

lend a hand to those in need. He had a bright future ahead of him filled with dreams and aspirations that he was determined to achieve.

Beyond his many accomplishments, Sam was a charismatic and intelligent young man who loved his fiancée, Lydia Coles; flying; his family; and the Lord. His passing leaves an unimaginable void in the lives of those who have loved him, but his memory will forever remain in their hearts.

The Richmond Hill community has come together to mourn and honor his life, a testament to the impact he had on so many.

We extend our deepest condolences to his family, to his fiancée, and to his loved ones. May they find comfort in the lasting memories of his life and his legacy.

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 10 o'clock and 33 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. DESJARLAIS) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Show us Your unfailing love, O Lord, and grant us Your deliverance. For we find ourselves in times of turmoil and tension, disagreements and dissension. But if we can open our hearts to receive Your life-changing mercy and experience Your soul-penetrating grace, we will be redeemed from our own discord, restored to common purpose and mutual respect.

Let us listen that we will hear what You speak. When You pronounce health in our afflictions, may we receive it. When You promise peace to Your people, may we live it. When we walk to the right or to the left, may our ears hear Your word behind us, saying, "This is the way. Walk in it."

The Word of the Lord is alive and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword. The voice of the Lord is over the waters. The glory of God is heard in the thunder over many waters. Lord, pierce our soul and spirit, our joints and marrow, and discern our thoughts and the intentions of our hearts. Then may we in this place hear and heed Your Word.

It is on the foundation of this word we stand, and 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 gentleman from California (Mr. WHITESIDES) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WHITESIDES 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 THE LIFE OF REPRESENTATIVE MARTIN GRABER

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today with a heavy heart to honor the life and legacy of a dear friend, a true servant of our State, and an extraordinary public servant, Representative Martin Graber. His unexpected passing leaves a void that cannot be filled.

For all who knew him, Martin was more than a colleague. He was a friend, mentor, and dedicated leader. A proud veteran with 32 years of service in the Iowa National Guard and a distinguished representative of Iowa House District 100, Martin was a man of integrity, always putting the people of southeast Iowa first. His commitment to faith, community, and service will never be forgotten.

To his beloved wife, Coni, their daughters and granddaughters, his entire family, and the rodeo family, we extend our deepest condolences. Martin's genuine care and unwavering dedication to those he served left an indelible mark on all of us.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless his memory, and may we continue to honor his spirit of service as we move forward.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO LOCAL FOOD IN NORTH CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, Growing Places, an imaginative nonprofit based in Leominster, Massachusetts, is

leading a new effort in our region to improve access to local fruits and vegetables. They have established a local food processing center that takes raw produce, items like old butternut squash, potatoes, apples, carrots, and cauliflower, and peels, chops, and packages it into an easy-to-consume form.

When I visited, we peeled and cubed local squash for schools and hospitals that could be roasted or easily turned into soup. This processing center helps farmers more easily take the nutritious food that they grow to market. It helps institutions purchase more local food because they often don't have the equipment or resources to prepare the raw produce onsite. It improves access to local produce for families at school, work, and home through their produce delivery program.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the incredible Ayn Yeagle and the entire Growing Places team for their work to improve our local food system, make us all healthier, and end hunger now.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK

(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 National School Counseling Week.

Since its establishment by the American School Counselor Association, National School Counseling Week has highlighted these professionals' essential role in shaping the future. From helping students navigate academic challenges to providing critical support for their mental well-being, school counselors are instrumental in ensuring that every child has the tools they need to thrive.

We all know that a student's success isn't just measured in grades or test scores. It is also reflected in their confidence, resilience, and ability to handle life's challenges. Additionally, school counselors provide critical information to students on all options available to them for their careers, including successful pathways through career and technical education.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the school counselors who dedicate their lives to this mission. They are a steady source of guidance for students who need it most. Because of their dedication, we are building stronger schools, healthier communities, and a brighter future for the next generation.

Mr. Speaker, let's continue to invest in our students' well-being and ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

PROTECTING AGAINST EXTREME GOVERNMENT OVERREACH

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

Mr. WHITESIDES. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a minute to talk about the events of this week and to rise on behalf of law enforcement in this country.

I know that people across my district and across the country are deeply concerned about the personal data being exposed in an act of extreme government overreach. We are doing everything we can to put a stop to it. We are pursuing legislation that will stop it, and we will also work on legal avenues to prevent this and other unlawful executive actions taken by this administration.

I also want to take a moment to talk about the recent attacks against the FBI and brave law enforcement officials who defended our Capitol on January 6 from a violent insurrection.

In just the past 2 weeks, violent criminals were released from prison and have been making direct threats against public safety officers who helped put them away. These law enforcement officers have now been asked to step away from their actual jobs to take surveys and loyalty tests to the current President.

That is not how we should treat our law enforcement, our FBI, or anyone who has put their own safety at risk to protect all of us. We must all step up in this historic moment to be on the record for law enforcement.

ADDRESSING FENTANYL CRISIS

(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, the issue of fentanyl is not getting any better in this country. We hear more and more stories about yet another big cache of it being found, enough to kill millions of Americans.

Thankfully, President Trump is doing what needs to be done to control our border and make sure that Mexico and Canada are stepping up to do their part.

What we have available to us is the HALT Fentanyl Act, critical legislation to keep fentanyl-related substances permanently classified as schedule I drugs so law enforcement has an extra tool to help stop this poison from flooding into our country.

Right now, fentanyl is the leading cause of deaths for Americans aged 18 to 45. I will say that again: The leading cause of deaths for Americans aged 18 to 45 is the fentanyl coming across our border. It is being disguised as prescription pills. One mistake or one touch can be fatal.

This crisis has been fueled by years of the Biden administration's open-border policies. They are made in Mexico with chemicals from China, and traffickers are bringing them across the border with little resistance, at least until now.

Mr. Speaker, if Congress does not act, the schedule I classification will

expire, making it harder for law enforcement to crack down on traffickers and stop these deadly drugs. The House needs to pass this bill immediately to get it done.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF VERONICA LYNN HORN

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

Ms. McDONALD RIVET. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Veronica Lynn Horn of Frankenmuth, Michigan.

Throughout her life, Veronica fought ferociously to make mid-Michigan a better place to work, start a business, and raise a family.

Veronica's leadership quite literally shaped communities like Saginaw County. She served in two congressional offices, worked for some of the biggest job creators in our district, was the president and CEO of the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce, and worked with countless nonprofits across the region.

As I entered the State senate, I was lucky to count Veronica and her husband, Ken, as allies in the fight for Saginaw County. Veronica would work with anyone, regardless of political affiliation, to find common ground and attack a problem together.

Mr. Speaker, may Veronica's memory serve as a shining example of commitment to faith, family, and community.

PROMOTING DEMOCRACY IN TUNISIA

(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, Tunisia's inspiring Arab Spring revolution in 2011 made the country a symbol of courageous democratic patriots. Sadly, in 2021, Tunisia's dictator, Kais Saied, sabotaged the successful democracy.

Tunisia has been corrupted into a dictatorship enforced by rule of gun. The Constitution and elected parliament are suspended. In rigged elections last October, dictator Saied fabricated over 90 percent of the votes, jailed opponents and parliament members, including the former Prime Minister and parliament speaker who were illegally sentenced today, and coordinated with war criminal Putin, the Chinese Communist Party, and the terrorist regime in Tehran.

Aid to Tunisia should be suspended and sanctions imposed until democracy is restored. I urge support for the Tunisian Democracy Restoration Act.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more imminent 9/11 attacks, as warned by the FBI.

Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength and fighting fentanyl.

Mr. Speaker, we welcome Prime Minister Netanyahu to America. We appreciate his success for Middle East peace and prosperity, deterring a nuclear Iran.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION IS UNDERMINING FOUNDATION OF OUR COUNTRY

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a former prosecutor and a Republican political appointee in the Bush administration's Justice Department. I know the law. All I see is the President and Elon Musk's unelected cabal flagrantly breaking the law.

Last week, the Trump administration recklessly issued and then rescinded a memo freezing taxpayer funds lawfully appropriated by Congress to local agencies, nonprofits, and school districts. This week, Musk agents demanded access to the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, overriding laws and regulations and accessing the most sensitive personal information of every American.

Every promise to lower costs and put the working and middle class first was a lie. The reckless quest to sell out the American people and silence opposition jeopardizes our national security and undermines the very foundation of our country.

Mr. Speaker, Project 2025 is the playbook; fear is the weapon; and greed is the point.

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

HONORING BREVARD COUNTY SHERIFF WAYNE IVEY

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

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and extend my gratitude to Brevard County Sheriff Wayne Ivey and the dedicated men and women of the sheriff's department for their unwavering commitment to protecting our community.

Just last week, I had the opportunity to sit down with Sheriff Ivey and actually go on a ride-along and see the challenges they face each and every day. That day, deputies actually arrested a man who was found to be in possession of enough fentanyl to kill 20,000 people.

This dangerous reality that our law enforcement officers confront every day is due to the failures of the prior administration to secure our border. The deadly impact of fentanyl has devastated communities across America,