

her work continues to inspire creativity in the field of engineering and technology.

COMMENDING DR. CHRISTINA DRALE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Dr. Christina Drale, the chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock for receiving the E. Joseph Savoie Chief Executive Leadership award.

This prestigious honor recognizes presidents and chancellors who demonstrate exceptional leadership in advancing innovation and collaboration within their institutions. Dr. Drale is the first Arkansan in over a decade to receive and earn this recognition.

She became the chancellor 5 years ago after serving as the interim executive vice chancellor and provost at UA Little Rock.

From the beginning, she led with purpose, implementing significant changes to strengthen the university, such as implementing a partnership program with local businesses, offering employees scholarships for tuition, and other education opportunities at the university. Additionally, under her leadership, UA Little Rock has seen historic enrollment growth and improved retention rates.

These are just a few of the examples that highlight her outstanding service, accomplishments, and visionary leadership in higher education in central Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I offer congratulations to Dr. Drale.

#### THE TRUTH STILL MATTERS

(Mr. THANEDAR of Michigan was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. THANEDAR. Madam Speaker, when I was sworn into office, I took an oath to protect the Constitution of this great Nation.

I am an immigrant who came to this country with just \$20 in my pocket. The United States has given me so much. I love America, and I will do anything to protect our Constitution and our democratic values.

President Donald J. Trump has been committing crimes since day one: bribery, corruption, taking power from Congress, creating an unlawful office in DOGE, violating First Amendment rights, ignoring due process, and, finally, refusing to abide by a unanimous Supreme Court ruling.

Just as I stand here in the House of Representatives, Mr. Trump is traveling to the Middle East to accept a gift worth \$400 million from a foreign government. I have spoken with Americans all over the country. They asked me: What will you do as President Trump continues his unconstitutional activities? Well, Madam Speaker, I rise today to hold this President accountable.

The fact of the matter is, the President has committed crime after crime. I am not concerned about whether this is the right time or if there are enough votes from my colleagues across the

aisle. I rise today to do my duty and uphold my oath to protect the Constitution.

The effort is not about partisanship. It is about principles. If we don't draw the line now, we risk losing the rule of law entirely. If we don't act today, we are complicit in letting democracy erode on our watch.

That is why I introduced H. Res. 353 to impeach Donald J. Trump, outlining seven Articles of Impeachment because when a President violates the Constitution, Congress must act.

My seven Articles in H. Res. 353 are as follows:

1. Obstruction of justice and abuse of executive powers. Trump denied due process and defied Federal court orders.

2. Seizing Congress' power of the purse. He froze funds and dismantled agencies without congressional approval.

3. Abuse of trade powers and international aggression. His reckless tariffs hurt American families, and he even threatened military actions against our allies.

4. Violation of First Amendment rights. Trump retaliated against journalists and critics for speaking out.

5. Creation of an unlawful office. He gave Elon Musk unconstitutional control over government agencies and American people's personal data.

6. Bribery and corruption. Trump dismissed criminal cases and accepted foreign payments for personal gain.

7. Tyrannical overreach. His actions reveal a dangerous attempt to consolidate unchecked power.

This is not leadership. This is dictatorship. We have Presidents, not kings. If we allow this to continue, we are telling the American people that the Presidency is above the law and that the Constitution is optional.

When Trump ignored Court rulings, we called it out. When he threatened the peaceful transfer of power, we pushed back. When he tried to dismantle Federal institutions, we said: No more.

Now we are fighting—in the courts, in Congress, and in the court of public opinion—because the truth still matters. I call on my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to do what is right: Impeach Donald J. Trump. Let's keep fighting.

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

#### HONORING TROOPER CLAY MATTHEW CARNS

(Mr. BOST of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Illinois Trooper Clay Matthew Carns, who was tragically killed in the line of duty on December 23, 2024.

Clay Carns was born on October 23, 1989, in Carbondale, Illinois, to Danny

and Patricia Carns. First home schooled, he later graduated from Pinckneyville High School and went on to earn a communications degree from the University of Illinois. He proudly answered the call to public service and joined the Illinois State Police in 2014.

On December 23 of last year, Trooper Carns stopped to remove roadside debris along Interstate 55 when he was struck by a passing motorist and tragically killed.

Throughout his dedicated years of service, Trooper Carns embodied the highest standard of a law enforcement officer. He was awarded a Medal of Honor Department Commendation, a Unit Meritorious Performance award, and many other commendations for his commitment to public safety.

Beyond his service, Trooper Carns had a strong devotion to his family. He was a devoted husband to his loving wife, Meghan, and a proud father to Gray and Ally. Trooper Carns took great delight in fatherhood, describing his family as the light of his life.

He is also survived by his parents; as well as his siblings, Erica, Chad, and Elyssa; and a large and loving extended family.

Madam Speaker, Trooper Clay Matthew Carns embodied the heroism and devotion to others we expect from our finest law enforcement officers. He committed his life to serving and protecting.

While we mourn the loss of a precious life gone far too soon, I know he leaves a legacy that lives on in the hearts of those he loved and who loved him.

Madam Speaker, in addition to honoring Trooper Carns, this week we also honor those police officers who have served around this Nation as they come here to Washington. We say thank you and remember that they served us every day. This week, we also will honor those like State Trooper Carns who fell in the line of duty. Please, Madam Speaker, we must remember those who serve us so well.

#### HONORING NONNIE ALVIS "WHITEY" SMITH

(Mr. WOMACK of Arkansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Nonnie Alvis "Whitey" Smith of Rogers, Arkansas, who passed away on April 25, 2025, at the age of 88.

Anyone with connections to the athletic programs at Rogers High School either knew him personally or fully recognized what he has meant to Mountie athletics. No one I know or have ever known has done more for the program—not a coach, not a player, not anyone.

It all started back in the 1950s when Whitey himself was a Rogers Mountie. Playing tackle on the football team, he was the team's most valuable player in 1955. In that same year, he became the first from Rogers to play in the Arkansas All Star football game.

While his athletic pursuits were quite enough to make him a Rogers Mountie Hall of Famer, his greatest contributions, Madam Speaker, came over the next nearly 70 years as a friend of the program.

First, it was as a volunteer, working with and for the program to make sure every athlete had what they needed to succeed. The passion was intense. The ingredient? Chicken. Yes, chicken.

For 55 years, Whitey's Chicken Cookin' Crew gathered at a pit near the tracks on Locust Street, and over that span raised an estimated \$1.5 million. The aroma emanating from the pit had a unique and mysterious way of slowing traffic to a halt. Passersby knew two things: Five bucks would get you a delicious meal, and those dollars would flow right back into the community. Like Whitey always said: It is for the kids.

Whitey Smith was also a businessman, having owned and operated Ozark Fence Company for over 50 years. The headquarters was a favorite gathering place for those in his circle. The potluck events were a regular happening. It became a who's who of the community who joined in the fun.

I also knew when I drove down Cherry Street and saw his pickup between the tracks and the shop, Whitey was there, likely planning his next benefit.

Madam Speaker, I know that in every community big and small there are individuals who have a special fondness for serving. In Rogers, that guy was Whitey Smith.

Inducted into the Rogers High School Hall of Fame in 1990, he was a staple in the community, and today the football stadium and a scholarship bear his name.

Whitey was well into his public service when I played against Rogers in the 1970s, but after moving to Rogers in 1979 and for 12 years as its mayor, I can attest to the tireless and selfless work of this pillar of the community.

It is my high honor to recognize him here on the floor of the House of Representatives for his contributions to the kids and his personal example.

To Janice, Becky, Tim, and his extended family, our heartfelt sorrow for their loss. May Nonnie Alvis "Whitey" Smith rest in eternal peace. May his legacy of service and compassion always inspire and be remembered.

□ 1230

#### 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 30 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

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

Eternal God, Your wisdom has taught us that there is a time for everything, and there is a season for all things.

We celebrate the birth of loved ones and grieve the death of those who matter most to us. We look for opportunity to plant and plan carefully the time to reap. The same is true for our inclination to tear down and our desire to build.

On this day, may we recognize the moments that we are meant to be silent and hold our tongues and then use carefully the time we are given to speak Your truth. May our love be for Your perfect will and our hate employed only by Your righteous right hand.

You, O Lord, have made everything beautiful in its time, and You have set eternity in our hearts, yet no one can fathom Your gracious intent.

Grant us patience as we wrestle with the things we cannot accept. Grant us strength as we dare to change the things that arrive in our time to change and Your eternal wisdom to appreciate the season to which You have called us.

In Your holy name, we pray.  
Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. CRAIG 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.

#### VICTORY DAY FOR WWII

(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, I am grateful President Donald Trump announced the United States will now mark May 8 as Victory Day for World War II to commemorate the anniversary of the American and Allied triumph over national socialism and fascism.

Aligning with the annual commemorations held by our Allies in Europe, the victory largely was due to American Armed Forces, with nearly a quarter of a million killed, 250,000. Without

the sacrifice of our soldiers, this war would not have been won, according to the White House proclamation.

Victory Day reaffirms American courage today and defeats the insane propaganda of war criminal Putin, where his stooge, Dmitry Medvedev, denounced the truth of President Donald Trump as "pretentious nonsense."

Stooge Medvedev should remember September 17, 1939, when Moscow, allied with Hitler, invaded Poland, killing 60,000 Poles in just 5 weeks, dividing the country in half.

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 reinstating existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies with fellow dictators at his Red Square military parade instead of agreeing to Trump's request for a cease-fire, saving Ukrainian lives.

#### HONORING BURNSVILLE FALLEN OFFICERS

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

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Police Week and recognize the law enforcement officers and first responders who put themselves in harm's way each and every day to keep our community safe, we must remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

I rise today to honor three fallen heroes from Minnesota's Second Congressional District who lost their lives in the line of duty last year: Officers Paul Elmstrand and Matthew Ruge and Firefighter/Paramedic Adam Finseth were shot and killed while responding to a domestic violence call in Burnsville.

Their deaths have left a gaping hole in the Burnsville community and especially in our local law enforcement agencies. They will never be forgotten.

However, telling their stories is not enough. As Members of Congress, we must also recommit to making sure our officers have the resources they need to stay safe on the job so that a tragedy like this never happens again.

#### HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER "KIT" BOND

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

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness today that I rise to honor the life and legacy of former U.S. Senator Christopher "Kit" Bond of Missouri.

Leslie and I join the Bond family, the Show Me State, and a grateful Nation in mourning the loss of one of Missouri's favorite sons.