

falling for miles. There was an anxiety as families and loved ones were waiting for the worst news. As the smoke cleared, we found out that we lost 14 of our neighbors.

Today, I want to honor those victims of the UPS plane crash.

Their names, including the crew on the plane: Captain Dana Diamond, Captain Richard Wartenberg, and First Officer Lee Truitt.

We also lost 11 people on the ground that day: Angela Anderson; Carlos Fernandez; Louisnes "Lou" Fedon and his 3-year-old granddaughter, Kimberly Asa, who was with him at the time; Trinadette "Trina" Chavez; Tony Crain; John Loucks; John Spray; Matthew Sweets; Ella Petty Whorton; and Megan Washburn.

Our prayers continue to be with all of them.

As tragic as this day was, we also saw the best in people in Louisville, and our first responders did not shy away from this. You can train for it, but you can't ever be ready for a tragedy like this. It was said of this inferno that it was hotter than anything you can imagine and raining oil, but our firefighters rushed into the scene.

The first on the scene was the Okolona Fire Department, but fire departments from all over joined them: the Louisville Fire Department, the Airport Authority Fire Department, the Shively Fire Department, the Anchorage-Middletown Fire, St. Matthews Fire, Fern Creek Fire, Jeffersontown Fire, Fairdale Fire, PRP Fire, Shepherdsville Fire, Zoneton Fire, and even Fayette County, Lexington Fire, came to assist.

Our police officers also rushed to the scene: Louisville Metro P.D.; the Airport Authority P.D.; Jefferson County Sheriff's Office; Audubon Park Police, who operate in the shadow of the airport daily; Middletown Police; St. Matthews Police; the University of Louisville Police; and Alcohol Beverage Control.

We also received EMS responders from Louisville Metro, Anchorage-Middletown, St. Matthews, Fern Creek, Jeffersontown, Okolona, PRP, and Bullitt County.

Among other first responders who immediately jumped into action were the Kentucky Air National Guard Fire and Emergency Services, the Kentucky Air National Guard 41st Civil Support Team, the Metropolitan Sewer District, the Louisville Metro Emergency Management System, American Synthetic Rubber Emergency Response, and the National Weather Service.

Our local and State partners also all came together. Mayor Craig Greenberg and his entire team from the Louisville Metro Government were incredible. Our Governor, Andy Beshear, and all the State emergency personnel rushed into action, including our Federal delegation, everyone.

It doesn't matter, Democrat or Republican, where you are from, everyone came together because this is what we

do in Louisville, and this is what we do in Kentucky. We come together. We help people. We help our neighbors when we see they are in need.

Long after the television cameras are gone and this story fades from the daily news, our community will still be hurting, but we will still be helping each other, lifting each other up, wrapping our arms around each other, there for each other today and every day going forward. That is what we do in Louisville, and that is how we help those impacted.

Mr. Speaker, I give praise for our first responders. I give prayers and love to everyone impacted.

HONORING DANIEL "POGO" POGORZELSKI

(Mrs. RAMIREZ of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life of Daniel "Pogo" Pogorzelski, a proud Polish-American uplifting his heritage, community, and the city that I love.

The son of Polish immigrants, Pogo's pride in his heritage and love for his community drive him to fight for a thriving, multiracial, and multicultural Chicago.

Because of his advocacy and his partnership, in Illinois, we recognize Milwaukee Avenue as the Polish Heritage Corridor to celebrate Polish culture, support a vibrant economic center, and keep communities together.

Across various roles, Pogo has demonstrated his commitment to seeing his community rise, including as executive director of Avondale's Chamber of Commerce, where he developed initiatives to attract visitors to the community and help generate revenue for local small businesses, or connecting Polish neighbors who speak English as a second language to resources that help them thrive.

Pogo is the embodiment of public service and commitment to diversity and unity.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, it is my honor to commend Daniel Pogorzelski, better known as Pogo, for his dedicated public service and advocacy, which reminds us that heritage is both a legacy and a force for change.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Pogo.

HONORING CAROLINA CARCHI

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carolina Carchi, an inspirational Latina who has gone above and beyond to help her "classmates"; "companeros de escuela" succeed.

Raised in West Humboldt Park by immigrant parents from Mexico and Ecuador, Carolina once again demonstrated her exceptional courage and perseverance as she was battling leukemia as a child.

As a teen, Carolina once again demonstrated her leadership when her high school faced severe staffing shortages. Due to those shortages, Carolina

stepped up to provide peer-to-peer education in algebra and chemistry. She designed lesson plans during free periods, printed materials at a local FedEx, and even used her own money to buy school supplies for her classmates.

In her senior year, Carolina served as a Chicago Board of Education's honorary student board member, advocating for more than 300,000 students across the district.

Carolina is now studying at Northwestern University, where she is pursuing a degree in teaching, something that she has some experience in already.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, it is my honor to commend Carolina Carchi for her perseverance and dedication to quality, culturally competent education that helps our Latino community break the glass ceilings.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Carolina.

HONORING PAUL LEVY

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Paul Levy, a Chicagoan who cultivated unique spaces for artists and entrepreneurs to strengthen partnerships, build community, and thrive.

Paul possessed the ability to see beauty and potential in overlooked, abandoned spaces and buildings. Paul used his skills, resources, and vision to rehabilitate and revive two notable industrial buildings in Chicago, the Bridgeport Art Center on the South Side and Rockwell on the River, in Illinois' Third Congressional District.

Each stands as a notable achievement, transforming industrial space into inviting, thriving, multidisciplinary hubs for artists and entrepreneurs working across boundaries and disciplines.

Rockwell on the River in Illinois' Third Congressional District transformed what was once a century-old, vacant tannery into a space to gather, eat, and celebrate. Each building is an ecosystem of art and a bridge between Chicago's industrial history and its creative future.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, it is my privilege to submit this commendation into the record to honor the creative legacy of Paul Levy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Paul, and may he rest in peace and power.

□ 1100

NUCLEAR TESTING OPPOSITION

(Ms. TITUS of Nevada was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my opposition to President Trump's announcement that the United States will resume explosive nuclear testing.

Nevada was the focal point of nuclear development during the Cold War. Over four decades, the Nevada Test Site, which is located just 100 miles north of Las Vegas, hosted over 900 nuclear

tests, more than any other place in the country. Throughout the 1950s, visible mushroom clouds often rose over the desert and could be seen in the distance by people who came to enjoy all Las Vegas had to offer.

These tests were conducted to better understand the powers and effects of nuclear weapons, and the site played a major role in shaping national and international policies involving nuclear testing and nonproliferation.

The radiation, however, given off by the more than 100 atmospheric tests had devastating impacts on those downwind. The fallout caused cancer and premature deaths for thousands across the Southwest. That is why earlier this year, I introduced the PRESUME Act, which would ensure that radiation-exposed veterans who had been exposed to this radiation would receive their rightful benefits from the VA.

In addition, the 800 underground tests sometimes vented, letting out radioactive contaminants into the air and the groundwater supply. These are problems we are still dealing with today. Radioactivity levels in the water are declining over time, but elements such as plutonium and uranium are likely to pose risks for thousands of years.

You may remember in 2020, the first Trump administration called for a resumption of nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site. This was in breach of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. Back then, in response to that, I led the charge to the FY21 NDAA process to ensure that nuclear testing would not be resurrected in the U.S., but “the more things change, the more they stay the same”; “plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose.”

On October 29, just this year, Trump announced that he is directing the Department of Defense to resume nuclear testing in a disastrous but not surprising policy reversal. This is because it is mentioned in Project 2025.

On page 399 of Project 2025, which is the blueprint for the Trump administration, you see a call for the rejection of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. This would not only allow nuclear testing here at home but will give the green light to countries around the world to resume and do the same.

The result would put us on a collision course of catastrophic proportions with Russia and China. It would undermine the entire arms control regime, and it would allow proliferation of these weapons into nonnuclear states. At the same time, it would, again, put the health of Nevadans in jeopardy.

In fact, we have already seen that Putin has directed his forces to prepare to resume nuclear testing. Just this week, The Washington Post reported that China is rapidly expanding and modernizing its infrastructure at the nuclear testing site in Xinjiang province.

There is no technical, national security, or political reason for the U.S. to

resume nuclear testing. At the test site, we already do groundbreaking experiments and simulations with our existing stockpile to make sure our arsenal is safe, secure, and reliable. All this is done without any explosion. It is a scientific experiment called subcritical and is far more helpful to understanding how the weapon will perform than setting off an explosion in the desert.

Our leadership on arms control and nonproliferation has clearly come to an end, and the world is becoming a more dangerous place. Note: For the first time ever, the U.S. was the only country to vote “no” on a recent U.N. resolution supporting the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. You know, not even North Korea voted “no” on this provision, so what kind of signal does that send?

Amidst all this nuclear testing saberrattling, the New START Treaty, which is the only remaining arms control agreement between the U.S. and Russia, is set to expire in just 77 days.

For these reasons, I have introduced the Renewing Efforts to Suspend Testing and Reinforce Arms Control Initiative Now, the RESTRAIN Act. This would prohibit the resumption of nuclear testing. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this and getting this passed before we begin another arms race.

CONGRATULATING ST. THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(Mr. GIMENEZ of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of St. Theresa Catholic School, a pillar of faith, education, and community in the heart of Coral Gables, Florida.

In 1925, the Sisters of St. Joseph opened a school with 70 students, planting the seed for one of south Florida’s most distinguished Catholic schools. In 1991, the Carmelite Sisters began administering and teaching, a mission that they continue today.

For a century, St. Theresa has remained true to its calling: faith formation, academic excellence, and service in a nurturing Christ-centered environment. Over the years, the school has grown, embraced innovation, and prepared generations of students to face the future while remaining rooted in their faith.

St. Theresa continues to shine as a beacon of excellence in Catholic education, with its enduring legacy carried forward by a community that fully embodies its mission. Congratulations to St. Theresa Catholic School on a century of service.

EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary achievements of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the third largest school

district in our Nation, serving more than 335,000 students.

Under the leadership of School Board Chair Mari Tere Rojas, Vice Chair Monica Colucci, and board members Roberto Alonso, Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Mary Blanco, Danny Espino, Dr. Steve Gallon, Joseph Geller, and Luisa Santos, along with Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jose Dotres, Miami-Dade has once again earned an A rating, the largest district in Florida to do so.

This success reflects the tireless work of our students, parents, teachers, administrators, and the entire workforce, and it remains a source of pride for our community.

In 2025, 99 percent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools earned school grades of A, B, or C, and the district achieved a record-breaking graduation rate of 95.2 percent.

Miami-Dade also received the prestigious 2024 Cognia School/Systems of Distinction award, and the district earned 59 Magnet Schools of Excellence Merit awards, and 32 Magnet Schools of Distinction awards.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools continue to lead the Nation with a total of 51 National Academy Foundation distinguished career academies and 3 model career academies, and numerous schools have been designated as National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence.

For the 41st consecutive year, the district was awarded the certificate of excellence in financial reporting by the Association of School Business Officials International.

These accomplishments and the strength of Miami-Dade County Public Schools’ educational programs in a safe and conducive environment reaffirms the district’s role in preparing students to thrive in the global and technological marketplace.

I am proud to celebrate their success and the bright future they are building for the next generation of Miami-Dade County residents.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o’clock and 7 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. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida) at noon.

PRAYER

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

God of all wisdom and power, justice and mercy, in faith we offer You our