

In a thrilling set of matches, Salpointe defeated Canyon del Oro by a score of 5–2.

This is the first State championship since 2011 for Coach Theresa Spurduto. I know it must have meant a lot to be crowned as a champion once again.

Congratulations to all of the coaches, players, family members, and everyone who played a part in this special season. They have made their school and community incredibly proud. Go Lancers.

CONGRATULATING CATALINA FOOTHILLS
DIVISION II CHAMPIONS

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Catalina Foothills Falcons boys' tennis team for winning the Division II State Championship game.

In a thrilling set of matches, the Falcons beat the number two ranked Notre Dame in a decisive manner by a score of 5–0.

This victory earned Coach Ben Loeb a remarkable milestone, 20 high school State championships. This State championship marked the Falcons' 10th title in 11 years. Now, that is impressive.

I congratulate and thank Coach Loeb, the players, and everyone who played a part in this special season. They made their school and community extremely proud.

I say to the Falcons, enjoy this victory. You earned it.

CONGRATULATING PUSCH RIDGE DIVISION III
WOMEN'S TENNIS TEAM

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pusch Ridge Christian Academy Lions' women's tennis team for winning the Division III State championship game.

From starting this season with a loss in Nogales, this remarkable team overcame adversity and roared back to be crowned champions.

I congratulate Coach Andy Fetsis, all the players, and everybody who played a part in this special season. They should know that they have made their school and their community incredibly proud.

I say to the Lions, enjoy this victory. You earned it.

CONGRATULATING BUENA HIGH SCHOOL COLTS
ALL-STATE TITLE

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Buena High School Colts relay team on a remarkable achievement, winning the All-State Title in the 4 by 400 relay race.

After securing the Division II last year, they faced off against top schools from across the State and came out victorious and took the top honor, adding yet another trophy to their cabinet. What a remarkable achievement.

I congratulate and thank Coach Thomas; the relay squad, Ricardo Brooks, Armani Ramirez-Sperle, Vijay Carrier, and Jayden Thomas; and everyone who played a part in this remarkable season. They have made their school and the Sierra Vista community incredibly proud.

Congratulations to the Colts. May they enjoy this State championship. They earned it.

RECOGNITION OF MAY AS
WILDFIRE AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as Wildfire Awareness Month.

For many States and regions around the Nation, our forests play a critical role in supporting communities and the rural economy. Our Nation's forests provide us with homegrown timber, essential for wood products, such as lumber, flooring, furniture, pulp and paper, biomass, and so much more.

The U.S. forest products industry employs more than 925,000 Americans, generating a payroll of nearly \$80 billion nationwide.

□ 1115

Harvest on national forestland is also critical for supporting rural school districts through county payments derived from timber sales.

Our forests also provide countless recreational opportunities, such as camping, hiking, fishing, and many other activities available in the great outdoors.

However, many of our Federal forestlands remain unhealthy and continue to be at risk of catastrophic wildfire due to severe overgrowth and decades of mismanagement. Consequently, the United States has continued to see some of the largest and most intense wildfires in history over the past few decades.

During that time, these incredibly destructive wildfires have led to significant property loss; recovery costs; and, in some cases, the loss of human life.

I visited some of the afflicted areas, including Paradise, California, where the devastating Camp fire occurred in 2018. It is our responsibility as elected officials to do everything that we can to make sure that tragedies like this do not occur again.

Wildfires are truly an urgent crisis that must be immediately addressed, and Congress must do more to better support the Forest Service, our firefighters, and rural communities in forested areas.

Between 2013 and 2022, we saw an average of 61,000 wildfires annually with an average of 7.2 million acres impacted each year.

So far this year, we have seen more than 25,000 wildfire incidents with more than 1 million acres burned before fire season ever began.

The wildfires we witnessed in Los Angeles this year were just the latest reminder of the devastation that can occur when we don't proactively manage our forests and do everything possible to prevent them from breaking out in the first place.

Make no mistake that the wildfire crisis is just that, a crisis that must urgently be addressed. The good news is that, with the right management, we can do so much more to improve the

health of our forests and combat the wildfire and forest health crisis head-on.

This means using all of the tools in the toolbox. That includes mechanical thinning, prescribed fire, and cross-boundary authorities. That also includes expanded use of good neighbor agreements, stewardship contracts, and other innovative agreements to maximize management possibilities through partnerships between stakeholders, private forest owners, Tribes, and local, State, and Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the forestry title that passed out of the Agriculture Committee last year which was crafted to expand those tools and authorities and encourage the Forest Service to do more productive management. Such reforms will enable the agency to improve forest health, reduce the threat of wildfire, increase the pace and scale of restoration, and ultimately protect communities, property, and lives.

Many of these concepts can be found in the Fix Our Forests Act, which was passed on a bipartisan basis this past January.

Additionally, I applaud the recent actions by the Trump administration to dramatically scale up the management across the National Forest System.

Encouraging this ramp-up will enable the Forest Service to better manage, support local counties and economies through increased sustainable harvest levels, address invasive species and forest health, and ultimately reduce the severity and instances of wildfires.

During this Wildfire Awareness Month, it is important that Members understand the great challenges that our Nation has with wildfire and that there are many steps that the Federal Government can take to proactively mitigate it.

Perhaps most importantly, we must also recognize the dedication and sacrifices of our wildland firefighters to act when disaster strikes and keep communities safe.

Mr. Speaker, I thank our firefighters, first responders, and all who are working to confront this crisis as we recognize Wildfire Awareness Month.

RECOGNIZING WASHINGTON ARMY
NATIONAL GUARD 1ST BATTALION,
161ST INFANTRY REGIMENT

(Mr. BAUMGARTNER of Washington was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare to mark Memorial Day, a time to honor those who gave their lives in defense of our country, I rise today to recognize the enduring service and sacrifice of the Washington Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment.

For nearly 90 years, this unit has called the city of Spokane home. Once stationed downtown, it now stands watch near the banks of the Spokane

River at the Readiness Center next to the Spokane Falls Community College. Yet, its role has never changed: to stand ready in defense of our Nation and in service to our State.

The 161st Infantry carries a storied legacy. They fought with honor in the Philippine Insurrection, stood guard along the southern border during the Pancho Villa raids, and served in France during World War I. These citizen soldiers served with distinction across the Pacific in World War II, and deployed multiple times as part of the 81st Brigade Combat Team during the global war on terrorism. Their battle streamers reflect the best of American valor and commitment.

Yet, just as importantly, they have answered the call at home, mobilizing in the face of wildfires; floods; snowstorms, and most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic. When Washingtonians needed their help, the Guard was there.

These are our neighbors, our coworkers, and our sons and daughters. For generations, they have trained and deployed from Spokane, not just for war but for peace, safety, and recovery.

On this Memorial Day, we thank them. We remember those who laid down their lives in uniform, and we honor the Spokane Readiness Center as a pillar of strength in both our Nation's defense and our local community.

May their legacy never be forgotten, and may our gratitude be as enduring as their service.

HONORING THE HOLSTINE FAMILY AND HEROES HOMESTEAD

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Heroes Homestead, a grassroots nonprofit founded by marine veteran Andrew Holstine and his wife, Danielle.

My family and I recently participated in their annual 5K walk in Spokane. This wasn't only a walk; it was a community coming together to honor service, support healing, and walk alongside veteran families who have borne the burden of war long after coming home.

Andrew served in the Marines and survived a tragic Osprey crash in 2000 that claimed the lives of 19 fellow marines, including his best friends. The invisible wounds he carried didn't just affect him, but they impacted his whole family. After years of struggle, the Holstines left everything behind to create something new: a place for veterans and their families to heal together.

Heroes Homestead was born from that journey. The 5K and the community fair was part of a growing movement to restore purpose, connection, and joy to those who have served and those who stood by those who have served.

They have a national vision: healing centers near every U.S. military hub.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Holstines and all who participated in the 5K. This is what serving veterans looks like.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 22 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:

Heavenly Father, You loved us first and You loved us perfectly. Help us to experience and appreciate the depth of Your love today.

May we know that You intend for us to live a life that is fruitful and fulfilling. And with that knowledge, may we yield to Your intention by trusting in Your direction.

May we understand that You desire for us to honor one another as brothers and sisters, together, Your own children. And with that understanding, may we obey Your commandments to love one another, trusting in Your perfect will for Your people.

Thus submitting ourselves to You, obeying Your law, and trusting in Your grace plan, may we live our lives that they would reflect the selfless love You have shown and with which You uphold us daily.

We pray that You would be pleased with our efforts and that Your name be glorified this day and always.

It is in Your loving 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 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 PRO TEMPORE.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests

for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TRUMP AID TO UKRAINE

(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, history indicates President Donald Trump would have prevented the invasion of Ukraine by war criminal Putin as part of the Putin scheme to resurrect the failed Soviet Union by annexing Belarus, occupying Moldova, invading Georgia and then Ukraine, supported by the Chinese Communist Party and the Iranian terrorists.

In his first term, Trump deterred mass murder by providing Javelin missiles to Ukraine, troops to Poland, and stopping Nord Stream 2 funding of the Putin war machine.

America has correctly provided \$185 billion to stop the mass murder by Putin. Funds have been monitored by 29 inspectors general with a Trump executive order resulting this week in a report of the most accountable aid ever for the people of Ukraine.

The vast majority of defense spending of Ukraine has been in the United States. With Trump encouragement, Europe has provided \$199 billion for Ukraine to successfully defend itself. As a percent of GDP, 19 European countries exceed the American GDP spent on Ukraine.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, revealing that Putin lies, insulting Trump with massive drone attacks Saturday and Sunday before the Monday phone call with Putin as Putin continues murdering civilians of Ukraine.

ANTOINETTE BROWN BLACKWELL

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the 200th anniversary of the birth of Antoinette Brown Blackwell, a trailblazer born in my district in Henrietta, New York, and the first woman ordained as a mainstream Protestant minister in the United States.

Antoinette dedicated her life to justice, equality and faith. She captivated audiences as a lecturer on women's rights and temperance and preached wherever she was welcome. In 1850, she proudly stood at the first National Women's Rights Convention.

Committed to voting rights, she lobbied President Theodore Roosevelt for suffrage and remained a steadfast advocate for women. At age 95, she cast her very first vote, proof her decades of advocacy helped transform our Nation.

She was a minister, a reformer, a writer, and, above all, a woman of