

placed around this country in recognition of those who fought to keep people who look like me enslaved.

I think we will win this one, but we shouldn't have to keep doing this. We shouldn't have to stand up for pieces of history in this country. We shouldn't have to stand up for pieces of history related to our civil rights, related to voting rights. We shouldn't have to deal with an administration where it seems every single week we are having to stand up again, whether it is talking about the Tuskegee Airmen and their rightful place in history, whether it is repealing an equal opportunity executive order that has been in place since the 1960s, whether it is seeing this administration hit pause on Federal scholarship funding to land-grant institutions for historically Black colleges but not hitting pause on the same funding for land-grant schools that were not historically Black colleges.

It is a shame. We should not be doing this. We have to do better. We cannot keep running the clock back in an effort to appease this administration's efforts to whitewash history.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in honor of John Lewis, in honor of the civil rights workers, both known and unknown. We will stand with you. We will fight for you because we will not sell our history. We will not go down silently. We will not go down quietly, and we certainly will not go backwards.

#### CELEBRATING 314 DAY

(Mr. BELL of Missouri was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise as this week on March 14 in my hometown of St. Louis we are celebrating 314 Day.

This day is much more than just our area code or an excuse to celebrate our hometown sports teams: the Cardinals, the Blues, St. Louis City Soccer Club, the Battlehawks. I am also going to acknowledge Mathews-Dickey and a huge shout-out to the St. Louis Stars, our Negro league baseball team back in the day, and St. Louis' own James "Cool Papa" Bell. God rest his soul.

It is not just about what high school you attended, which is also a St. Louis thing, or it is not just about the beer, which we are known to make a lot of. It is not about the gooey butter cakes. It is not just about Imo's Pizza, Vess soda, and Ted Drewes. God rest his soul. It is not about the fact that many St. Louisans sincerely believe that our Chinese food is better than Chinese food in China.

I won't even quiz you on what a chicken St. Paul with cheese is, which is also a St. Louis thing.

It is about recognizing and renewing the powerful bonds and resilience that define our community.

St. Louis is a city of complexity, a rich history, and deep contrasts. From neighborhoods in Webster Groves, Normandy, and the 24-1 communities to historic neighborhoods in North City and Ferguson and Florissant, from

Saint Ann to Soulard and South City, our city encapsulates both the beauty and the struggle of America.

We have faced challenges, economic inequality, racial injustice, and public health crises, but we have never backed down from confronting hard truths or demanding necessary change.

That is why 314 Day matters. In a country that feels deeply divided, days like today remind us of the power of community. Families in Tower Grove Park, the immigrant communities of the Hill and our Bosnian brothers and sisters in South City and South County, businesses thriving in the Central West End in Clayton all remind us of the collective strength we gain from unity and cooperation.

St. Louisans know what it means not to fall in the shadow of hateful rhetoric, but instead to rise in the face of adversity. Whether it is organizing for justice, rebuilding neighborhoods, or simply coming together to support each other through difficult times, our community exemplifies resilience and compassion every day.

On 314 Day, let's not just celebrate our history, our food, and our iconic art. Let's celebrate our city's extraordinary spirit, the unwavering belief that our greatest challenges can become opportunities for growth, justice, and meaningful change.

Today, we recommit to that ideal because St. Louis deserves nothing else.

On a solemn note, rest in peace Berkeley, Missouri, Mayor Babatunde Deinbo and his fierce passion for his community.

I wish a happy birthday to Jordan Sanders and to Justin Tatum, a former St. Louis University basketball star and father of St. Louis-born and bred NBA champion Jason Tatum. Boston, you are welcome.

Finally, I wish a very special—and I won't say the number because I don't think she wants me to—but a very special birthday to my mother, Sharon Gardner, our matriarch, the primary reason that I rise in these Halls so that I could rise before you today.

Happy birthday to my mom.

□ 1115

#### REMOVING CORRUPTION

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM of Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, our Founding Fathers had a pretty clear principle when it came to corruption. Thomas Jefferson, a fellow Virginian, warned of the fate of our country if corruption prevailed. He said: "The time to guard against corruption and tyranny is before they shall have gotten hold on us. It is better to keep the wolf out of the fold than to trust to drawing his teeth and talons after he shall have entered."

There are wolves in our government and in governments all around the world. Look at Russia, where the wolf,

Vladimir Putin, has become the richest person in the country and maybe the world. It is a country where if you speak out against him, you will pay the price. If you make a lot of money, he better get half.

We see what a democracy can become. It will cease to be a democracy. The people will cease to govern, and those in power will enrich themselves.

We cannot let that happen in our country, but we are trending in the wrong direction today. The U.S. recently received the lowest ever Corruption Perceptions Index score in recent history.

For all the things this administration has done, we cannot turn a blind eye to the corruption it has endorsed.

Let's start with the profiting off of the Presidency. From the time President Trump got elected, he has used the office to actively profit from Amazon deals, branded Bibles, shoes, and digital trading cards. Then there are the meme coins, which are a perfect way for Russia, the CCP, and anyone else with an interest in influencing U.S. policy to conveniently pad the President's personal pockets. It sends a message to our adversaries that America is for sale.

How can we ever trust that decisions are being made in the best interests of the American people and not as a financial quid pro quo?

Then there is DOGE. The first thing it did was fire the very people in charge of rooting out corruption and protecting whistleblowers. Why? They would never have signed off on the administration's actions.

It doesn't stop with the administration. They have green-lighted corruption abroad by getting rid of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, a law to prevent bribery of foreign officials. Companies will now have to put corruption experts on their payrolls, and they will pass along those costs to consumers.

Then there is the normalization of corruption by pardoning corrupt politicians across the political spectrum.

Mayor Eric Adams was in a bind, facing indictment on charges of corruption, conspiracy, wire fraud, and bribery, but President Trump directed prosecutors to drop the charges. Conveniently, Mayor Adams is now steering his city's policies at the whims of this administration.

When Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich, convicted for essentially selling a U.S. Senate seat, asked for a pardon for his corruption, he got it. Blagojevich even had a name for a corrupt Democrat bailed out by an administration, a "Trumpocrat."

These actions are hurting the American people. They steal from the American people. They erode our trust, raise costs on working families, and steer us into bad policy.

Thomas Jefferson also liked to say that when "a republic is corrupted, there is no possibility of remedying any of the growing evils but by removing the corruption and restoring its

lost principles. Every other correction is either useless or a new evil."

We have the power to remedy this. With decisions like Citizens United and the actions of this administration, it is not going to be easy, but my constituents and the American people have the power to stand up and make their voices heard. They should keep speaking out and sharing stories.

Do not let this be normal. Together, we must remove corruption and restore its lost principles.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STUTZMAN). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

#### 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLOODY SUNDAY

(Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, we are in a dark time, but this is no time to retreat or to despair because we have been in dark times in this country before.

This past weekend, along with dozens of my colleagues and hundreds of others, I had the opportunity, the chance, to travel to Selma, Alabama, to recall and reflect on the 60th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, where courageous Americans, many of them just children, protested for the right to vote.

In his "Letter from Birmingham Jail," Martin Luther King teaches us of the danger of indifference and shallow understanding, and yet he teaches us of the power of collective action. King warned us not just of the "hateful words and actions of the bad people," but also "the appalling silence of the good people."

This must not be a time of shallow understanding, not a time for lukewarm acceptance. I call out the appalling silence of so many of my colleagues in the face of what we will vote on today, in the face of what we have seen from this administration: cuts to veterans, cuts to families, and a threat to eliminate Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

I first crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge back in 2019 with our late colleague, Congressman John Lewis. He told us then and is telling us now that when we see something that is not right, not fair, not just, we have to speak up. We have to say something. Why else would we be here? We have to do something. We have to act.

Let us recommit ourselves to the cause of justice. Let us remember the lessons of King, of Lewis, and of so many others who sacrificed so much, including their very lives, and let us do something.

#### 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 21 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. AMODEI of Nevada) at noon.

#### PRAYER

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

Holy God, You have chosen us, each of us, and called us holy and beloved. When we let that sink in, that You, the Lord of all creation would love us, we either cannot fathom why You do, or we boast in our presumed worthiness.

In the hearts of those who doubt they are loveable, let alone that You would deign to love them, through our acts of compassion, our words of kindness, our willingness to forgive whatever wrong they may have done to us, may we plant seeds that bear the fruit of Your acceptance, of Your mercy, and of Your desire to convey to them that nothing can separate them from Your love.

And in the hearts of those who believe they have a leg up on others, who assume superiority or entitlement, through our acts of compassion, words of kindness, and our willingness to forgive whatever wrong they may have done to us, may we plant seeds that bear the fruit of Your humility, Your forbearance, and Your desire that they separate themselves from anything that does not reflect Your love.

May we all be renewed in the knowledge that we are each made in the image of our creator. And may we accept Your mercy, reflect Your grace, and reveal Your love this day.

In Your eternal 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 Virginia (Mr. MCGUIRE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCGUIRE 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.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ANNE MOORE-SPARKS

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

Mr. MCGUIRE. Mr. Speaker, we have some amazing people in Virginia's Fifth Congressional District that spend their life helping others.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish happy birthday to the president of the Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce, Anne Moore-Sparks, who celebrated her birthday on March 1.

Anne is a native of Danville and graduate of Averett University and the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership at the University of Virginia. She has lived her entire life in service to the citizens of Danville and Pittsylvania County.

As President of the Chamber, she has led the charge to build a secure economy in southside Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Anne on her success and wish her a happy birthday.

#### HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. HAZEL N. DUKES

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Hazel Dukes, a former civil rights champion and the former president of the NAACP New York State Conference.

After her family migrated to New York from the South, Dr. Dukes became involved in the fight for racial justice and spent more than seven decades tirelessly fighting for voting rights, economic development, fair housing, and education.

She was ultimately selected by Lyndon B. Johnson to head the Head Start program.

Dr. Dukes was an active and dynamic leader. She was someone that you will never forget. If I could describe her, I would say that Dr. Dukes was Harlem, and in many ways, Harlem was her.

Mr. Speaker, we will always remember her as an icon and the heartbeat of Harlem and the NAACP. She will always be with us in thought. May she rest in power. Harlem loves her.

#### VOTING ON A CONTINUING RESOLUTION

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, House Republicans will vote on a continuing resolution which