

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LOUISE
KRONHOLM

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning, first and foremost, to pay tribute to Louise Kronholm.

Mr. Speaker, when you are in Congress, oftentimes you are unable to be home for wakes and funeral services. Louise Kronholm was the daughter of the legendary John Bailey. John Bailey was the chairman of the Democratic Party in Connecticut. He was the national chairman of the Democratic Party in 1960 when we elected the first Catholic President of the United States, John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

The Bailey and Kennedy families were extraordinarily close, and Barbara Kennelly, Louise's sister, was the Congresswoman from the First District in Connecticut whom I succeeded.

Our hearts and our thoughts and prayers are with them today as they mourn and bury their beloved Louise Kronholm, John Bailey's daughter and Barbara Kennelly's sister.

RECOGNIZING PRATT & WHITNEY AIRCRAFT

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I also rise today to recognize Pratt & Whitney aircraft in my hometown of East Hartford, Connecticut.

July 22, 1925, yesterday, marked the 100th birthday and anniversary of Pratt & Whitney aircraft. Pratt & Whitney builds the most dependable engines. They have led the aerospace industry in this country and are the greatest manufacturing force in the world. They are located in East Hartford and in Middletown, Connecticut.

My father and mother both worked there. My mother worked there during the Second World War. She had just gotten out of high school. My mother was 17 years old. She had been in the National Honor Society, and was recruited by Pratt & Whitney to help take down the details, information, and categorizing of parts, et cetera, which was desperately needed.

My father went off to war, and when he came home, he worked there. My brothers have worked at Pratt & Whitney.

In 1925, East Hartford was an agricultural community, and overnight it became the leading manufacturer of airplanes and aircraft and now aerospace.

We salute Pratt & Whitney aircraft.

When my father would go to work, we would say: Dad, are you going to work?

He said: Yeah.

I said: What do you do?

He said: We keep the eagle flying.

The symbol of Pratt & Whitney aircraft is the bald eagle in flight, and underneath it, it says: "Dependable engines."

That was true in 1925, and it is true today.

I am proud to be part of the F-35 Caucus and to understand that not only is

it important to America, but it is also important to our allies all across the globe who still depend on Pratt & Whitney and their production of the most dependable aircraft engines ever assembled.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the resolution introduced by Governor Lamont of the State of Connecticut recognizing this 100-year anniversary celebration of Pratt & Whitney aircraft.

EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION

Whereas, 2025 marks the 100th anniversary of Pratt & Whitney, founded in 1925 by Frederick Rentschler, whose vision revolutionized aviation with the creation of the dependable air-cooled Wasp engine; and

Whereas, Pratt & Whitney, headquartered in East Hartford, Connecticut, has since become a global leader in the design, manufacture, and service of aircraft engines and auxiliary power units for commercial, military, business aircraft, helicopters; and

Whereas, Pratt & Whitney has contributed to every major advancement in powered flight over the past century, helping drive innovation, support national defense, and enable safe, efficient air travel around the world; and

Whereas, for 100 years, the people of Connecticut have been at the heart of Pratt & Whitney's success—engineers, technicians, veterans, and countless other skilled employees whose dedication and ingenuity continue to power the future of aviation; and

Whereas, the company's continued investment in workforce development, manufacturing, sustainability, and community partnerships has strengthened Connecticut's economy and aerospace leadership; and

Whereas, the State of Connecticut proudly celebrates the achievements and legacy of Pratt & Whitney, recognizing a century of excellence in engineering, innovation, and public service;

Now, Therefore, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby proclaim July 20 through July 26, 2025 as Pratt & Whitney 100th Anniversary Week in the State of Connecticut and encourage all citizens to join in honoring this iconic company's extraordinary contributions to our state, our nation, and the world.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of Connecticut to be affixed this 25th day of July, 2025.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I also include in the RECORD an op-ed piece that was presented in the Hartford Courant by Pratt & Whitney President Shane Eddy, again, talking about that great workforce over this past 100 years and their dedication then, now, and well into the future.

This op-ed ran in the Hartford Courant July 22nd:

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF AVIATION INNOVATION—AND INVESTING IN CONNECTICUT'S FUTURE

(By Shane Eddy, President, Pratt & Whitney)

In 1925, an engineer named Frederick Rentschler founded Pratt & Whitney in Hartford with an idea for an air-cooled radial engine that would revolutionize American aviation. Rentschler was driven by an unwavering belief that "the best airplane could only be designed as the best engine" and a powerful vision for dependable propulsion to connect people, grow economies, and defend freedom.

His first creation, the R-1340 Wasp, became an engineering landmark—setting a new standard in performance and reliability over the liquid cooled engines of the era. It also marked the beginning of an enduring legacy of safety, innovation and Dependable Engines forged right here in Connecticut by generations of employees, who have quite literally shaped the world we live in.

Over the past century, the skilled men and women of Pratt & Whitney have designed, built and supported products that have powered more than 500 different aircraft types, achieving many commercial and military aviation milestones. We powered the first major commercial air travel in the 1930s, provided more than half the total horsepower for Allied aircraft during World War II, and led the transition of commercial air travel into the jet age in the late 1950s—among countless other examples.

Today, our products power everything from the most advanced fight aircraft, such as the F135 engine for the F-35, to the GTF engine for most fuel-efficient narrowbody commercial jets. Both of these marquee products are built in Middletown, with critical parts produced in East Hartford as well as suppliers located across the state.

The impact of our work extends far beyond Connecticut's borders. Our global team is spread across more than 40 major sites worldwide—including locations in Canada, Poland as well as Singapore—and plays an important role in the design, manufacture and support of our current and future engine programs. The dedication and expertise of our global workforce are at the heart of our success.

As we've grown from a single site in Hartford to a global propulsion leader with 45,000 employees and more than 90,000 engines in service worldwide, Connecticut has and will continue to be our home—just as it's been for the past 100 years. That commitment is reflected in the significant investments we've made in our facilities, our workforce, and our community here in the state.

Looking ahead, Pratt & Whitney is well positioned to shape the future of flight for the next 100 years—with Connecticut's industrial base leading the way. For example, the new GTF Advantage engine for the Airbus A320neo was recently certified by the Federal Aviation Administration and will begin delivering soon. Additionally, we are growing the capability of the F135 with the development of our Engine Core Upgrade to ensure the F-35 fighter remains ahead of threats for years to come. In partnership with our parent company RTX, we are also actively developing technologies such as hybrid-electric to secure positions on the next generation of platforms.

The future for Pratt & Whitney is exciting and incredibly bright—and will be powered by the talented and dedicated men and women at our sites in Middletown and East Hartford, along with the approximately 100 suppliers across the state that support our engine programs.

Connecticut's industrial base is a national asset, producing advanced commercial and military technology at scale that no other country can match. But it's also fragile, and it's imperative that we keep the conditions strong, so it continues to thrive. That includes having a stable and predictable business climate so companies can invest for the long-term and a robust talent development ecosystem that identifies and trains the next generation of aerospace talent. While Connecticut's leaders have made significant progress on both fronts, there is still more work to do to grow and protect the state's industrial base for generations to come.

To our employees, suppliers, partners, and neighbors across the state—thank you for

helping make Pratt & Whitney what it is today. Let's shape the next century of flight, together.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, the eagle will keep flying because they have the most dependable workforce and build the most dependable engines ever assembled in the world. I am proud to have been born and raised in East Hartford, the home and the start of Pratt & Whitney aircraft, the engine company that makes the most dependable engines in the world.

HONORING CHUCK CONNER

(Mr. BAIRD of Indiana was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chuck Conner who officially retired on Monday, July 14, after serving as a national agriculture leader since 1997.

A Benton County native and graduate of Purdue University, Chuck Conner served as the president and CEO of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives for over 16 years. From 1997 to 2001, he served as president of the Corn Refiners Association.

He also has a storied career in public service as Deputy Secretary and Acting Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture under President George W. Bush.

Chuck Conner continued his public service as an adviser to U.S. Senator Richard Lugar from Indiana for 17 years.

We are grateful for his decades of service and work to benefit our great agricultural industry. I wish him all the best as he embarks on retirement.

□ 1150

HONORING KENT AND ISABELLA CHISM

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kent and Isabella Chism, two outstanding Hoosiers.

Kent is a fifth-generation family farmer in Indiana who focuses on growing corn and soybeans. His wife, Isabella, currently serves as the American Farm Bureau Federation's Women's Leadership Committee chair, and is the former second vice president of the Indiana Farm Bureau.

The Chisms are internationally recognized for their hard work and dedication to promoting America's great agricultural industry. Their family farm has also been a home for workshops, farm visits, and open houses. The Chisms recently received the 2025 Indiana Master Farmers award for their work advocating for agriculture.

Indiana's agricultural industry is better off thanks to the Chisms, who have used their experiences to be prominent voices for agriculture at the State, local, and national levels. I am grateful for their work that has certainly benefited Indiana and our farmers.

AMERICAN ENERGY IS DOMINANT AGAIN

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss how the One Big Beautiful

Bill Act makes American energy dominant again by resuming leasing for domestic energy production. This includes onshore and offshore oil and gas leases as well as coal leases.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act strengthens grid reliability and invests in building key energy and critical minerals infrastructure through the Energy Dominance Financing program.

This legislation also finally repeals the Green New Deal subsidies from the Democrats' so-called Inflation Reduction Act, such as the tax credit giveaway for expensive, unreliable electric vehicles.

This historic bill also restores our energy security by starting to refill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which was drained under the previous administration. This big, beautiful bill is a historic win for America's great energy sector that will help reduce energy costs for hardworking families in my district and across the Nation.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Richard Kunst, St. James Catholic Church, Duluth, Minnesota, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we offer You thanks in giving our Nation the opportunity to self-govern and self-legislate, knowing that all power is a sharing in Your power and also recognizing that You have blessed the United States of America in a way that other peoples can only long for.

May our philosophical and political differences serve only to strengthen who we are as a people rather than cause division and hatred.

We pray for protection of all Members of this body and their staffs that they may continue to carry out the will of the people who elected them.

Finally, for allowing us to enter into our 250th year as a nation, we give thanks to You, Heavenly Father, for all that You have blessed us with. May those blessings continue for many years, and may we, Your people, always be fully aware that You and no other entity are the source of these gifts.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's pro-

ceedings 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 gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HARRIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HARRIS of North 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND RICHARD KUNST

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to have my hometown priest open up the House of Representatives this morning, Father Richard Kunst.

Father Richard Kunst has been a priest in the diocese in and around Duluth for 27 years. He is a faithful, faithful servant of our Lord, Jesus Christ, as reflected by his homilies on a daily basis.

Not only is Father Richard Kunst a great friend to our family but to the Catholic family in and around Duluth, Minnesota.

I thank him for traveling all this way from Duluth, Minnesota, to our Nation's Capital to open up the House prayer this morning.

I am truly honored by his opening prayer.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ferrari, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1316. An act to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 relating to licensing transparency.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARIDOPOLOS). The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING CHASE CHILDERS

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

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero, a man who embodied and exemplified the very best of public service and selfless service, Mr. Chase Childers, a husband, father of three, former police officer, and professional baseball player.