

deeply in making strategic investments in his community that grew the economy and improved the quality of life for everyone.

He was passionate about the causes he believed in and had an unwavering commitment to the residents of Sierra Vista. I saw this firsthand for many years.

Laura and I will hold his amazing wife, Suzanne, their family, and his loved ones in our prayers. His work and legacy will continue to have a positive impact in our community long into the future as he always desired.

HONORING CRAIG MCFARLAND

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Craig McFarland for his outstanding tenure as mayor of Casa Grande.

Since his tenure began in 2016, Mr. McFarland has been a pillar of his community, a devoted public servant, a strong local partner for me, and a dear, dear friend.

From diversifying the economy in Casa Grande through companies like Lucid Motors and others, to expanding the I-10 and protecting the region's water, Mayor McFarland has ushered in growth throughout Casa Grande and Pinal County.

Then, in fiscal year 2025, Mayor McFarland and I partnered together to provisionally secure \$2.8 million in Federal funds for Casa Grande to invest in a new community center for students and expand access to affordable housing for our educators.

Luckily, despite his tenure ending as mayor, Craig will continue to serve Casa Grande and Pinal County as the new president and CEO of Pinal Partnership, one of the leading economic development organizations in the region. They regularly host informative discussions on important issues such as water security, infrastructure, and economic development with key stakeholders and industry leaders, as well.

I look forward to working together alongside Craig McFarland to continue advancing Casa Grande, Pinal County, and our entire region forward.

□ 1045

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOSIE-TATUM CARLSON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the life of Josie-Tatum Carlson of Blackshear, Georgia.

At the age of 21, Josie-Tatum leaves behind a legacy of service, compassion, and love for her savior, Jesus Christ.

Josie-Tatum grew up in Blackshear, Georgia, where she graduated from Pierce County High School as the class valedictorian. She attended Mercer University and was awarded the prestigious Presidential Scholarship.

Upon graduation from Mercer University, she married her high school sweetheart, Ethan Carlson.

Josie-Tatum will be remembered for her servant's heart and her willingness to help others. She was a shining light in a world of darkness and will be dearly missed by those who knew her and loved her.

Our hearts break for this young lady and her family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of them.

CELEBRATING COACH MARK STROUD

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Coach Mark Stroud's career at Calvary Day School in Savannah, Georgia.

Following this season, Mark Stroud will be concluding his time as the head football coach of the Cavaliers.

Stroud has coached the Cavaliers for 16 seasons, boasting an incredible 148 wins and 43 losses. During his 16 years at Calvary Day School, Stroud led his team to six regional championships, including the last 4 years in a row.

Stroud began his legacy as a head coach in 1992 at Toombs County High School and coached the school's program for 16 seasons until 2007. He also amassed an impressive record with the Toombs County Bulldogs, winning five regional championships.

Over the course of his 33 seasons, Stroud put together a remarkable career in the State of Georgia, winning 272 games and earning himself the second-most all-time wins in south Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Coach Stroud on his outstanding career at Cavalry Day School.

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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 47 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

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

A thousand years in Your sight are like a day when it has passed, or a watch stood in the night. These last 1,000 days and nights of the assault on Ukraine's sovereignty, soldiers, and civilians keeping watch every hour, are naught in light of Your immeasurable and eternal strength.

You alone have upheld the resolve of the Ukrainian people, and Your sure protections have maintained their spirit of faithfulness despite weapons of hate and hegemony firing ceaselessly into their homeland.

For their faith and fortitude in the face of the enemy's audacious offenses, they have given the free world a testimony that cannot be silenced, a witness to the unwavering certainty of Your divine presence in the valley of the shadow of the death around them.

It is You, O Lord, who have gone before them. You, O Lord, will ever be with them. You will not fail or forsake them. By this promise, may their fear never overwhelm them or their dismay ever overcome them.

Would that all of us in times of such testing and torment turn to You with the same faith in Your sovereign protections. Grant Ukraine Your peace and Your people Your divine provision in the face of all evil.

In Your merciful name we pray.
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 California (Mrs. KIM) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. KIM of California 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.

CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

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

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on a very important topic, carbon monoxide poisoning, particularly in relation to the

dangers that come with operating an automobile.

According to the CDC, there are over 400 deaths and 20,000 emergency room visits each year as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide is often referred to as the “silent killer” because of its undetectable traits. When people inhale certain amounts of carbon monoxide, the gas enters the bloodstream and prevents the intake of oxygen, which could result in death.

On September 2, 2021, Suzan “Suzie” Marie Hanna of Bridgewater Township tragically passed away from carbon monoxide poisoning while driving from her job in Flemington to her home, due to floodwaters preventing the movement of her automobile.

Suzie Hanna, a graduate of Bridgewater-Raritan High School and Raritan Valley Community College, was known for her kindness, selflessness, and always brightening the mood of people around her.

We are joined today by her family. In memory of their daughter and their sister, they have fought to urge drivers to acquire and use safety hammers in their cars to prevent tragedies like Suzie’s from happening again.

Additionally, the family started a foundation called Suzie’s Mission. This foundation hosts fundraisers that directly support local organizations and keeps Suzie’s memory alive.

Mr. Speaker, I thank her family for joining me today and making the U.S. and New Jersey a safer place.

HONORING KATHLEEN “KITTY” PFEIFFER

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

Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of Kathleen Pfeiffer, known as Kitty to those of us who knew her and loved her.

For 8 years, Kitty served as a staff member in my offices in the Pennsylvania State House and here in Congress. On Monday, she passed away at 83 years old.

Kitty was a dedicated public servant, helping more than 10,000 constituents in her time working with my staff and me. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She was someone who brought warmth and kindness into every room she entered.

While I offer my condolences to her family and friends during this sad time, I am also filled with gratitude. I am grateful to have had the privilege of knowing Kitty and calling her both one of my favorite staff members and more importantly my friend.

Kitty will always be loved and missed.

COPD AWARENESS MONTH

(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, November marks Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, COPD, Awareness Month.

COPD is a respiratory disease that is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and affects one in eight Americans over the age of 45.

An estimated 30 million Americans are affected by COPD, but only 17 million Americans are diagnosed. We unfortunately see COPD impact neighbors in southern California with more than half of Californians who suffer from COPD living in our area.

Today, on COPD Awareness Day, and throughout this month, we recommit to raising awareness and finding ways to mitigate the impacts of this disease. I will do my part.

CELEBRATING VA COMPETES

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

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the passage of my bipartisan bill, the VA COMPETES Act and what this means for veterans in my district and across the country.

My bill improves care for veterans by finally allowing the VA to pay doctors the salaries that they deserve. It is no secret that the VA has struggled to hire and retain healthcare staff, and low salaries are a big piece of that.

When the VA is understaffed, our veterans are the ones who suffer. Last year, when the Stockton VA Clinic went from eight primary care physicians to just four, wait times skyrocketed to over 100 days. Our veterans couldn’t get appointments, prescriptions filled, or access to the basic care that they needed.

I am proud to have worked with our local clinic staff in the VA to fix this issue, bringing wait times down to just 16 days. My bill is going to help ensure that no other clinic experiences a shortage like we did last year.

Mr. Speaker, I am so proud to be part of the solution and thank everyone who made this possible.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAMSPORT SALVATION ARMY

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Williamsport Salvation Army on a record-breaking Red Kettle Kickoff.

As the holiday season unfolds, a sound fills the air, not just the laughter of children or the joyful notes of carolers, but the familiar ring of the Salvation Army’s red kettle bells.

Since 1897, the Salvation Army’s iconic Red Kettle Campaign has become synonymous with Christmas. This year, at the sixth annual Red Ket-

tle Kickoff breakfast, the Williamsport Salvation Army exceeded its goal, bringing in \$52,000 to start their holiday bell-ringing season.

This money, as well as future funds, will assist local underserved populations during the holiday season. The Salvation Army in Williamsport helps residents with rental and utility assistance, food donations, hygiene supplies, and toys and blankets for children, and much more.

Mr. Speaker, this time of year can bring challenges for low-income families. The Williamsport Salvation Army’s Red Kettle fundraiser ensures that the families in our community wake up to the magic of Christmas morning knowing that they haven’t been forgotten.

HONORING CLARENDON HILLS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, 2024 has been a year of celebration for the people of Clarendon Hills in my district as they commemorate their centennial.

Known as the volunteer village, the founders of Clarendon Hills were some of the most independent, hardworking individuals. From its very beginning, the Clarendon Hills community recognized the importance of local governance, coming together to elect their first board of trustees and establish their first neighborhood, businesses, churches, and schools.

Although a lot has changed over the past 100 years, the spirit of independence and hard work that first defined the people of Clarendon Hills still lives today. It is a village that I am proud to represent.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Clarendon Hills on their 100 years.

RECOGNIZING CONNOR YOUNG

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

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an integral member of my team, my senior legislative assistant, Connor Young.

Connor started in my office as a legislative correspondent and has risen the ranks to lead our legislative team. Connor is a dedicated and committed member of our staff, and his work has been essential to serving the constituents of Arizona’s Eighth Congressional District.

A proud LSU Tiger, originally from Memphis, Tennessee, Connor began his public service as an intern here in the U.S. House of Representatives and has shown his commitment to this institution and our Nation.

As I leave Congress, I have no doubt Connor will go on to great things as he