

The Farragut Career Academy 16-inch softball team is an inspiring example of the pride and resilience that define Little Village.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate them. They have made us beyond proud.

HONORING KENT HAMILTON

(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 Mr. Kent Hamilton of Norman Park, who has been named Georgia's 2025 Farmer of the Year.

Mr. Hamilton serves as the chief executive officer of Southern Valley Fruit and Vegetable, a family-owned and family-operated business founded in 1987.

Under his leadership, Southern Valley has expanded to more than 8,500 cultivated acres across Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, and Mexico.

The company grows a variety of fresh vegetables, including green beans, peppers, squash, corn, and cucumbers, and employs hundreds of hardworking individuals who help bring quality produce to families across the country.

Mr. Hamilton began farming 37 years ago alongside his uncle and late brother, starting with cotton, peanuts, and tobacco before transitioning to vegetables to ensure year-round productivity.

Today, Southern Valley is a fully integrated operation that handles every step, from seed to shelf.

Kent's wife and their children each play vital roles in this thriving family business, carrying forward a proud legacy of faith, integrity, and hard work.

CELEBRATING ORANGE COUNTY BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate four Orange County schools named 2025 California Blue Ribbon Schools. The honorees include Oxford Academy, Troy High School, Orange Lutheran High, and Tustin Memorial.

These schools were selected for their exceptional academic performance or progress in closing the opportunity gap.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all the students, teachers, administrators, and staff who have worked very hard to make Orange County schools great places and the best places to learn.

□ 0910

RECOGNIZING 2025 SMALL COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR: RICO, COLORADO

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

Mr. HURD of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the town of Rico, Colorado, for being named the 2025 Small Community of the Year by the Economic Development Council of Colorado.

Rico, known by its town motto, A Slice of Paradise, is home to just under 300 residents and sits along the beautiful Dolores River, nestled among the San Juan Mountains. The town of Rico was established in 1880.

Originally a mining community, the area has become known throughout Colorado for its gorgeous scenery, its incredible outdoor recreation, and its unique tourist attractions.

This year's award honors Rico for excellence in both leadership and economic development. The town earned this distinction through its commitment to revitalizing critical infrastructure, including a new sewer system and reinvesting in community spaces like their town park. These efforts reflect the vision and determination of a community that takes pride in where they live and works hard to build a stronger future.

Rico exemplifies what it means to be a small-town community in western Colorado. Its commitment to progress and service will continue to enrich the lives of many Coloradans.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the town of Rico for this well-deserved recognition.

HONORING A.B. SWINDELL

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I pay special tribute to my friend, A.B. Swindell, who peacefully passed on October 23.

A proud son of eastern North Carolina, A.B. was an Army veteran, a 50-year mason, a lifelong outdoorsman, a talented storyteller, and a committed public servant.

He built a distinguished career as a beloved teacher and wrestling coach, served on the Oxford City Council, served as an assistant to Representative Tim Valentine, and served a decade in the North Carolina State Senate.

He was well known for not only his humor and grit but also his practical leadership, deep respect for education, his lapel pin, and unwavering advocacy for eastern North Carolina.

A.B. was devoted to his best friend and wife, Diane; his children, Russ, Walton, William Joseph; and grandchildren, who knew him as Pop.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to Diane. Regardless of all the talk of Ms. Frances, you know who he loved, and he was happy to enjoy life with you.

To his family: I am grateful to have known A.B., and we are fortunate for his remarkable life of service.

HONORING THOSE LOST IN WAUKESHA CHRISTMAS PARADE ATTACK

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

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the lives that were lost 4 years ago during the devastating attack on the Waukesha Christmas parade.

On November 21, 2021, Waukesha was enjoying its 58th annual Christmas parade, a time where the community joyfully comes together in celebration of the Christmas season.

Tragically, the parade was halted when an individual committed a senseless act of violence that took the lives of six people: Wilhelm Hospel, Virginia Sorenson, LeAnna Owen, Tamara Durand, Jane Kulich, and Jackson Sparks. He also injured over 60 others.

Today, I introduced a resolution honoring the memory of those who lost their lives on that fateful day and recognizing Waukesha's strength after the tragedy. Since the attack, I have been heartened by the resilience demonstrated by the community of Waukesha through a mural, statue, and soon-to-be-unveiled sculpture.

Waukesha has not only preserved the legacy of those who are no longer with us but also given the community hope as they recover.

HONORING THE LIVES OF JUSTIN REINARTS AND TABITHA TRESCOTT

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

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the lives of Justin Reinarts and Tabitha Trescott, two individuals whose lives were senselessly taken on November 2 in the close-knit community of Hanska, Minnesota.

Justin served 17 years with the Hanska Fire Department. He took great pride as a first responder, never giving a second thought to doing anything he could to help others.

At his funeral last week, seven area fire departments paid tribute to Justin, and scores of community members lined the streets to say good-bye.

Tabitha was a warm light in the lives of those who knew her. She is remembered by many for her steadfast belief in God's unconditional love, the driving force behind the love that she showed to others.

Hanska, a town of just a few hundred residents, has been shaken by this tragedy that has left our community heartbroken for the families of Justin and Tabitha, especially their children who are left to carry on without them.

I am honored here today to pay tribute to Justin and Tabitha, and may their lives and their contributions to southern Minnesota never be forgotten.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Ms. SHERRILL), the whole number of the House is 432.

DENOUNCING THE HORRORS OF
SOCIALISM

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 879, I call up the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 58) denouncing the horrors of socialism, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 879, the concurrent resolution is considered read.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 58

Whereas socialist ideology necessitates a concentration of power that has, time and time again, collapsed into communist regimes, totalitarian rule, and brutal dictatorships;

Whereas socialism has repeatedly led to famine and mass murders, and the killing of over 100,000,000 people worldwide;

Whereas many of the greatest crimes in history were committed by socialist ideologues, including Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong, Fidel Castro, Pol Pot, Kim Jong Il, Kim Jong Un, Daniel Ortega, Hugo Chavez, and Nicolás Maduro;

Whereas tens of millions died in the Bolshevik Revolution, at least 10,000,000 people were sent to the gulags in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and millions more starved in the Terror-Famine (Holodomor) in Ukraine;

Whereas between 15,000,000 and 55,000,000 people starved to death in the wake of famine and devastation caused by the Great Leap Forward in China;

Whereas the socialist experiment in Cambodia led to the killing fields in which over a million people were gruesomely murdered;

Whereas up to 3,500,000 people have starved in North Korea, dividing a land of freedom from a land of destitution;

Whereas the Castro regime in Cuba expropriated the land of Cuban farmers and the businesses of Cuban entrepreneurs, stealing their possessions and their livelihoods, and exiling millions with nothing but the clothes on their backs;

Whereas the implementation of socialism in Venezuela has turned a once-prosperous country into a failed State with the highest rate of inflation in the world;

Whereas President Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, wrote, "To take from one, because it is thought that his own industry and that of his fathers has acquired too much, in order to spare to others, who, or whose fathers have not exercised equal industry and skill, is to violate arbitrarily the first principle of association, the guarantee to every one of a free exercise of his industry, and the fruits acquired by it";

Whereas President James Madison, the "Father of the Constitution", wrote that it "is not a just government, nor is property secure under it, where the property which a man has in his personal safety and personal liberty, is violated by arbitrary seizures of

one class of citizens for the service of the rest"; and

Whereas the United States was founded on the belief in the sanctity of the individual, to which the collectivistic system of socialism in all of its forms is fundamentally and necessarily opposed: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress denounces socialism in all its forms, and opposes the implementation of socialist policies in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The concurrent resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the concurrent resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, a "yes" vote on this resolution should be a relatively straightforward, easy decision.

It simply states that Congress denounces socialism in all its forms and opposes the implementations of socialist policies in the United States of America.

It is a statement that I would hope all of our elected leaders in the United States up and down our system of government could support.

Socialism ignores the side of a man and woman that is the spirit. It dulls the human capacity for self-initiative, entrepreneurship, and risk-taking. For those who have concerns about the resolution, I just invite them to read it.

It outlines the pain and hardship experienced by millions around the world who have suffered under socialist regimes. This is something that the sponsor of the resolution, Congresswoman SALAZAR of Florida, has focused on combating for her entire career.

Congresswoman SALAZAR is the daughter of Cuban exiles and was born in Miami's Little Havana. Representative SALAZAR has led the charge against socialist policies.

This resolution today is just one example of her commitment to her constituents and our entire Nation. The contrast between the successful policies under market capitalism and the freedoms associated with, particularly, our robust democracy here in America and socialism across the world and in history could not be starker.

I cannot express this enough: This resolution is not just a messaging bill

or, as some from across the aisle have called it, a waste of time. It is not that to the people and the families who have experienced the horrors and atrocities associated with socialist regimes.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman SALAZAR for her work on this. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote a vigorous "yes" on this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I wish we were here on the House floor this morning debating solutions that would reduce grocery bills, lower housing costs, end Trump's tariffs that are strangling American small businesses and manufacturers, solve the Republican healthcare crisis, or any legislation that allows Americans to afford to live through the catastrophic economic policies of Trump and the Republicans.

Mr. Speaker, instead of doing the work that our constituents desperately want us to do, Republicans in the House have chosen once again to advance a resolution under the guise of denouncing "socialism."

□ 0920

Let me be clear. This resolution is an embarrassing distraction from the complete and total failure of the Trump administration to deliver actual results for the American people, and the American people see right through it. Sixty-one percent of Americans say that Trump's policies have worsened economic conditions in this country, and 64 percent of Americans say Trump's policies are raising the prices of food and groceries.

What is worse is that this very resolution goes further by using the specter of socialism to undermine some of the most important government programs in our country like Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and ObamaCare. These are programs that help everyday Americans put food on their plate and care for their children.

Republicans absurdly think they can convince Americans these programs that are decades old are leading America toward a Stalinist Russia, even though it is blatantly obvious that the policies of Donald Trump are straight out of a dictator's playbook.

Mr. Speaker, the House returned this week from the Trump-Republican shutdown, the longest government shutdown in American history. While House Republicans gave themselves a paid, 2-month vacation, hundreds of thousands of Federal employees were left wondering how they were going to pay their rent or mortgage, and 42 million Americans nearly lost their food assistance.

What was the Trump administration doing? Instead of working with Congress to end the shutdown or with local communities to blunt the impacts of the shutdown, it decided to use the full force of the United States Government to make sure these American families