

good of the State with a lady who was willing to work together.

She showed firsthand how committed she was to serving our community, regardless of what community, and advocating for education and opportunity for working families.

Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick inspired countless others by leading with integrity, resilience, devotion, and also strength.

Today, we mourn her passing, but we also honor the lasting mark she left on this Nation and on this body.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for all of us to join in a moment of silence and honor for Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO DISCHARGE COMMITTEE ON RULES FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 432

Mr. GOLDEN of Maine. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(c) of rule XV, I rise to provide notice of my intent to offer a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from further consideration of H. Res. 432.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Did the gentleman sign the petition?

Mr. GOLDEN of Maine. I did, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(c) of rule XV, a motion to discharge is privileged only at a time designated by the Speaker within 2 legislative days after the intent to offer such motion is offered.

The Chair will entertain the gentleman's motion at that time.

RECOGNIZING ELLIOT ABRAMS

(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 recognize Elliot Abrams for 42 years of dedicated service to the residents of Patton Township, Pennsylvania.

Elliot was first elected township supervisor in 1980, after service on both the Patton Township Sign and Review Board and the Planning Commission. Elliot has a long history of service to Patton Township and to the entire Centre region.

For more than 50 years, Elliot delivered the weather report as chief forecaster and senior vice president of AccuWeather. He was first hired at AccuWeather in 1967. In 1971, Elliot graduated from Penn State University with both a bachelor's and a master's degree in meteorology.

Elliot holds the title of certified consulting meteorologist and the AMS Seal of Approval for both radio and television from the American Meteorological Society. He is one of only a few living individuals to earn this distinction.

Mr. Speaker, Elliot has dedicated his life in service to the Centre region both

on and off air, and he will formally retire from the Patton Township Board of Supervisors at the end of this year.

Mr. Speaker, I wish him all the best.

OPERATION SANTA CLAUS

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the charitable work in Yonkers during this holiday season of Operation Santa Claus, raising money to support organizations that work directly with individuals, especially children with developmental disabilities.

The funds raised provide essential services, support, and adaptive equipment during the holidays and throughout the year ahead.

The annual event fundraising is a breakfast to be held this Sunday, December 14, in Castle Royale in Yonkers, where State Senator Nick Spano is chairman with Tom Meier and Gail Burns as co-chairs.

We salute their good work and the individuals and groups honored at this year's breakfast, including Dr. Iyad Annabi, who is receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all involved.

GEORGIA TECH THANKSGIVING

(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 highlight a remarkable act of kindness happening right here in the State of Georgia.

Georgia Tech faculty and staff opened their homes to students who could not travel home for Thanksgiving. Through a program called Home for the Holidays, students were welcomed like family.

Many of these students are international, far from home, and experiencing an American Thanksgiving for the first time. Faculty members cooked meals, shared traditions, and offered community to those who needed it most.

This is a very best example of what it means to look out for one another. It shows that a university is more than classrooms and textbooks. It is a community.

These volunteers gave students comfort, belonging, and memories that will last a lifetime. Their generosity reflects the values we cherish in Georgia: hospitality, kindness, and service to others.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Georgia Tech faculty and staff for making Thanksgiving feel like home for every student.

JUNK FEES

(Ms. BYNUM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, I am here today not just as the Representative for Oregon's Fifth Congressional District, but as a mom getting ready for the holidays.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, costs are out of control.

Every time I go to make a purchase, these companies keep charging me fee after fee after fee. So whether it is booking travel for my son to come home for the holidays or buying tickets for my daughter as a Christmas gift, these fees are driving up the cost of everything.

You get to the checkout page, and suddenly the price feels like it is 40 percent higher. There are payment processing fees for a flight, venue fees for a concert, airport concession fees for a rental car, or service charges on just about everything.

I have had it with these junk fees, and I have heard from so many others that they have too.

Americans deserve transparency, not bait-and-switch pricing models.

That is why I introduced the Junk Fee Prevention Act. It is past time that we get corporate greed under control and protect American families.

I am calling on the House to get it done for the holidays.

□ 1920

CONGRATULATING CORNER CANYON AND LONE PEAK HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAMS

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

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate both the Corner Canyon and the Lone Peak High School football teams who recently faced off in the Utah 6A State Championship. Their matchup showcased exactly what Utah embodies: determination, grit, and exceptional spirit.

Corner Canyon emerged victorious, securing their sixth State title in the past 8 years and their third straight championship. This championship capped a phenomenal season where they finished with a record of 12-1 and boasted one of the highest scoring offenses in the Nation. Their success reflects the leadership of head coach Eric Kjar, who instilled in these men values of dedication, perseverance, and hard work.

I hope you all join me in wishing them good luck as they play in their first ever Overtime National Championship against St. Frances Academy.

I would also like to congratulate Lone Peak High School and their head coach Bart Brockbank. Despite their loss in the championship, they played admirably throughout the entire season, even giving Corner Canyon their only loss of the season back in September.

I congratulate the teams, the coaches, and the schools. They certainly make Utah proud.

VACCINES ARE A GREAT INVENTION

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

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, vaccines are one of mankind's greatest inventions.

In the last 50 years, the World Health Organization's global vaccine efforts have saved 154 million lives. Every single person alive today owes something to that progress.

Yet, last week RFK, Jr. and his panel of antiscience, cherry-picked cronies recommended ending the decades-long practice of immediately vaccinating all newborns against Hepatitis B.

This will lead to more disease, cancer, and preventable deaths. It will increase healthcare costs.

I am calling on acting CDC Director O'Neill to reject this recommendation and protect our children.

I continue to call on RFK, Jr. to resign. His time at HHS has been an embarrassment and has caused deep harm to our country.

To lead our Nation's health system, you must rely on facts and data, not conspiracy and ego.

I will continue to stand with the Democratic Doctors Caucus fighting against RFK, Jr.'s rejection of science and data.

CELEBRATING UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA BULLDOGS' SEC CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2025 Southeastern Conference Champions, my alma mater, the University of Georgia Bulldogs.

Last Saturday, the Dawgs beat the Alabama Crimson Tide in dominant fashion, with a final score of 28-7. The win marks UGA's 16th SEC championship victory and the first back-to-back SEC titles since the 1980s.

I congratulate all the talented young men who put their everything into the game, especially to the Ninth District's own, quarterback and SEC championship game MVP, Gunner Stockton from Rabun County.

I also recognize the other incredibly talented Dawgs from George's Ninth District who helped clinch yet another SEC title: Well done to the city of Buford's KJ Bolden and Suwanee's London Seymour.

I congratulate the entire University of Georgia football team and coaching staff led by the legendary head coach Kirby Smart.

Now let's bring home yet another national championship. Go Dawgs.

FREE IRAN

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. WEBER of Texas was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOYLE).

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a free Iran and in solidarity with the women that are leading that fight. These women are asking for basic human dignity, the right to live without fear, to speak freely, and to make decisions about their own lives.

For too long they have been silenced, imprisoned, and even killed for demanding those very freedoms, but they still courageously protest and persist.

They are fighting not just for themselves but for their daughters and their families, so the next generation can grow up with hope instead of fear and opportunities instead of oppression.

In America, we believe freedom should not depend on your gender, your religion, or where you were born. No government should be able to control a woman's body or take away her voice or determine her future, not here nor in Iran.

In Oregon, where thousands of families with Iranian roots have built their lives, we understand that their fight for freedom is not distant. It lives right here in our own communities.

The people of Iran deserve a future without fear, a future with free speech, free assembly, and the right to choose their own leaders and their own path.

I stand with the women of Iran. I stand with their courage. I will continue fighting for a future where every person in Iran can live free, speak freely, and dream without fear.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to say that tonight I rise to speak as we continue to examine what is unfolding before us. It is important to remember that the fight for the Iranian people is not some distant, unfamiliar struggle. In many ways, it echoes the very heartbeat of our very own American story.

Long before America became the beacon of liberty it is today, we were a people under the heavy hand of those who believed power belonged to rulers, not citizens. Our Founders knew what it meant to challenge an authority that refused to listen. They understood what it meant to stand up, too often alone, and declare that sovereignty belongs to the people.

They risked their livelihoods, Mr. Speaker, their reputation, their fami-

lies. They risked everything so that future generations might inherit a nation grounded in rights, not repression, but grounded in freedom.

Mr. Speaker, that spirit is alive today in the streets of Tehran, Shiraz, Isfahan, and more than 1,000 towns and villages across Iran.

We often talk about the American Revolution, but we rarely pause to recognize what it really was: a movement of ordinary people who refused to accept that their destiny would be decided for them by somebody else. They believed they had a God-given right to shape their future, and that is precisely what the people of Iran believe today.

The parallels runs deep, deeper than we sometimes see.

When America endured the Great Depression, it was a time of doubt, fear, and uncertainty. But leaders like Franklin Roosevelt reminded the American people that despair is never destiny. Let me repeat that. Despair is never destiny. He told them that courage, unity, and faith could rebuild an entire nation from the brink of ruin.

Mr. Speaker, today the Iranian people are living through their own era of hardship—economic collapse, political oppression, and constant fear. Yet, they continue to stand, continue to march, and continue to hope. When the free world faced aggression in the 20th century, voices like Winston Churchill refused to surrender to hopelessness. He spoke truth when others stayed silent. He strengthened resolve when others faltered. He understood that a single courageous leader speaking plainly, boldly, and without apology could ignite the moral energy of millions.

□ 1930

We are seeing that in Maryam Rajavi right now, and I will talk more about that in just a minute.

The same need exists today for the Iranian people: leaders like her who speak truth and nations that stand firmly with her and behind her.

Perhaps the strongest parallel of all comes from our own civil rights movement, a time when America confronted its deepest flaws, yet emerged stronger, more just, and more faithful to its founding ideals.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

That arc bends when brave people stand up. It bends when people refuse to be silenced. It bends when free nations lend their voices to those who have been denied one.

Mr. Speaker, that is what we are witnessing in Iran today: a movement not controlled by foreign powers, not directed by political elites, but born from the ordinary people of Iran, who simply want the dignity that God intended for them.

Mr. Speaker, I will say this plainly: The return of sovereignty in Iran will