

He served his country in uniform and continued serving it in civilian life through honest work and quiet professionalism. What happened to him should never happen to anyone.

This tragedy is a sobering reminder of the risks that not only our deputies, but our civilians take in working alongside them when they face the realities of simply upholding the law.

May we honor his memory by standing firmly with those who keep our communities safe and recognizing that everyday heroes come not always in uniform.

We remember David Long today for his service and as a person who makes America the great Nation that it is. May David Long rest in peace.

AFFORDABILITY FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today about this issue of affordability.

I find it shocking that the Democrats actually have the gall to talk about the issue of affordability after 4 years of failure: 9 percent inflation, higher interest rates, just challenges across the board for everyday Americans.

I think one of the reasons why our party has the majority today is simply because they failed for 4 straight years. They never cut taxes on overtime or tips, let alone Social Security. Republicans did, and we think this is going to help turn around a very challenging situation which we inherited.

I look forward to the debate over the next month in how we take down even more prices so Americans can have a more affordable life. This is the challenge of our day. I am glad that we are talking about affordability because for too long Washington, D.C., has turned its back on the issue.

REPUBLICAN HEALTHCARE CRISIS

(Ms. RANDALL of Washington was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to raise the alarm on the Republican healthcare crisis.

Speaker JOHNSON shut the government down for 43 days and kept the House out of session, effectively running out the clock to find solutions to address the healthcare affordability crisis created by my Republican colleagues.

Now we have just 11 session days left before recessing for the holidays, and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have offered zero solutions.

At the end of the month, the Affordable Care Act enhanced premium tax credits will officially expire, leaving 24 million Americans who currently purchase healthcare on the exchange in an unimaginable position. While MIKE JOHNSON may be sleeping soundly and enjoying the holidays with his family, millions of Americans will be up at night worrying about how they are going to pay for health insurance on top of the affordability crisis the Trump administration created with reckless policies.

My family knows what this feels like. My sister, Olivia, was born with microcephaly, which means her brain was small and the doctors didn't know why. Even with insurance provided by my dad's civilian job at the Department of Defense, Olivia wouldn't have gotten the care that she needed to live for 19 years as healthy as possible if it weren't for the Washington State Legislature expanding Medicaid the year she was born.

My family would have faced dire choices about which bills not to pay in order to meet Olivia's needs if it weren't for Medicaid access. Would we give up heating, groceries, school lunches?

Neighbors of mine in Washington's Sixth District are already sick to their stomachs, looking at their monthly costs. For example, a couple in Clallam County, ages 60 and 55, with a household income of \$85,000, for them the least expensive plan available would jump from \$127 per month to \$1,485 per month. That is a 1,062 percent increase.

That same couple in Kitsap County, where I grew up, would go from paying \$56 to almost \$1,500 a month under the least expensive plan. That is an annual insurance bill of \$24,000 without even having to go to the doctor for a medical emergency or routine healthcare.

I recently heard from a neighbor in Port Townsend who said: "My husband is retiring in a few weeks." She retired years ago. "So although we currently have a good benefits package through his work, we will be on our own for coverage soon. Only yesterday we learned of the substantial increase through Healthplanfinder. We have now determined that the best way to cover our upcoming healthcare costs will be for me to take my Social Security early."

She says: "It is upsetting to me that my Social Security will not be used for other living expenses or be as much per month as it would have if I could hold off taking it a few more years."

She is worried in her last line about not being able to use her Social Security for other living expenses because she is going to have to use all of it for healthcare coverage.

Under this administration, costs are up across the board. Groceries are more expensive. Housing is more expensive. Childcare is more expensive. Gas prices are soaring. Today, the average price for a gallon of gas in Washington State is over \$4, one of the highest in the Nation.

Healthcare costs are only one aspect of why millions of Americans are needlessly suffering under this administration. We don't have to keep living like this. It is time for my colleagues to get serious about solving the ACA tax credits, as serious as they were about extending tax breaks for billionaires in July, and get back to delivering on their promise to lower costs for Americans, which Trump promised to do on day one of his administration.

CONGRATULATING SALPOINTE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL'S GIRLS' FLAG FOOTBALL TEAM

(Mr. CISCOMANI of Arizona was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Salpointe Catholic High School's girls' flag football team for winning the 4A State championship in its first season.

On November 22, the Lancers took home the State title in a fierce match against Mesa Eastmark. Even a 2-hour weather delay couldn't stop the Lancers from taking down the number two ranked Eastmark 17-0, winning them the 4A title in the first year of the girls' flag football program. In an impressive season, they finished 16-1.

Freshman quarterback Isla Collins, who is a youth national team player for the United States, led her team with two rushing touchdowns, scoring her first at the end of the first quarter and adding her second touchdown in the middle of the fourth quarter. Additionally, junior Andie Tkalecivic added a 21-yard field goal, extending the Lancers' lead.

To Coach Barrie Pedersen, the entire team, and everyone who played a part in this successful first season, I congratulate you. There are undoubtedly many, many more to come ahead. They have made their school and our community incredibly proud.

Lancers, enjoy this victory. You earned it. Congratulations once again.

CONGRATULATING IRONWOOD RIDGE GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Ironwood Ridge girls' cross country team for winning the 2025 Division 2 State title. This is the fourth time that the Nighthawks have taken home a State championship title.

Senior Sorella Natale was the D-2 runner up, with a finishing time of 19:23.4, securing the Nighthawks' win. Additionally, sophomore Sophia Simmons finished in 9th place, with a time of 20:05.5. Sophomore Kylie Lederhos finished in 10th place, with a time of 20:08.9.

Congratulations to coaches Michael Smith and Bob Jones, the whole team, and everyone who made this win possible. They have made their school and our community very, very proud.

Nighthawks, enjoy this victory. You have earned it.

CONGRATULATING SALPOINTE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Salpointe Catholic High School's girls' volleyball team for winning the 4A State championship for the first time in 5 years.

The number one ranked Lancers took home the 4A conference State title against the number three ranked American Leadership Academy-Queen Creek, with a score of 3-1. After a struggle to maintain the lead, they prevailed in the end, including an impressive 6-0 run in the fourth set.

Senior Kate Mobley earned the tournament's MVP title, with a powerful performance of 11 kills, 22 digs, 25 receptions, and 5 solo blocks.

On their way to the top, the team took down the number 16 Sahuarita, as well as other teams around the region and across the State.

This thrilling victory marks Salpointe's fourth State championship win and caps off an amazing season in which Salpointe Catholic went 24–2 overall.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Coach Keith Rubio, the team, and everyone who played a part in this successful season. There are undoubtedly many more wins ahead. They have made their school and community incredibly proud. The Lancers should enjoy this victory. Once again, they have earned it, and I congratulate them.

□ 1100

CONGRATULATING NJROTC CADETS

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 28 NJROTC cadets from Cienega High School, Andrada High School, Empire High School, and Mica Mountain High School who competed at the Area 20 Stars and Stripes field meet in El Paso, Texas, under the leadership of Commander Micah Brewer.

These cadets did an amazing job and brought home a number of impressive awards. They placed number one overall, as well, for personal inspection, physical fitness team, armed drill team regulation, and unarmed drill team exhibition. They placed second for unarmed drill team regulation and color guard. They placed third for academic team and armed drill team exhibition.

Additionally, Madelyn Michael won the individual award for most sit-ups for girls, completing a total of 178.

Mr. Speaker, to these 28 cadets and all who took part in this special competition, I congratulate them. They have worked hard and made their schools and our community extremely proud. I congratulate them once again on all their wins. They are all well-earned.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 1 minute 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:

Sovereign God, receive us into Your presence, as each one who enters this Chamber seeks Your guidance in ensuring the welfare of this Nation. Though disparate voices and conflicting opinions, we want the best for our compatriots and our communities.

We ask for Your assistance in ensuring that we do not just settle for tolerating one another but commit to communicating respectfully and carefully in our proceedings. In so doing, may we discover what binds us together in the mission that You have set before us.

In our kinship, our friendship, or just our shared citizenship, we pray together for the peace that transcends not just our differences but our individual understandings. In Your peace, may we find our peace. In our engagements and our arguments, may we rid ourselves of all malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander, and together show respect for the people with whom You have called us to serve.

In awe, even fear of the judgment that is Yours, we humbly offer this day and ourselves to You.

We pray this in Your merciful name. 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. DESAULNIER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DESAULNIER 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.

WELCOMING PENN STATE LION CAUCUS TO CAPITOL HILL

(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 today to welcome the Penn State Lion Caucus to Capitol Hill.

Lion Caucus is a university-affiliated student organization connected to the Office of Government and Community Relations. Lion Caucus promotes the official message and positive impact of

Penn State University to local, State, and Federal elected officials. It also educates students about legislation and policies that impact the university and students. Each year, Lion Caucus organizes and executes Capital Day, Penn State's annual State advocacy event.

The organization also hosts seminars for students across campus, holds meetings in Harrisburg with legislators and lobbyists, and welcomes elected officials to University Park.

Lion Caucus is made up of a diverse group of undergraduate and graduate students from any background or major.

As a graduate of Penn State, I am proud of these students for devoting their time and resources to educating and advocating for their fellow students, promoting civic engagement, and showcasing the Penn State community—We Are.

RECOGNIZING GWEN REGALIA

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and public service of a mentor of mine and many people in California and in the bay area, and a wonderful human being, a dedicated public servant from Walnut Creek, California, in the East Bay of the San Francisco Bay.

Gwen Regalia began her career as a fourth grade teacher—she was a teacher all her life in many ways—before serving on the Walnut Creek School District governing board for almost a decade.

Gwen later served on the city council for 21 years and also served regionally on the Association of Bay Area Governments. She had five terms as the mayor of the city of Walnut Creek, during which time she championed the development of local institutions, like the Leshner Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek and the Walnut Creek Library, two remarkable local institutions.

Sadly, Gwen passed away in November. She will be remembered for her outstanding leadership, her indelible mark that she left on Walnut Creek and the San Francisco Bay Area, the State of California, and, indeed, the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Gwen, for her service and incredible personality.

RECOGNIZING HARBOR BEACH FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Harbor Beach High School football team for winning the Michigan Division 8 State championship last week.