

HONORING BRADLEY DAVID SCHENCK

(Mrs. FISCHBACH of Minnesota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize and honor the life and legacy of Bradley Schenck, a devoted husband, father, marine, master sergeant in the Air National Guard, and law enforcement officer.

Brad served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps and the Air National Guard and dedicated 16 years to law enforcement, including a decade on the Red River Valley SWAT Team. His colleagues knew him for his courage, integrity, and commitment to keeping his community safe.

Nine years ago, Brad faced brain cancer with extraordinary resilience. He turned his struggle into inspiration, sharing his journey in his memoir "No Easy Way Out."

Above all, Brad was a family man. He leaves behind his wife, Sara; their three children, Colby, Bentley, and Mackenzie; his parents and siblings; and his entire military and law enforcement families who carry on his legacy of strength and hope.

Brad's life was defined by service, resilience, and joy. I honor his memory today and extend my deepest condolences to his family, friends, and community.

HONORING ED DE LA HUNT

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ed De La Hunt, a pioneering broadcaster whose voice and vision shaped northern Minnesota for nearly seven decades.

Ed and his wife, Carol, founded KPRM Radio in Park Rapids in 1962. His familiar voice on the program "Coffee Time" and his Sunday night music shows became part of daily life for countless listeners.

Beyond the microphone, Ed was an engineer, mentor, and builder. He trained and inspired generations of broadcasters. His dedication to local radio, his commitment to technical excellence, and his belief in the power of community storytelling left an incredible mark on Minnesota broadcasting. Ed leaves behind a legacy of service through the airways and through his family.

Today, I honor his career and the joy he brought to listeners across Minnesota.

CONGRATULATING HAWLEY NUGGETS GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Hawley girls' volleyball team on being the 2025 AA State champions.

The Nuggets came back from a two-set deficit to win 3-2. This year's win sealed back-to-back championships for this team.

On behalf of the Seventh District of Minnesota, I congratulate them and am very proud of this team.

RECOGNIZING MARSHALL GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Marshall

girls' volleyball team on being the 2025 AAA State champions.

This is Marshall's 10th championship, the most in State history, and the first program in Minnesota to win double-digit championships.

I congratulate the players and coaches on this huge accomplishment.

□ 1100

STANDING WITH TRUTH AND JUSTICE

(Ms. STANSBURY of New Mexico was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand with truth and justice, to stand with every survivor of sexual assault, and to demand the release of the Epstein files now. I say to the one man on planet Earth who has the power to do so, Mr. President, it is time to release the files.

Today, we vote on a resolution to release these files, but we have already subpoenaed them, and the President has refused to comply, engaged in a monthslong coverup right before our very eyes, threatening and pressuring Members of Congress, and even calling his own allies traitors, and this legislation a hostile act.

Well, Mr. President, the irony is not lost on us that such desperate attempts to evade accountability are at the heart of the matter itself, as the Epstein case is, at its core—its dirty, rotten core—about rich and powerful men who abuse the system to avoid accountability and who engaged in unspeakable crimes and believed that they could do anything to any woman or any little girl and get away with it because they knew their friends in powerful places would protect them or they could simply buy their way out of the justice system.

Well, we are here today to stand up with the survivors and say: Time is up. We demand accountability.

Now, it is also not lost on me that I am standing in this Chamber, in this seat of power from which wars have been launched and the fates of millions have hung, a Chamber where in the nearly 250 years of this great Nation, only 3 percent of the people who have ever stood here on this floor have been women. That is why we must stand up, why we must demand accountability, why we are not saying "pretty please." We are engaged in a criminal investigation of criminal behavior in a justice system that has failed women and girls who were raped and who were abused and of the powerful people who never were held to account.

We are not, Mr. President, as you have asked us, just going to move on. We will continue to pursue justice to the end.

Let me tell you about this investigation, about the evidence that has come in just in the last week from documents produced by the Epstein estate, including over 1,600 mentions of you,

Mr. President. There are emails, court documents, and statements about a lawsuit by a woman accusing Donald Trump of rape at Jeffrey Epstein's house, whether it happened or not. There is a sexual assault suit against Epstein in which Donald Trump appears to have been subpoenaed, served, and deposed. There are sworn statements and court documents from a 16-year-old who was recruited at Mar-a-Lago and then raped and groomed, not only by Jeffrey Epstein, but his rich and powerful friends.

There were statements from Epstein himself, who said Trump knew about the girls. In fact, Trump, by his own admission, knew that Epstein and Maxwell were recruiting young girls from Mar-a-Lago. There were also statements that Trump was at Epstein's house, including with girls, in which Epstein bragged about having pictures and passing a woman to Trump, and noted that Trump spent hours with one of the victims and was the "dog that hasn't barked."

These files also include financial transactions between Epstein and Trump. There are discussions of financial affairs, potential money laundering, including in real estate deals. There was also an admission by Jeffrey Epstein himself that he was facing a mandatory minimum of 10 years in Federal prison, yet the DOJ failed to prosecute him. There are statements by Epstein that he believes that Donald Trump was involved in the case.

I say to the American people: There is a mountain of evidence in front of your very eyes. Believe your eyes. It is right there in front of us.

Mr. President, let me say this to you: You can run, but you cannot hide because the survivors know what happened.

To every woman and little girl who has wept or felt shame or believed that you were alone or that the system had failed you, to every parent who has feared the absolute worst, and to every survivor who believed the system was rigged against them, know that you are not alone. We see you. We are fighting for you, and we will not stop.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair rather than a perceived viewing audience and to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

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 11 o'clock and 4 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. MORAN) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Almighty Lord, You who shakes the heavens and causes the Earth to tremble, You who causes the sea to roar and the dry land to shudder, shake us from our falseness and rekindle our desire to love and to serve You in faithfulness and truth.

You own all that we value. You own the silver and the gold, the cravings of our hearts, and the successes we achieve: all those things that we are inclined to place before our allegiance to You and deem more important than our obligation to steward this abundant wealth for the benefit of Your creation.

Fill this place with Your spirit. With the might of Your Word, speak to us of Your power and purpose, that there will be no doubt in our minds that You alone are our desire. Everything we want, that we need, and that we are given has been given by Your hand, that we would turn our hearts and minds to You and dedicate our efforts to ensure that all the people we serve—Your people—would have the assurance of Your provision, even when the world around them trembles and the upheaval of these times threatens their well-being.

Lord of the whole Earth, sea, and sky, to You may we give our whole selves, that what we do on this day would reveal Your power and provision for the children of Your creation, the very people You have entrusted to our care.

In Your mighty 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 gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TLAIB 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.

SCHUMER SHUTDOWN HURT AMERICANS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Schumer shutdown was proven irresponsible, achieving nothing and hurting American families.

Last week, I joined with Republican colleagues in voting to open the government, as Republicans originally voted in September to keep it open.

Now that the 43-day Democrat shutdown, the longest in history, is over, the government can get back to work on behalf of the American people.

The Democrat shutdown caused the loss of paychecks, destroyed jobs, delayed services to our military, and included the inconvenience of delayed and canceled flights worldwide.

I am grateful for the leadership of President Donald Trump and Speaker MIKE JOHNSON for promoting families first over failed political stunts.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstituting peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting Trump and yesterday attacking a Turkish-flagged tanker, causing evacuation in Romania, both NATO allies that we so value.

Our prayers for the recovery of South Carolina native Jesse Jackson.

EPSTEIN REMARKS

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, Republicans have to decide if they are going to protect pedophiles or seek justice for survivors of sex trafficking and abuse.

I sat across from survivors—some of them were as young as 13 and 14 at the time—and they told us over and over again to follow the money.

The Treasury Department, Mr. Speaker, is sitting on suspicious activity reports on Epstein's financial network, detailing thousands of transactions totaling more than \$1.5 billion. In fact, J.P. Morgan knew about these suspicious transactions for more than a decade. He had 134 accounts with J.P. Morgan, but they chose to look the other way and continue to profit.

The corrupt administration would rather protect the rich and powerful, their billionaire donors, and stop the truth from coming out.

Survivors of this horrific and systematic sexual abuse deserve justice, and the public deserves to know the full truth.

Don't be fooled. President Trump has the power to release the full, unredacted files right now without congressional action and end the coverup today.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL RIC TRIMILLOS

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

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Ric Trimillos for his extraordinary dedication and service as Scoutmaster of Troop 66 in Colorado Springs.

For years, Ric has served as a mentor and a role model to the Scouts of Troop 66. His commitment to the principles of scouting has created a nurturing environment where Scouts are encouraged to grow into responsible, competent leaders.

Ric's ability to connect with youth, guide them through challenges, and celebrate their achievements is a testament to his deep compassion and unwavering dedication.

Under his guidance, Troop 66 has thrived. Ric has led countless campouts, service projects, and leadership training events, always with a focus on building resilience, teamwork, and respect.

His mentorship has helped many Scouts earn the rank of Eagle Scout and, more importantly, has instilled in them a lifelong commitment to service and integrity.

On behalf of all of those whose lives he has touched, I extend my deepest gratitude and heartfelt recognition.

END HUNGER NOW

(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, under Donald Trump, America is joining the ranks of other countries in all the wrong ways. Freedom House now lists us among nations where judges and prosecutors face political attacks.

Reporters Without Borders says that our press freedom has sunk to a historic low.

Now, Trump has crossed a line that no U.S. President ever dared cross: He withheld food assistance that Americans were legally entitled to, blocking nutrition benefits not because the country can't afford them but because he thinks it helps him politically.

In my work as co-chair of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, I have seen brutal regimes use food as a weapon and leaders starve their own people to hold on to power. I never ever thought I would see a U.S. President try to rip a page from the same playbook.

What a shameful moment in our history, and I will continue to fight to end hunger now.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN "HOOTY" ADAM

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

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished public servant from Hancock County, Mississippi, Brian "Hooty" Adam, who will retire on December 21, 2025, after more than four decades of serving his community.