasons, and for reasons that in the future will harm our country and harm our fellow citizens.

When you start to talk about what has taken place and how if we ignore it, it doesn't exist, then we are in very serious trouble. This is not a Republican issue or a Democrat issue or a Libertarian issue. This is an American issue. If those of us who run for office and get elected and take an oath of office cannot follow that oath of office, then why are we here? Why are we here?

Millions of people have poured across our border. There were 564 encounters with a terrorist screening dataset, 484 at the northern border. In fiscal year 2022 82 percent of these encounters were at our northern border. In the first 3 months of 2024, 94 percent of the terrorist screening dataset encounters were at our northern border.

While we think we are so safe because of our history and what we have done in history that we can protect ourselves, the underlying effect is the enemy is not from without; it is from within.

When we fail to follow the laws that are put into place and we don't enforce them, then we are at fault. I would suggest to our fellow Americans, please forget about being woke. Please wake the hell up. We are losing our country.

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 8 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 (Mr. EZELL) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Merciful God, Your Word is rich with promises. You have spoken throughout eternity and reminded us that in You we have all that we require and are in need of nothing. We know in the depths of our heart and soul that not one of Your good promises has failed.

Help us, then, to be patient, to wait on You, O Lord, and trust in Your perfect timing for You are not slow in keeping Your promise, certainly not as we define slowness. Instead, You are patient with us, waiting on us to ac-

knowledge You and trust in Your gracious provisions.

And so this day, we repent of our doubt and receive Your generous gift of space and time, allowing us to discover You and to claim the promise of Your everlasting love.

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 Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COURTNEY 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.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S TWO-TIERED JUSTICE SYSTEM

(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, I rise to express my grave concern for our country's judicial system.

Recently, a special counsel investigating President Biden's mishandling of classified materials chose not to pursue felony charges because the President's memory had such "significant limitations" that the counsel was not confident he could convince a jury that Mr. Biden held the required mental state of willfulness.

I am highly suspicious that this is yet another example of President Biden's administration's two-tiered justice system, which is a serious concern for me, the Tennesseans I represent, and freedom-loving Americans all across this country.

President Biden should be held to the same standards as anyone else in this country. If he has the mental acuity to be President, he has the mental capacity to be charged with a serious crime, period. Anything else wreaks of an abhorrent two-tiered justice system or a man who has no business being our President.

END HUNGER NOW

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House