

roots and a reflection of his efforts to always ensure everyone had a seat at the table.

Whether it was his work selling bagels, helping resettle asylees and refugees, or aiding community development in the Middle East, Jacob never faltered in spreading kindness and inclusivity.

He was the kind of Good Samaritan we all strive to be.

Madam Speaker, I join our Pacific Northwest community in grieving the loss of a burgeoning leader.

Like far too many others in our Nation, Jacob was the victim of the epidemic of gun violence, a uniquely American scourge that cannot be accepted as a fact of life.

I join Jacob's husband, Daniel, and the rest of his family in grieving the loss of a uniquely generous and loving soul.

Madam Speaker, I stand here on the House floor to recognize that the city of Tacoma will forever be better because Jacob made it his home.

#### BRING OMRI MIRAN AND ALL HOSTAGES IN GAZA BACK HOME

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the story of Omri Miran, a 46-year-old husband and father of two small daughters.

On October 7, Omri was 1 of more than 240 men, women, children, and elderly who were brutally kidnapped by Hamas terrorists.

He and 134 hostages are still held captive in Gaza, enduring unthinkable torture and trauma.

I stand here today to demand that Hamas release Omri immediately, along with all the remaining hostages.

Those who have been released have shared horror stories of abuse, children being forced to take drugs, and inhumane conditions.

We must stand with Israel as it works to destroy Hamas and free its citizens wrongfully held by the terror group.

Israel has proven its willingness to pause the fighting for hostages to be returned home. Despicably, Hamas broke the first hostage deal just as it broke a cease-fire that was in place before October 7.

I call on all nations with ties to Hamas to increase the pressure on the terrorist group to immediately free all of those it is holding captive.

Hostages like Omri Miran have endured horrific abuse, sexual assault, torture, and heavy drugging from their Hamas captors. It is time to bring Omri home. It is time to bring them all home now.

#### CONGRESS STANDS SILENT IN THIS HOUSE

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, we leave today a day early. We essentially have 4-day weeks. That is, 25 percent of the work that we were planning to do, we are not going to do. We leave, I think, because we either can't do our work or we won't be allowed to do our work.

Madam Speaker, I rise again, as I have so many times when we were leaving without doing the critical business of America and the world. I rise, again, for our allies in Ukraine and Israel. I rise for the defense of democracy and freedom of people who are fighting for their very survival as a democracy.

The other week, I read a story, Madam Speaker, about the desperate situation on the front lines outside Kharkiv in Ukraine. The Ukrainian Air Defense soldier positioned outside the city spotted a salvo of Russian missiles rising over the horizon. He stood there helplessly. His unit lacked the equipment and ammunition necessary to shoot missiles down.

Within minutes, the missile struck a residential complex, killing numerous civilians. Yet, we stand here ready to walk out of this Chamber, our work undone.

The soldier later told the journalist: "I understood they would fly and hit people and that I couldn't do anything to prevent it from happening."

He was right. There was nothing he could have done because he did not have the weapons that were necessary.

The Congress, of course, cannot say the same. We can do something. We must do something. This Congress stands silent in this House. The Senate has acted late, but it is never too late to do the right thing.

This Congress remains silent. For 413 days, our Congress has failed to secure additional aid for Ukraine. For 131 days, we have failed to do the same for Israel.

This inaction is born not of a lack of consensus because we have over 300 votes on this floor for either one of those bills and, I think, the Senate bill.

Instead, we see Trump's and the far right's astounding sympathy for Putin. Just the other day, Senator TUBERVILLE said to blame America first, that it is our fault, that we made Putin, a war criminal, invade Ukraine.

All seven times supplemental aid for Ukraine came to the House floor in recent months, over 300 Members supported it. So, it is not that we do not have consensus. It is that the Speaker will not allow consensus to be spoken.

The Senate just passed a bill to provide this aid to our allies with 70 votes. Seventy percent of the Senate sent us a bill. The question is not whether this legislation would receive enough votes to pass this House. The question is whether Speaker JOHNSON will give us the opportunity to vote on it at all. The Speaker's refusal to do so is causing Ukrainians to die.

The Speaker is preventing the people's House from working its will as the Senate did. The Speaker should

give the victims of Putin's war crimes a vote and hope. Tell Putin: "Nyet." Every minute that we don't signals retreat instead of a resolve.

Incomprehensibly, Trump amplified that dangerous message over the weekend, explicitly saying he would not only refuse to defend our NATO allies but would encourage the Russians "to do whatever the hell they want."

Is that America? Is that the leadership we want to portray to the world? Is that the leader of the free world? Mute. That, Madam Speaker, is aid and comfort to our enemies.

Those aren't the words of someone who seeks to lead the free world. They are the words of someone who would turn his back on the free world. Every Republican, no matter what office they hold or seek, ought to go on record and condemn those comments.

Governor Christie would agree with that statement. Putin salivates, Madam Speaker, at this inaction and division sown by the isolationist, authoritarian-loving factions of one of our parties that leads this House. That is why he recently sat down with Tucker Carlson.

The Speaker should give us a vote. We have the votes. Ukraine and Israel cry out for America's help and leadership.

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#### BRING RAN GVILI AND ALL HOSTAGES HOME

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

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the story of Ran Gvili. Ran is a 24-year-old who loves playing guitar and, like me, has a passion for motorcycles.

On October 7, Ran was waiting for an operation when he heard what was happening. He left the house to go help and became one of the more than 240 men, women, children, and elderly who were brutally kidnapped by Hamas terrorists.

He and 134 hostages are still held captive in Gaza, enduring unthinkable torture and trauma. I stand here today to demand that Hamas release Ran immediately, along with all the remaining hostages.

Those who have been released have shared horror stories about sexual abuse, children being forced to take drugs, and inhumane conditions.

We must stand with Israel as it works to destroy Hamas and free its citizens wrongfully held by the terror group.

Israel has proven its willingness to pause the fighting for hostages to be returned home. Despicably, Hamas broke the first hostage deal, just as it broke a cease-fire that was in place before October 7.

I call on all nations with ties to Hamas to increase the pressure on this terrorist group to immediately free all

those it is holding captive. It is time to bring Ran and all the hostages home.

CELEBRATING CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOHN AND VIV EWING

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great couple from Omaha. It is my pleasure to rise during Black History Month to acknowledge the important contributions that African Americans have made and continue to make to American society. Today, I honor two extraordinary citizens, John and Dr. Viv Ewing, from Omaha, who have made long-lasting professional and personal contributions to the Second District of Nebraska.

In September 2024, John and Viv will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. Guided by their faith, their marriage has been a demonstration of faith, service, and civic engagement. They have passed along their strong work ethic and communal leadership to their daughters, Christina and Alexandria, who also have extensive community service experience with the Salvation Army, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, the Girl Scouts of America, and the Open Door Mission.

John Ewing served the citizens of Omaha for 24 years, retiring as the deputy chief of police for the Omaha Police Department. During that time, he served as unit commander of the Special Victims Unit, investigating crimes committed against women and children, the most vulnerable of our society.

With this experience, John hoped to develop legislation to more effectively address crimes committed against women and children. Ten new State statutes have become law as a result of his effort to protect our citizens.

For 17 years, John has held public office as the Douglas County treasurer. In this role, he is responsible for the collection of over \$1.7 billion in taxes for Douglas County, the largest county in my district.

John has continuously volunteered his time serving our community, having been involved in over 60 nonprofit boards.

Dr. Viv Ewing has devoted her professional career to serving communities across the Second District. Viv is currently the president and CEO at Children's Square U.S.A., a child welfare organization that provides programs and services for vulnerable children and families. She has previously served in nonprofit leadership positions at PromiseShip, Alzheimer's Association of Nebraska, Habitat for Humanity, American Red Cross, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and many more notable organizations.

Viv is the founder and president of the Ewing Group, a consulting company that helps women, small business owners, corporations, universities, and organizations rise to success.

Viv understands the value of education and spent many years teaching at major universities and colleges. She is the author of a motivational book, "Yes! You Can Have Your Cake and Eat

It Too," in which she shares her strategies for achieving more success and fulfillment.

John and Viv Ewing are servant leaders and have worked on initiatives and volunteered for organizations that strengthen families, children, and the community, such as United Way, Great Plains Black History Museum, 100 Black Men of Omaha, Salvation Army North Corps, Siena Francis House, Child Saving Institute, Charles Drew Health Center, and more.

They have received many awards and accolades for their actions and recently were awarded the Face on the Barroom Floor by the Omaha Press Club. In addition, they both serve as associate ministers for Salem Baptist Church, which has played an important role in the history of African Americans in Omaha.

I thank John and Viv for their past, current, and future contributions to our city, State, and country.

#### BLACK HISTORY IS AMERICAN HISTORY

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Black History Month, we must embrace that Black History Month and Black history is American history. When we embrace Black history as American history, we tap into a wellspring of intellect, perspective, and capacity.

Individually, we shine, but collectively, we radiate brilliance and effect change in our Nation and around the world—change as doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, artists, sports folks, Members of Congress, moms, and more.

I honor Harriet Tubman, the first woman to lead an armed Civil War expedition, freeing over 700 South Carolinians. Today at noon, I celebrate the Harriet Tubman Commemorative Coin Act in honor of her 200th birthday, authored by Congressman GREG MEEKS. However, Madam Speaker, this is just the first step. I will continue to fight for Tubman on the \$20 bill.

As we strive to make Black history a required part of American history, we must first recognize the trailblazers.

I celebrate Rosa Parks, who resisted on the day of December 1 on that bus and who paved the way for integrated public transportation. Rosa Parks sat down on that bus so I can stand in the Halls of Congress today.

Rosa Parks, the mother of the civil rights movement, was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal for her bravery. I am proud that I authored the first Rosa Parks Day in the Nation in Ohio on December 1.

I celebrate my lifelong friend and mentor, Lieutenant Colonel Charity Adams Earley, the first African-American woman officer in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. The top-ranking Black woman officer, Lieutenant Colonel Charity Adams Earley, battled

segregation in the United States Army, laying the groundwork for today's integrated military. As a member of the Six Triple Eight Battalion, she posthumously received the Congressional Gold Medal.

I honor Dr. Dolly Desselle Adams, a trailblazer, activist, community leader, a dear friend and mentor who passed away 6 days ago, a legend in the Episcopal Church as a supervisor, a 60-year member of The Links, Incorporated, and the eighth national president.

As a young member of The Links, Incorporated, the iconic Dolly Adams held my hand and said: I am paving the way for you to go make a difference.

She was granted the Order of the Palmetto, the State's highest honor. Dolly Adams is Black history.

I celebrate Vice President Kamala Harris, the first woman and the first Black person to be Vice President of these United States of America. She speaks to America and the world with a strong voice of protecting our democracy and fighting for equality and justice to save the soul of this Nation, always putting people over politics.

Madam Speaker, as we stand here today, I am honored to be able to come today to salute so many Black Americans. I celebrate Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, appointed by President Biden, the first Black woman to serve as a Supreme Court Justice. I had the distinct pleasure of testifying as a witness at her confirmation hearing in 2022. Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson is Black history, American history.

Finally, I celebrate Amanda Gorman, the youngest poet at a Presidential inauguration. Her story inspires youth worldwide to choose democracy's brilliance over the hopelessness of autocracy. Amanda Gorman is American history. Let us not have her books banned by this Congress or anyone else but be read by all of our schoolchildren.

These historic roles, Madam Speaker, celebrate our Nation's progress and compel us to leverage talent across race and gender for national prosperity. Celebrating Black history as American history allows us to celebrate our Nation's shared brilliance, strength, wisdom, and power.

Madam Speaker, I close by saying, for this reason, I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 703, the Black History is American History Act.

#### DAM REMOVALS IN CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, what I am illustrating here today is one of the largest environmental disasters in American history. This was caused by environmental movement actions here.

What you see is the Klamath River up in northern California, which