

million to repair and revitalize the historic Frontier Street, which serves as the main gateway to downtown Eloy.

While Micah's leadership will be missed, his public service will continue to be felt in his community long after his tenure and far into the future.

I also congratulate the outgoing and incoming leadership of Eloy. I look forward to working with all of them in advance and our district to continue to look forward and advance our community always.

Again, congratulations to my friend Micah. He deserves it.

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is that time of year. Everyone is talking about who has the best recipes for pies or who has the best recipes for cookies.

I don't know about those, Mr. Speaker, but I can tell you who has got the best recipe for an amazing elementary school environment: Paterson Elementary in Clay County, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the best schools in the Nation. The Florida Department of Education recently released their elementary school rankings for the 2023–2024 school year, and out of 411 in the Sunshine State, Clay County's very own Paterson Elementary placed in the top 10.

Mr. Speaker, 86 percent of the fourth and fifth graders showed massive learning gains in math last year, not to mention 98 percent of sixth graders. Talk about an A-plus in learning momentum.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am putting their report card on my refrigerator. Abby and I recently visited the campus and saw firsthand how educators at Paterson Elementary cultivate truly exceptional students by doing their job with hard work, love, and care.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing everyone at Paterson Elementary for their incredible recipe for success.

I say to Paterson Elementary: Keep up the great work, and go get 'em.

ORANGE PARK ELEMENTARY RANKED FIRST

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is that time of year: Everybody is debating on school rankings. Where does your school rank? Are you in the top 12?

Mr. Speaker, I can tell you who is number one. It is Orange Park Elementary in Orange Park, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate Orange Park Elementary School's rise to the top. The Florida Department of Education recently released their rankings for the 2023–2024 school year, and out of 411 schools statewide, Clay County's very own Orange Park Elementary was ranked number one.

Mr. Speaker, 93 percent of fourth graders showed impressive learning

gains in math last year, as well as 91 percent of fifth graders. Mr. Speaker, 95 percent of sixth graders saw the same results.

How is that for a report card? Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am putting their report card on my refrigerator.

I commend all of the teachers and administrators at Orange Park Elementary for their passion and hard work in shaping the future of our great State: our kids.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing Orange Park Elementary for the incredible example they set for schools around the country. It is not easy being number one.

I say to Orange Park: Keep up the great work, and go get 'em.

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 13 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:

Holy and eternal God, the source of light in our darkness and the hope of our world in these days and always, help us in opening our eyes to and rejoice in the hope that is ours on this day.

Teach us how to be patient in tribulation, to refrain from getting caught up in the arguments that pit one side against one another, to avoid fueling fires of discord and division. Show us instead how to reach within our souls and draw from Your deep well of mercy and Your steadfast loving kindness, that the urgency and sense of urgency to react would dissolve into forbearance with one another and a calm that will enable us to see Your will.

Even as we pause to bow our heads in this moment, may we be inspired to be constant in prayer, to realize that You walk with us throughout the day, ever available to receive our petitions, to hear our pleadings, and to respond to our deepest needs.

Reveal Your divine spirit among us today as we claim Your name in prayer.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's pro-

ceedings 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 gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

GO DAWGS

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

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to demand that Texas be sent back to the Big 12 and to congratulate the 2024 SEC champions, the Georgia Bulldogs. After the Dawgs' historic win over the Longhorns the SEC's championship over the weekend, which, by the way, was the second time Georgia has beat Texas this season, the Dawgs have proved, without a doubt, that Texas just ain't ready for SEC ball.

What an incredible win, Mr. Speaker. Not only did the Dawgs absolutely smoke Texas in overtime, but they did it with class, style, and a backup quarterback.

This is the 15th SEC championship in Georgia history, and the Dawgs aren't done yet.

As we move into the playoffs, don't let off the gas.

The Dawgs have got a national championship to bring back to Athens, and don't let anyone stop them.

Mr. Speaker, Go Dawgs.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge International Human Rights Day, observed annually on December 10, to commemorate the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This landmark document was signed by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948, with contributions of representatives from all regions with different legal and cultural backgrounds to create a universal structure and standard of fundamental human rights.

This year's theme, "Our Rights, Our Future, Our Now," is a call to address the formidable year of human rights suppression, wartime atrocities, and transactional democracy, including renewed hostilities between Israel and Hamas, the ongoing crisis in Haiti, and backsliding democracies in the Sahel region of Africa.

Millions worldwide face violations of their basic rights, and the very system we rely upon is under threat.

Today, and every day, let us renew our commitment to the universal protection of human rights where all people are entitled to live with dignity, respect, and equality.

CELEBRATING COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK

(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 celebrate Computer Science Education Week.

Computer Science Education Week is a chance for students of all ages to learn about the importance and benefits of computer science and the endless professional opportunities that abound with a skills-based education.

In today's world, technology influences every sector: healthcare, agriculture, transportation, entertainment, and beyond.

Yet, many students are growing up without exposure to the foundational skills that power this innovation. Only about one-half of schools in the United States offer any kind of computer science coursework. That is a gap we cannot afford to ignore.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I have been proud to work across the aisle to invest in cutting-edge CTE programming that, in many cases, now incorporates computer science courses.

Our Nation desperately needs skilled workers, and career and technical education is a win-win. It can offer rewarding professional futures for learners of all ages while closing the Nation's skill gap.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Computer Science Education Week, we recognize the importance of equipping our young people with the skills they need to navigate and contribute to an increasingly digital world.

CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE WINNERS

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate our 2024 Congressional App Challenge winners during Computer Science Education Week.

Lydia Denton, an 11th grader, and Bethany Denton, a 9th grader from

Wilson Early College Academy, were inspired to create BITES Bento Box after seeing a friend with diabetes struggle to track blood sugar and accurately dose insulin levels.

The BITES Bento app pairs a hardware Bento Box with an app to dynamically calculate the macros consumed in food. Using the Bento Box to get the most accurate information, the user can weigh food before and after eating.

Our winners, who are also sisters, demonstrated great application and innovation.

Congratulations to Lydia and Bethany on this fantastic accomplishment.

SAFEGUARDING OUR FREE SPEECH

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, the National Defense Authorization Act is more than just a defense bill. It is a safeguard for free speech.

How can that be?

It is because within its pages, Congress took an important step to protect the First Amendment by prohibiting the Department of Defense from partnering with advertising firms such as NewsGuard which unfairly targets conservative news sources as untrustworthy.

Stopping censorship and ensuring the government isn't using taxpayer dollars to silence viewpoints it doesn't like under the pretense of misinformation is essential for free press.

By including this provision, the NDAA ensures that Federal agencies can't act as gatekeepers for acceptable speech or manipulate the flow of information.

At a time when cancel culture seems to have no boundaries, this is a much-needed step to keep the government out of the business of picking winners and losers in the marketplace of ideas, especially in information that needs to get out to the public.

The NDAA sends a clear message: Free speech isn't a privilege; it is a right for us to know.

□ 1215

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SUZANNE MURRAY

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Suzanne Murray, a humanitarian and philanthropist who made it her life's work to advocate for women's education.

Born in Providence, Sue was an accomplished student who attended Henry Barnard School, the Lincoln School, and Radcliffe College, where she discovered a passion for education

and found the love of her life, Terry Murray.

The Murrays settled in Warwick and later Narragansett, raising five children.

Sue devoted her time giving back to her alma maters, serving as chair of the board of the Lincoln School and as a trustee at Radcliffe, among many other leadership positions.

In 2003, Lincoln named its middle school the Murray Middle School in her honor.

In 1997, Sue and Terry cofounded the Murray Family Charitable Foundation to support education, healthcare, and the arts in southern New England. She assisted in the founding of Sophia Academy, a middle school in Providence for girls. Her work to expand access to education, particularly for young women, has made a difference in countless lives across Rhode Island and beyond.

I join Sue's family and loved ones in celebrating her remarkable life.

CELEBRATING RETIREMENT OF PETER KIELTY

(Mrs. RODGERS of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my trusted adviser and friend, Peter Kielty, who is retiring at the end of this year.

Peter has served the House Energy and Commerce Committee with distinction for 25 years, including currently as general counsel.

Former Chair Fred Upton said: Peter worked as hard as the day is long and is a part of the legacy of its success.

Former Chair Greg Walden said: In a town filled with attention seekers, Peter worked harder than anyone I know to put the committee and its members in the spotlight and never himself. The committee, the Congress, and the country are better off because of Peter Kielty.

I echo those sentiments, but to me, it is his charm, wit, and relentless kindness that will be his lasting legacy for the committee.

I thank Peter for his public service, and I wish him and his wife, Mary, nothing but the best in the next chapter of their lives.

May God bless Peter.

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. Mr. Speaker, before Thanksgiving, I joined the 15th Annual March for the Food Bank, a 43-mile journey through western Massachusetts, led by the incredible Monte Belmonte along with Andrew Morehouse, the director of the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, and his amazing team, countless advocates, students, and local elected officials.