

to take bold leadership to spruce up our "Glass City" in a garden.

We know Toledo has oxygen deficits in several regions, especially where industrial development and leaching landfills cause pollutants like CO₂ and methane to continue emitting. Planting trees may seem like a simple undertaking, yet Toledo is nestled inside the largest watershed in the entire Great Lakes. It is sustainable and unique globally if properly tended.

Our citizenry is motivated to manage our precious assets going forward, including attention to new-age production greenhouses that produce millions of plants and fresh produce we all enjoy. If this were Amish country, there would be a welcome center, signage, websites, beautified exit ramps leading off the turnpike exit to Reynolds Road up to Hill Avenue at the Kyle Farm where we have the opportunity for a visitor center and dozens and dozens of local farm markets in the region.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you so very much for allowing me to speak today because we all know what America makes and grows makes and grows America.

RECOGNIZING PETER COTTONTALE FOR HIP HOP HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Hip Hop History Month, I rise to honor Grammy award-winning music producer, director, and composer, Peter Wilkins, or better known as, Peter Cottontale.

Peter's visionary artistry has profoundly shaped the music scene of our city, Chi-town, and beyond. As a close collaborator of Chance the Rapper and a founding member of The Social Experiment, Peter's talents have contributed to Grammy-winning projects that honor and elevate Chicago's people, our shared struggle, our sense of community, and our unique creative opportunity to serve others.

His fingerprints can also be found in the music of SZA, Lil Wayne, and J. Cole, as well as hometown heroes like Jamila Woods, Noname, and Vic Mensa. As the owner of RCM Studios in Avondale in the Illinois Third District, Peter is cultivating inclusive, joyful spaces for local talent.

Cottontale's work is not just music; it is a movement toward innovation and a movement toward unity. On behalf of Illinois' Third District, I commend Peter Cottontale for his contributions to hip-hop and music history and for reminding us of the power of music to unite communities.

Mr. Speaker, I offer congratulations to Peter.

HONORING NELLY LEMA FOR PRESERVING THE CULTURE AND HISTORY OF THE NATIVE KICHWA PEOPLE

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker:
(English translation of the statement made in Spanish by Mrs. RAMIREZ is as follows:)

In commemoration of Native American Heritage Month, I rise to honor my constituent, Nelly Lema, a community leader committed to preserving the culture and history of the native Kichwa people of Ecuador.

As the President of the Kichwa Community of Chicago, Nelly has built community and strengthened the cultural identity for the Kichwa people who today call Chicago home.

Through cultural performances, workshops, culturally competent classes, civic dialogue, and policymaking, she has emboldened the Kichwa people to preserve the language, traditions, and identity of their people.

Sharing space with Kichwa musicians, artists, and elders who contribute their talents and knowledge, she fosters a welcoming space for her community to feel recognized, seen, and valued.

Nelly's efforts remind us of the importance of uplifting diasporic Indigenous Latine communities, both in the United States and globally.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and thank Nelly for her incredibly necessary work as a cultural steward and community leader.

Mr. Speaker, En conmemoración del Mes de la Herencia Nativa Americana, deseo honrar a mi constituyente, Nelly Lema, una líder comunitaria comprometida con la preservación de la cultura y la historia del pueblo nativo Kichwa de Ecuador.

Como presidenta de la Comunidad Kichwa de Chicago, Nelly ha construido una comunidad y fortalecido la identidad cultural de una comunidad Kichwa que hoy considera a Chicago su hogar.

A través de espectáculos culturales, talleres, clases culturalmente competentes, diálogo cívico y advocacia por políticas públicas, ha alentado a Kichwas en Chicago a preservar su idioma, sus tradiciones y su identidad como pueblo.

Al compartir espacio con músicos, artistas y personas de la tercera edad kichwa que brindan sus talentos y conocimientos, fomenta un espacio acogedor para que su comunidad se sienta reconocida, vista y valorada.

Los esfuerzos de Nelly nos recuerdan la importancia de elevar a las comunidades latinas indígenas de la diáspora tanto en los Estados Unidos como a nivel mundial. La felicitación por su trabajo increíblemente necesario como administradora cultural y líder comunitaria.

Gracias, Nelly.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Illinois will provide a translation of her remarks to the Clerk.

CONGRATULATIONS TO METRA ON THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Metra and all of its employees on their 40th anniversary of delivering public transportation services for communities in Illinois' Third Congressional District.

Metra is essential to our work in Illinois to build a strong, vibrant regional economy. Public transportation connects residents of Illinois' Third Congressional District to high-quality jobs, public amenities, and local businesses from DuPage County to downtown Chicago and beyond.

When public transportation provides reliable, affordable, and accessible service, the benefits go beyond economic development and opportunity. We can achieve cleaner environments, better family health outcomes, and safer communities.

It is why I am proud to have secured \$8 million in Federal funds for the Illinois Department of Transportation's Rail Crossing Elimination program to support the separation of train traffic from pedestrians and cars in the Franklin Park community in my district, a project that will improve safety and mobility for local residents in my district.

As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of Metra and its commuter rail service, I will continue advocating for policies and investments that support public transit environments, strengthen green, resilient infrastructure, and expand choice and equity in our transportation systems.

Mr. Speaker, I thank everyone at Metra for their service and for connecting our communities. Let's continue rolling together toward a brighter future.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Family Caregivers Month.

We celebrate caregivers who take care of our loved ones, who care for our mothers, our fathers, our siblings, our grandparents. It is caregivers who make it possible to keep our loved ones in their homes for as long as possible.

It is caregivers who are there for our loved ones when we cannot be there. It is caregivers who provide comfort and care, companionship, and so much more to our loved ones. Sometimes the caregivers are paid. Sometimes the caregivers are unpaid. Sometimes the caregivers are family members, and those who are not, become part of our family.

The majority of the caregiving workforce tends to be women and people of color. They all deserve our thanks and our recognition.

Mr. Speaker, we thank them for their service and sacrifice to our families. It is essential.

Caregivers provide around-the-clock care. Their contributions are often overlooked and undervalued. Caregiving requires time, money, and resources, and takes a toll on a caregiver's physical and mental health. Yet

caregiving can be one of the most rewarding experiences.

Mr. Speaker, as a caregiver for my mom who is 83 with Alzheimer's, I want every family caregiver to know that they are not alone and they are appreciated.

Each day, there are also more and more caregivers who face the challenge of balancing care for both their children and their parents, while at the same time maintaining a career.

That is why Congress should act to build and support a stronger care economy; a care economy that will help American families thrive and ensure quality care for their loved ones. Caregivers should only need one job, not multiple jobs to live. All caregivers deserve to be paid, and those that are paid, deserve a pay raise.

On average, caregivers spend 26 percent of their income on out-of-pocket care costs that include housing and meals and medical costs.

□ 1015

This financial strain hits hardest for younger caregivers and Latino and African-American caregivers, as well as those who care for loved ones with dementia. To reduce this financial burden, we should pass legislation to provide a tax credit to eligible families. We can build a strong care economy by passing legislation to have Medicare cover the cost of care for our loved ones.

Let's support our caregivers and the American people by supporting policies that help build a strong care economy. This November and every month, we recognize and support family caregivers.

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 10 o'clock and 15 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:

Lord, in Your mercy, attend to our country's deep divide made so painfully evident in these last months, weeks, and days.

Remind us instead that You call us to demolish every argument and every pretension in all aspects of our lives—personal, political, spiritual—that sets itself up against the knowledge of You, O God.

For You alone are wise. Even our best thoughts, desires, and intentions do not come near to Your thoughts, nor capture all that You desire and intend for us as individuals, families, communities, and as a country.

In these days when tempers are short and disappointment is deep, when victory satisfies and boasting comes all too naturally, remind us to take every thought captive and make it obedient to You. Guide our minds and our hearts to Your truth that whatever stand we take today would reflect Your love and Your grace.

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 Massachusetts (Mr. McGOVERN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McGOVERN 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.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF FOSTER SAYERS

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Private First-Class Foster Sayers.

Foster Sayers was a 20-year-old infantryman who joined the Army from Howard, Pennsylvania, in March of 1943.

Private Sayers served during World War II in Thionville, France.

On November 12, 1944, he went above the call of duty when he single-handedly ran toward enemy forces. His heroic actions enabled his company to run across the open field to successfully flank and capture the enemy position.

Private First-Class Foster Sayers valiantly fought to protect our freedoms, and his bravery earned him a Medal of Honor.

Madam Speaker, 80 years later we remember that the freedoms that we

enjoy have come at a tremendous cost paid in sweat, sacrifice, and blood by servicemembers like Foster Sayers.

Yesterday, I had the opportunity to honor Private Sayers by presenting two flags to Foster Sayers, Jr., and Foster Sayers III in memory of their father and grandfather.

Madam Speaker, let us continue to build a country worthy of the sacrifices of our veterans.

May God bless our veterans and our great Nation.

END HUNGER NOW

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, under the leadership of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and Food and Nutrition Executive Director Anneliese Tanner, Boston Public Schools are proving to all of us that school meals can be improved by implementing scratch cooking and sourcing local produce.

In September, I joined Mayor Wu and her team and State and local officials at Czajkowski Farm in Hadley, Massachusetts, a wonderful farming community in my Congressional District, to learn more about this incredible partnership that is improving access to local produce for students in the Boston Public Schools.

With the support of Federal funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Boston is purchasing delicious butternut squash, zucchinis, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, and more from family farmer, Joe Czajkowski.

This partnership is not only good for the farm but it is also good for families. I am told that the kids loved the scratch-cooked, locally sourced meals that are made from ingredients grown 90 miles down the road.

This partnership should serve as inspiration for all of us to continue our work to improve local food systems and end hunger now.

RECOGNIZING ASHLEY PAXTON

(Mrs. LESKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a member of my district staff, Ashley Paxton, for her dedication and service to the constituents of Arizona's Eighth Congressional District.

Ashley Paxton, a U.S. Air Force veteran, serves as a Green and Gold Congressional Fellow in my Surprise, Arizona, district office.

In just a short time, Ashley expertly navigated problems for over 200 constituents who had issues with various Federal agencies. As a result, she saved these constituents over \$350,000. Ashley also excelled at constituent outreach around the district and coordinating both the Congressional Art Competition and the annual military service academy nomination process.