

man walking around naked in their locker room or spiking a volleyball full force into their face.

This failed ideological social experiment is disrupting the very fabric of what Title IX was designed to protect.

One example, without mentioning names, is a male swimmer, who was ranked 554th among male athletes, but became the top-ranked female swimmer in the women's category in the Nation.

We can go back to Caitlyn Jenner, who as Bruce Jenner competed in the Olympics and won the decathlon. As Caitlyn Jenner, she stated that if she would have transitioned earlier, she would have won every gold medal. Clearly, that is not fair.

This does not respect the hard work, dedication, and sacrifices made by female athletes.

This was a commonsense bill, and there was a right way and a wrong way to vote on it.

In my view, as I stated earlier, 99 percent of Americans agree that men and boys should not be competing in women's and girls' sports, which is why my Republican colleagues and I voted to pass this bill yesterday with only two Democrats voting along with us. That is kind of disturbing in itself.

Our Republican Conference will continue to stand with women throughout this Congress and advocate for the protection of their rights.

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 3 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. STRONG) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Lord, our God and our protector, who with a word can calm the storms and hold back the Sun, we pray that You would move Your spirit over the chaos that ravages our country and speak Your word of peace.

Arrest the fire that still burns in Los Angeles and its surrounding communities. Bring relief to those who found themselves in the paths of the hurricane that devastated Tennessee and North Carolina, who feel its destruction all the more keenly in the depth of winter.

Be merciful to those, O Lord, who remain fearful in the surround of danger. Be merciful to those who feel helpless and hopeless before the great power of

fire and wind. Be merciful to those who have lost hearth and home, who seek refuge for their bodies and their souls.

In the shadow of Your wings, may they take shelter until the storms of ruin pass by. Behind the hedge of Your protection, may they find safety from the afflictions bearing down on them from all fronts.

Encourage and equip with fortitude and perseverance all those who remain in the fight against the unrelenting fires and who continue to strive to build defenses against even more harm.

For You, O Lord, are our deliverer. In You will all be restored. In the strength of Your 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 gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. ANSARI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. ANSARI 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.

MILLIN FAMILY FARM RECEIVES CENTURY FARM DESIGNATION

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Millin family, located in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. The Millin family owns the Millin Family Farm. It has received the designation of a Century Farm from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

A Century Farm is a farm that has been owned by the same family for at least 100 consecutive years, has a family member who still lives on that farm, and has at least 10 acres of the original holding.

The Millin family has farmed in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, since 1874, when Sandra Millin's great-grandfather purchased the property. Today, the Millins manage an over-200-acre grain operation on that exact same land. They even have the farm's original log structure dating to pre-1874.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I offer heartfelt congratulations to the Millin family and express gratitude for their enduring commitment to one of Pennsylvania's most vital industries: agriculture.

HONORING SUZANNE EVANS SHEPPARD

(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 honor and celebrate the remarkable life of Dr. Suzanne Evans Sheppard, an exceptional member of our community who touched many lives.

She was a devoted mother, educator, and wife, an inspiring figure who cherished her church, Victory & Dominion World Outreach Center.

To serve as a reminder of her tremendous contributions, her church has renamed its family life center in her honor. On her birthday, family and community members gathered to celebrate. We released balloons into the sky, and Pastor Dr. Zebedee Sheppard, her beloved husband, made the heartfelt announcement. The new name is fitting, reflecting the center's role in serving the community to which she dedicated so much of her life.

I am truly grateful for Dr. Suzanne Sheppard, and the new name of this incredible facility in our community now makes it complete.

CONGRATULATING GREG SEIDENBERGER ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Ms. DE LA CRUZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Guadalupe County Commissioner Greg Seidenberger on his well-deserved retirement after a lifetime of extraordinary service to both our country and our community.

Greg began his career with 20 years in the United States Air Force, serving as a command pilot during the Vietnam war and leading the squadron operating out of the Seguin Auxiliary Airfield. He then served as a pilot for American Airlines for 18 years.

For the past 12 years, Greg has dedicated himself to Guadalupe County as the commissioner for Precinct 1, transforming the county and ensuring the foundation for a bright future.

I wish Commissioner Greg Seidenberger a joyful retirement. Again, I congratulate him.

ATTACK ON NORTH CAROLINA ELECTIONS

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with grave concern about the effort in North Carolina to overturn the will of the voters of our State.

In November, Justice Allison Riggs won the election to retain her seat on the North Carolina Supreme Court. Her victory was confirmed by two separate recounts, but her opponent refuses to concede. Instead, he is seeking to overturn the results of the election with the help of our Republican majority on the court. He is arguing that 60,000 valid votes should be thrown out.

Four years after January 6, we are once again reminded about how fragile our democracy truly is. A judicial candidate does not accept the results of an election, so he is trying to silence voters in the pursuit of power. This is an attack on North Carolina voters, the integrity of our elections, and our system of justice.

CONGRATULATING NORTH CROWLEY PANTHERS

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the North Crowley Panthers for their decisive 50–21 win over Austin Westlake to become the UIL Class 6A Division 1 State champions.

The Panthers finished the season with an impressive record of 15 wins and no losses, earning their first State championship victory since 2003.

Throughout many early mornings, long hours on the field, and staying focused in school, these young men and women showed dedication, strength, and overwhelming commitment to victory. I am proud that their hard work has paid off.

As some of these bright and talented men and women prepare for their next endeavors, I wish them the best of luck and blessings for an even brighter and more victorious future. Go, Panthers.

In God we trust.

CONGRATULATING PASTOR WARREN STEWART, SR., ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable legacy of Pastor Warren Stewart, Sr., of Phoenix, Arizona.

At First Institutional Baptist Church, Pastor Stewart has been a beacon of hope, faith, and justice in our district for decades. His tireless work has gone beyond his pastoral role. He has always been a leader for social change in our community.

In fact, his efforts were key to securing Arizona's recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day long after many other States had added the holiday to their calendars.

As he steps into retirement, we are deeply grateful for his leadership. I thank Pastor Stewart for his decades of service to our community. His legacy is one of love, inclusivity, and hope.

I wish Pastor Stewart the very best in this next chapter.

UPLIFTING AND EMPOWERING OUR SKILLED WORKFORCE

(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 to recognize the uplifting and empowering of our skilled workforce.

Across the country, skills gaps are plaguing employers and barring workers from filling millions of open job opportunities. That is why today I was proud to introduce the bipartisan Skills Investment Act.

This commonsense legislation allows workers at any point in their career to contribute to Coverdell lifelong learning accounts, which are tax-advantaged savings opportunities that will allow Americans to pursue new job skills and better career prospects.

Workers of all ages would be eligible to use Coverdell lifelong learning accounts to pay for skills training, apprenticeships, and other workforce-focused programs.

As a senior member of the Education and Workforce Committee and co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I am proud to sponsor the Skills Investment Act to provide additional resources for workers to climb to the next rung on the ladder of opportunity. I thank my colleagues, Congresswoman BONAMICI, Congressman FITZPATRICK, and Congressman SCHNEIDER, for joining me in this effort.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in uplifting our workforce through this bipartisan legislation.

U.S.-MOROCCO PARTNERSHIP IS ESSENTIAL

(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, the rule of gun axis of invasion continues murderous conduct. Sadly, war criminal Putin, the Iranian regime, and the Cuban Communist dictatorship are working to destabilize West Africa with the terrorist Polisario Front, a murderous threat to the Kingdom of Morocco, an American partner for 250 years.

Records of the deposed Assad Syrian dictatorship confirm Polisario sent militias for training. Last week, the Polisario invited PKK terrorists to a summit, threatening our valued NATO ally Türkiye. President Donald Trump stood with Morocco, recognizing West-

ern Sahara as Moroccan. I appreciate chairing the Morocco Friendship Caucus.

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 will reinstitute existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength.

Best wishes to Pete Hegseth. I was grateful to attend the hearing where he qualified for Secretary of Defense, ably conducted by Chairman ROGER WICKER.

CELEBRATING NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate one of northeast Nebraska's most important institutions, Northeast Community College.

This year, the NJCAA Men's Soccer National Champions hail from Nebraska's First Congressional District, our very own Northeast Hawks.

Throughout the national tournament, Northeast consistently defied the odds. They fought through several close matches, claiming victories against teams that had bested them in previous seasons. They even beat the odds in the championship game. While ranked fifth, our Hawks triumphed with a 2–1 victory over the second-ranked team to secure their historic title.

From Head Coach Adam Potter to every single player, the Hawks have displayed remarkable team spirit on their journey to this historic success. Their work is a testament to the character and values of our national champions, as well as the entire Northeast student community.

On behalf of Nebraska's First Congressional District, congratulations to the Northeast Community College men's soccer team on becoming the first in school history to win an NJCAA national title.

□ 1215

HONORING CONSTITUENTS OF TEXAS' 26TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is the honor of my life to serve the people of Texas' 26th Congressional District. My district encompasses parts of Denton, Cooke, Wise, and Tarrant Counties, all the way north to the Oklahoma border.

Our district offers a tapestry of landscapes that reflect the best of Texas, but what truly makes our district special is its people. From the ranchers