

## WIPING OUT HISTORY

(Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of our south Texas war hero, Sergeant Alfredo "Freddy" Gonzalez, a hero who will never be forgotten.

Sergeant Gonzalez was killed in action February 4, 1968. History is clear, he was a marine sergeant in charge of a third platoon company near Hue City, Vietnam. His company came under heavy fire for days. Sergeant Gonzalez maneuvered his men and returned fire and personally carried wounded warriors out of harm's way. He didn't ask what ethnicity these men were or religion or what region of the country they came from. They were all Americans fighting one of the most atrocious and unpopular wars in our history.

Freddy was awarded the Medal of Honor not because he asked for a special privilege or recognition or job. Freddy was dead. He was recognized by his men for his bravery, for going beyond his call of duty to save other American lives while losing his own.

This administration's appalling efforts to erase history under the disguise of eliminating DEI has seen no boundaries, prompting indiscriminate removals of Latinos, women, and other minorities from our Nation's archives.

They removed the Tuskegee Airmen, who proudly defended our country in Europe during World War II, removed our Navajo Code Talkers who helped us defeat Japan, and they removed our most recent and Honorable General Colin Powell, for God's sake.

For God's sake, have they no shame? Have they no decency? This is not about eliminating DEI. This is straight-up, old-fashioned racism against some of the most deserving Americans in our history.

I ask my friends on the other side of the aisle who have worn our uniform and some who have fought for our freedom to stand with me, to stand on the right side of history with the American people and oppose these un-American, unpatriotic policies coming from this administration, from folks who never had the gall to serve themselves.

Let's grow a spine in this House and preserve the American values that actually made us great.

JOANNA SHEAF CELEBRATES  
100TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. TAYLOR of Ohio was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the birthday of my wonderful wife, Charity, to recognize Ms. Joanna Sheaf, who celebrated her 100th birthday on March 19, 2025.

Born during the Great Depression, Joanna grew up in southern Ohio and lived with her grandmother as her father traveled, looking for work. Joanna

raised seven sons and one daughter as a hardworking and devoted single mother, working two jobs to support them and provide for their needs. With a creative mind and a skill for writing, Joanna authored multiple poems that were published in the Columbus Dispatch and the Citizen Journal.

Throughout her life, Joanna has exemplified resilience, grace, and an unwavering dedication to her family, friends, and community. Her legacy of kindness, dedication to her family, and wisdom have touched the lives of many, leaving an enduring impact on all who have had the privilege of knowing her.

Her example of love, service, and vitality is truly inspiring, and her community is lucky to call her their own.

I congratulate Joanna on this extraordinary milestone and wish her a happy 100th birthday.

CONGRATULATING MAKENNAH CRAFT ON FOURTH  
OHIO STATE WRESTLING TITLE

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the undefeated wrestling record of Ms. Makennah Craft of Jackson High School. Makennah claimed her fourth and final State title on March 8 in the 2025 State Wrestling Tournament, securing her win by more than 15 points over her opponent. Makennah has distinguished herself as only the fifth female wrestler to ever accomplish this feat in Ohio high school wrestling history.

Jumping into the sport at just 4 years old, Makennah's passion for wrestling grew over the years. She learned to persevere and overcome any roadblocks or plateaus she hit during training. Makennah has said that wrestling made her a tougher person, realizing that the harder she pushed herself, the more she grew.

Having worked with Makennah since middle school, Coach Brandon Oliver views her as a shining role model for their school's wrestling program. He commends her on maintaining a 4.0 grade point average on top of completing multiple workouts every day.

Southern Ohio looks forward to seeing how Makennah's winning mindset will continue to serve her as she completes her senior year of high school and goes on to tackle new challenges.

I congratulate Makennah on her fourth State title. I wish her the best in her very bright future.

CONGRATULATING PORTSMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL  
GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM ON OHIO DIVISION V  
STATE TITLE

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Portsmouth High School girls' basketball team on winning their school's first-ever Ohio Division V basketball State championship.

Having dreamt of securing this title since they were in the fifth grade, the nine athletes on Portsmouth's team navigated their season with consistency, discipline, and a clear vision. In the championship game, junior Sienna Allen led all players with 17 points, contributing to Portsmouth's victory

by a score of 53-38 over Creston Norwayne.

With this win, the Trojans became the first Scioto County program to ever secure the girls' basketball State championship trophy. Head coach Amy Hughes led the team throughout the season, investing in each player as they honed their teamwork and athletic skills.

These players' hard work and commitment to excellence is a shining example to students across Ohio that achieving your dreams is possible if you put in the hard work and never stop improving.

I am pleased to recognize each hard-working player, supportive parent, and committed coach who helped make this victory possible. I congratulate Portsmouth High School as they celebrate this historic achievement. As always, Go Trojans.

## COST OF LIVING STILL HIGH

(Mr. COURTNEY of Connecticut was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, candidate Trump and President-elect Trump consistently and repeatedly promised the American people that when he was elected, on day one that he would lower the cost of living for Americans. He very effectively campaigned on that issue, and I think that that was a major driving force in terms of why he prevailed on November 5. In fact, he said that in a number of interviews after the election.

However, then-President Trump was sworn in on January 20, and to this day, despite over 100 executive orders, countless rescissions that have come out of the White House, not one has been directed in terms of lowering the cost of living for Americans in this country.

In fact, last week, the Consumer Price Index was released. It showed that prices jumped again at 2.8 percent, well above the Federal Reserve's target of 2 percent, which is why interest rates are going to continue to stay unnecessarily high.

On Wednesday, a couple days from now, so-called Liberation Day, he is now going to announce another wave of tariffs that every economist of every stripe will tell you is going to, in fact, raise the price of goods for Americans.

Don't take my word for it, listen to the National Association of Home Builders, a staunch Republican organization that has warned this administration that putting tariffs on everything from steel to copper and nickel is going to drive up the price of home construction.

In fact, screws and nails, made from steel, are already showing huge increases. They have already been hit with a 25 percent tariff from one of our biggest importers of steel, our friend and ally for many years, Canada. I now suddenly sort of wonder where this White House is coming from.

Steel and lumber used in home construction were one of the biggest factors of increased prices on last Friday's Consumer Price Index. That is, again, why the homebuilders are warning us at this time of a housing crisis. We are seeing an administration that is doing everything in terms of driving those prices up still further.

□ 1215

There is a belief in the White House that somehow Americans are going to be inoculated from tariffed goods from other countries because we are going to have this burst of output that is going to happen, even though we don't mine for things like copper and nickel, and even though the steel industry in the U.S. will tell you they do not have the capacity to replace incoming foreign steel. Yet, they somehow believe that commodity price is not going to leak into what American importers are actually going to be paying, which is going to get passed along to the American consumer.

He has invoked a law, a 1976 law, the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, which was put into place by Congress in this Chamber to provide the President with the ability to raise tariffs against a foreign adversary or threat. That is the law that he used against Canada, and the reason he said was that fentanyl is coming into Canada.

Last week, the Director of National Intelligence testified before the House Intelligence Committee. They released their annual threat assessment listing all the countries that are threats to the U.S. Do you know what country was not on that list? Canada. Because, in fact, if you look at the data from DEA and people who work at the border, less than 1 percent of fentanyl comes from Canada. Yet, he used that law, without Congress' approval, to strike at that nation.

We have already heard from the new Prime Minister that they are going to raise countertariffs against the U.S. This is a vicious cycle where there is not going to be a good ending unless this Congress, led by Mr. Trump's party, grabs the steering wheel and listens to the people who are out there on the front lines of our economy and says: Stop. Enough.

The Dow tanked on Friday, dropping 700 points. Futures opened today down 400 points. The warning lights are everywhere. Liberation day is just going to worsen the situation that we are seeing, not only for people who are in the stock market, which, you know, they are big boys and girls. They can handle themselves. It is really the people on Main Street who are going to feel the brunt of a tariff policy that goes completely in the opposite direction of the promises that he made on the campaign trail.

It is time for Congress as a coequal branch of government—and, Speaker JOHNSON, if you are listening, please, you have the ability to bring to the

floor a countermeasure to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act and stop the madness in terms of where this administration is taking our economy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. FEDORCHAK) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

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

Call us back to You, O Lord. Receive us once again from the wide and scattered places that our own choices have led us. Take us up into Your merciful embrace and remind us that You have never forsaken us and never will.

Then give us new and undivided hearts. Grant us a new spirit, a spirit renewed by Your forgiveness and recreated by the power of Your own Holy Spirit.

Remove from us our hearts of stone, our stubbornness and obstinance, our inclination to dig in our heels and hold on to the reins rather than yield to Your leading.

Give us instead hearts of integrity and tenderness, that we would obey Your commands and live lives in steadfast service to the people whose welfare You have entrusted to us.

Unto Your grace plan, we commend this day. Into Your keeping, we offer our best efforts, and in Your merciful 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 Florida (Mr. BEAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BEAN of Florida led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### TRUMP WINS FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES

(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. Madam Speaker, with the historic victory by President Donald Trump receiving a mandate for reelection, he has been winning on behalf of American families, and he is just getting started.

Illegal alien border crossings have been reduced by 98 percent, the lowest level ever recorded, and construction of the border wall has resumed.

A plan for international trade has been unveiled. Nearly \$4 trillion in investments has been secured, creating thousands of jobs. American energy potential has been unlocked, bringing down costs.

Only U.S. citizens are able to vote in Federal elections, with ballots counted on election day.

Government efficiency has been maximized, achieving savings for taxpayers.

Illegal aliens, murderers, child molesters, and drug dealers are being deported.

Anti-Semitism on college campuses is being challenged. Education is returning to the States.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent, as warned by the FBI. Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength.

Our sympathy to Tom and Virginia Ann Mullikin on the passing of their very talented daughter, Mary Elizabeth Mullikin.

#### THANKING TOWNHALL PARTICIPANTS

(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. Madam Speaker, the extensive media coverage of townhalls across the country has undeniably caused a surge of interest from all counties across my congressional district.

Recognizing the challenges of traveling to each county quickly, I took decisive action by organizing a telephone townhall, which nearly 13,000 constituents attended.

Residents voiced concerns about the pressing issues highlighted in the news and concerns related to Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare. Veterans raised issues regarding availability of benefits, while farmers stressed the necessity for immediate assistance.