

concern about the Cookie Monster. Anytime you have “monster” in your name, the American people ought to be made aware of it, and you ought to be vitally concerned about what kind of habit this monster could create.

I couldn't believe it. Imagine, Mr. Speaker, for more than 50 years, they have been providing this kind of education, teaching kids how to read, write, and to inquire, but it was all code. This was part of leftwing wokeism. Regarding the Cookie Monster, that should have been obvious.

He said that a lot of people are wondering why the supreme Commander in Chief had been talking about Greenland, other invasions, and everything like this.

There is grave concern, and I asked ROSA DELAURO if she had heard about this. She is a known friend of Big Bird, and because of that relationship, she, obviously, along with others, is locked into this wokeism that has been plaguing the country.

I didn't even get into the relationship that JOE COURTNEY had with Bert and Ernie on the Armed Services Committee. However, Mr. Speaker, you can only imagine the job and the skill that our colleagues used on the other side to say that we have to end the public funding of this because of the great threat that this poses to our democracy.

How could we possibly let the Cookie Monster run rampant like this? Where was everybody? How did it take so long?

However, the supreme commander was able to figure it out, and his willing partners joined with him in making sure that “Sesame Street” was banned. I congratulate him. We are nominating him for Profiles in Courage.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 24 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. ROGERS of Alabama) at noon.

PRAYER

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

God of grace and peace, in Your mercy speak into our hearts this day with words of both challenge and encouragement, that we would be neither paralyzed by our pride nor stymied by our despair.

For You have commanded us to live in harmony with one another. This is a

hard directive to follow. In our hubris, we are inclined to do what is wise in our own sight, failing to appreciate the value of the opposing voice.

But in our hopelessness, we look for ways to undermine our adversaries, repaying their evil with our own.

Only with Your intervention can we choose to do what honors all people. Only by yielding to Your judgment can we give up our desire for vengeance.

Break into our inclinations for discord and teach us how to live in harmony. Teach us patience and humility that even here we could find ways toward a shared purpose, a purpose established in the peace to be found only in You.

In the unity 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 gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania 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.

HONORING JONATHAN NABAVI

(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, today, I proudly rise to honor former Penn State football player and Academic All-Big Ten honoree, Jonathan Nabavi, as he takes his next steps in his professional career.

As the son of Rosemary Nabavi and Dr. Abbey Nabavi, Jonathan spent his childhood growing up in beautiful State College, Pennsylvania, watching Penn State football games and learning the game. He didn't have to travel too far as he went on to play for the Nittany Lions at Beaver Stadium and graduated from Penn State in 2004. He then attended the George Washington University Law School, where he earned his degree and later developed a career here on Capitol Hill.

Jonathan's passion for one of America's most popular sports carried into

his professional life, supporting our largest sport, football in the NFL.

As Jonathan takes the next steps in his career, I wish him; his wife, Catherine; their two beautiful daughters, Layla and Eloise, the best of luck in the next chapter of his incredible career. We are Penn State.

CHILDREN IN TEXAS ARE GOING HUNGRY

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because there are children in Texas going hungry, and Governor Greg Abbott just made it worse.

This week, he vetoed \$60 million in State spending for a summer food program that would have helped feed children while school was out. With that one decision, he turned his back on our most vulnerable kids and walked away from \$450 million in Federal funding that could have helped struggling families across Texas.

Texas has the second-highest rate of food insecurity in the Nation. One in four children in our State face hunger. That is 25 percent of our children.

Let's be clear: How can you claim to be pro-life and then just let children starve?

To paraphrase Matthew: For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.

Our job is simple: Take care of our kids, feed the hungry, and lift up the families who need us most. I will never stop fighting for them, and I will always put people over politics.

BIG, BEAUTIFUL BILL IMPACT ON BORDER SECURITY

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Tennesseans I represent who overwhelmingly support President Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act. The bill delivers for the American people in many ways, not the least of which is border security.

Under the last administration, 1,504 Iranians were caught crossing the border illegally. Nearly half of them were released into the country. We still don't know how many of them were on the terrorist watch list. Let's think about that.

Last month, zero illegal immigrants were released into the U.S., compared to 62,000 a year ago in May.

Indeed, President Trump secured the border in record time, a master class in leadership, without a blank check from Congress.

Now, it is on the Senate to pass the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and give the President the resources he needs to keep the border secure. The bill will

fund more boots on the ground, more deportations, and the critical border wall.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MIKE ROTKIN

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the life and the legacy of Mike Rotkin.

Mike was a tireless public servant, a principled activist, and a beloved educator in Santa Cruz.

As a professor at UCSC, he inspired generations of students to give back to their communities. As a leader, he served five terms as mayor and nearly 25 years on the city council, more than anyone in the history of Santa Cruz. Yet Mike's impact cannot be measured in titles nor terms.

He stood on picket lines, marched for civil rights, fought to save libraries, protected our coastline, and never stopped showing up for our neighbors. He did it all with civility and hard work. He was a competitor, but always compassionate and considerate. If you disagreed with him, he was never confrontational. Instead, he took the high road, worked hard, and always found common ground.

I was proud to have not just his political support, but I was also so pleased that I could call Mike a personal friend. Although we in the Santa Cruz community are moved by his loss, I stand here today, just as we stand together in Santa Cruz, inspired to serve by the legacy and the spirit of Mike Rotkin.

SUPPORTING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

(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 today in strong support of the EMS Counts Act, a bipartisan, commonsense solution to a critical and longstanding oversight in how we value our first responders.

Prior to serving in Congress, I spent decades as a volunteer firefighter and EMT. I recognize and value the commitment these individuals have to their communities.

Currently, the Bureau of Labor Statistics fails to count firefighter EMTs and firefighter paramedics as part of the EMS workforce, which skews the data, masks staffing shortages, complicates funding decisions, and hinders emergency preparedness.

Correcting outdated classifications is important because without an accurate count of the number of EMTs, paramedics, and other emergency service providers, it creates a challenge to adequately meet the health and safety needs of our communities.

Accurate workforce data is not just numbers. It is the foundation for equitable funding, targeted training, disaster responsiveness, and enhanced workplace safety. It empowers us to stand behind the men and women who respond to more than 22 million emergencies each year.

Mr. Speaker, passing the EMS Counts Act is a decisive step toward recognizing and strengthening this indispensable part of our public safety infrastructure. I urge my colleagues to join me in support.

HIGHLIGHTING THE VOICES OF OUR LOCAL FARMERS

(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 highlight the voices of our local farmers.

During a tour of Brown Family Farms and Produce, we met with fourth-generation farmer Patrick Brown, former United States Representative Eva Clayton, a group of local farmers, agricultural leaders, and advocates to discuss the future of farming in eastern North Carolina.

Brown Family Farms was established in 1865 and is a family-run operation rooted in rich tradition and innovation.

During the tour, we discussed the challenges farmers are facing and the importance of passing the farm bill. Our farmers deserve to be heard. Their voices must guide us to meet the needs of the American people.

WE NEED NUCLEAR POWER

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, nuclear power is almost an untapped source from what it could be in this country. It is just under 20 percent of the power grid. Yet, when we are talking about trying to eliminate CO₂ to get our numbers down from 0.04 percent of CO₂, nuclear power presents one of the best ways we can accomplish that. Nuclear power also has a baseload power that you can rely on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week instead of waiting for the Sun to come up or for the wind to blow.

It is, indeed, something that needs to be embraced much more, but we all have other things to do. In just a couple years, imported uranium from Russia is going to be cut off. Therefore, 20 percent of our uranium stocks are going to go down when it is no longer being imported from Russia.

What does that mean for us? We need to get to mining in this country again. We need to produce it here in the USA. We need to get cracking on making uranium a useable part of our power grid because power is going to increase in its demand with data centers and

with California trying to electrify everything. We will need a heck of a lot more power, and nuclear power is going to be a very important component for baseload reliable power to do so.

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I recognize Caribbean American Heritage Month, celebrating the culture, contributions, and history of Caribbean Americans in Michigan's 12th Congressional District and across the country.

Caribbean American Heritage Month, first recognized in 2005, was established after years of global efforts to uplift our Caribbean-American neighbors. Their vibrant culture and contributions to our country and throughout the 12th Congressional District has uplifted many of our communities.

The Caribbean communities in northwest Detroit, as well as in the city of Inkster and throughout western Wayne and Oakland County, have created powerful legacies through food, beauty businesses, fresh markets, and nonprofits working to care for our families and new immigrants.

Caribbean Community Services in my district, a nonprofit organization, has done an outstanding job in uplifting Caribbean history. Through their engaging events, Mr. Speaker, they have celebrated the rich cultural heritage of the Caribbean and its significant impact on our communities. Please join me in ensuring that our Caribbean-American neighbors throughout our country are recognized as we celebrate this month.

RECOGNIZING WTOC-TV IN SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding team from Savannah, Georgia, the dedicated staff of WTOC-TV and congratulate them on their recent Emmy Award win at the 2025 Southeast Emmy Awards.

This remarkable team was honored with the award for best morning newscast in a smaller market, recognizing their exceptional coverage of Savannah's 200th Saint Patrick's Day celebration, a signature event in the city's history and culture.

WTOC-TV represents the very best in local journalism, combining heart, hustle, and hometown pride. Covering Savannah's Saint Patrick's Day is no small task. It is an all-hands-on-deck event that calls for early mornings, late nights, and unwavering dedication.

Everyone involved in that broadcast played a vital role. From producers and anchors to editors, photographers, and