

has allowed insurance companies to rip off the American taxpayers and simply drive up costs.

If Congress wants to talk healthcare, then let's talk, but we must let these COVID-era subsidies expire first. Biden's COVID credits are a pandemic policy that has done nothing to lower insurance costs. Premiums are rising because ObamaCare has failed to keep its promise of making healthcare affordable.

Not only are Biden's COVID credits failing to keep costs down and paid straight to insurance companies, but they will also cost taxpayers over \$400 billion in the next decade.

Mr. Speaker, with a country facing \$39 trillion in debt, this is, again, a reason to let these COVID subsidies expire. However, letting Biden-era COVID subsidies expire is just a drop in the bucket when it comes to broader reform.

ObamaCare was recently exposed for rubber-stamping 96 percent of fake applications, all paid with our tax dollars going down the drain. When taxpayers pay and insurers profit, that is not healthcare. That is a hustle. It is time to find a real solution. Let's begin by letting the Biden COVID-era subsidies expire.

#### HONORING MRS. ROWE'S RESTAURANT AND BAKERY

(Mr. CLINE of Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a cherished institution in our community, Mrs. Rowe's restaurant and bakery in Staunton, Virginia, and to express our deep gratitude for the decades of service it has given the Shenandoah Valley.

Founded in 1947 by Willard and Mildred Rowe, affectionately known as The Pie Lady, the restaurant quickly became a local treasure. Using her own family recipes, Mrs. Rowe built a reputation for warm hospitality, home-cooked meals, and fresh-baked pies that generations of Virginians and travelers alike came to love.

That legacy was carried forward with equal devotion by her son, Mike DeGrassie; his wife, Mary Lou; and her grandson, Aaron DeGrassie. For three generations, the family kept alive the values and traditions that made Mrs. Rowe's a landmark.

We were saddened to learn that Mrs. Rowe's restaurant and bakery will close its doors at the end of December. While we will certainly miss the meals, the desserts, and the familiar warmth of a place where so many gathered, today we also celebrate what this restaurant has meant to the valley and to all who passed through its doors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Rowe's restaurant and bakery. Nearly 80 years of hard work, family tradition and community spirit have left an enduring mark on Virginia's Sixth District, one that will not be forgotten.

#### REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. JIM DAVIS

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. James A. "Jim" Davis, a visionary leader, devoted educator, and beloved husband, father, and friend.

Jim served as President of Shenandoah University in Winchester for 26 years, transforming it from a small college into a vibrant, world-class university. His vision, faith, and integrity touched the lives of countless students, faculty, and community members. Under his guidance, Shenandoah grew in size, stature, and spirit. He built not only new buildings and programs, but also a belief that education could change lives and strengthen communities.

Beyond his remarkable career, Jim's greatest legacy was his family. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Janet, and their children, Barclay, Andrew, and Stephanie Davis Landes, whose love and support grounded his life of service.

Jim Davis taught us that faith, vision, and compassion can shape institutions and hearts alike. Today we honor not just what he built, but who he was, a man whose kindness and commitment will forever be part of Shenandoah University, Shenandoah Valley, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

#### CONGRATULATING THE GLENVAR HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION CHEER TEAM

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Glenvar High School Highlanders Competition Cheer Team which made school history by securing its first-ever VHSL State championship. The Highlanders delivered an outstanding performance, earning 241.25 points to finish ahead of Graham High School, securing their place at the top.

This achievement followed their combined region 1C/D and 2C/D championships, capping an extraordinary season. Head Coach Sarah Hatfield, along with Assistant Coaches Desirae Bowles and Alex Powell, praised the team's determination, perseverance, and grit, qualities that pushed them beyond their comfort zones and brought the championship home.

The title-winning athletes are seniors Kayelynn Dickson, Morgan Gaines, Carter Graffeo, and Addison Snead; junior Elle Graffeo; sophomore Taylor Goldfield; and freshmen Audree Frantz, Jillian Roberts, Claire Shrewsbury, and Abby Woods. Special congratulations to Addison Snead, the Combined Region Cheer Athlete of the Year, and to Coach Hatfield, named the Combined Region Coach of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Glenvar Highlanders Competition Cheer Team on this historic and inspiring accomplishment.

#### REPUBLICANS ENSURING ENERGY RELIABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, electricity demand in the United States is growing rapidly and is at risk of exceeding what we can supply. The growth of AI data

centers across the country and the shift to electric vehicles and appliances all mean our country needs far more reliable power. The challenge is that while more power is needed, dependable baseload plants that keep the grid steady have decreased. Environmental regulations under the Biden-Harris administration have contributed to the early retirement of some coal, natural gas, and nuclear plants.

In many States controlled by Democrats, plants have been closed and a shift to wind and solar has decreased the integrity of the supply. A recent Department of Energy report indicated that rising demand and reductions in baseload generation may increase the risk of widespread power outages by 2030, even in our Commonwealth of Virginia.

When the grid becomes less reliable, families pay the price. Higher costs hit working households the hardest, and many are already struggling with rising electricity bills. Reliable and affordable energy is not a luxury. It is something every American needs and deserves.

This week, House Republicans are advancing the State Planning for Reliability and Affordability Act, ensuring that States include always-available power in long-term planning. This idea puts families first by keeping electricity affordable and the grid strong.

#### OBAMACARE ISN'T WORKING

(Mr. JAMES of Michigan was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise for the families in my district and across America who are getting crushed by medical bills they never saw coming. Enough is enough. It is time we put patients back in charge of their own healthcare.

Let me tell you what is happening out there, Mr. Speaker. The average family health insurance premium now tops \$24,000 a year. That is more than a lot of folks pay in their mortgage or rent. That is insane.

Barack Obama stood right here in this Chamber and promised us affordable care. He said that if we like our doctor, we can keep him; and if we like our plan, we can keep it.

That was determined to be the biggest lie of 2012.

What we got instead was the most expensive healthcare system on the Earth with hospitals and insurance companies cashing in while working families foot the bill.

In the last 25 years, medical costs have gone up over 121 percent, and since ObamaCare passed, healthcare spending has exploded another 60-plus percent. Even BERNIE SANDERS admits that the status quo isn't working.

Just last week Kelly from St. Clair Shores called my office. Her family of four is staring at a \$40,000 bill because of a medical emergency under the so-called Affordable Care Act. Eileen in

Shelby Township is as healthy as can be. Yet her premium just jumped \$10,000 this year. That is the ACA in a nutshell: You are in trouble if you are healthy, and you are really in trouble if you get sick.

This is what affordable care looks like in their world. This isn't what care is in the real world. Mr. Speaker, everywhere else you see it works when patients and people make their own decisions.

Mr. Speaker, if you need a plumber at 2 a.m., there is no problem. He is at your door in 1 hour, Mr. Speaker. If you show up at the ER, though, Mr. Speaker, bring a book and a sandwich because you are going to be there for a while.

Michigan has the longest wait times on average of any State in that immediate region and some of the longest wait times in the country. If you want a flat-screen TV, Mr. Speaker, you can have one delivered to your doorstep in hours. However, a lifesaving dialysis machine will cost you \$30,000 and might take you weeks to get.

Do you know why, Mr. Speaker?

It is because government doesn't meddle in television manufacturing and people have choices.

Mr. Speaker, you can fix your eyes for \$1,500, but if you need your heart fixed, it will cost you hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Do you know why, Mr. Speaker?

It is because people have choices.

Here is the truth: Every single time Washington gets its mitts deeper into healthcare, prices go through the roof and care gets worse.

That is why I introduced the Patients Deserve Price Tags Act. The Patients Deserve Price Tags Act is pretty simple. Before a person walks into a hospital or to a doctor's office, he ought to be able to know what the heck something costs: No more games, no more surprises, and no more \$47 aspirin.

This is bipartisan, bicameral, and commonsense stuff. In literally every part of life elsewhere, buying a car, groceries, or a cell phone, you know the price before you swipe your card and before you put your hard-earned cash on the register, Mr. Speaker. You can shop around, find a better deal, and walk away if it is too rich for your blood. It is your choice, Mr. Speaker. Only in healthcare do they hide the price until after you have already gone on the table, Mr. Speaker. Then they send you a bill that ruins your life and puts you in debt.

While hospitals and insurance companies rake in record profits, American families are drowning in medical debt, more medical debt than credit cards, car loans, and everything else combined. My bill ends this nonsense and gives the power back to you, Mr. Speaker.

Every hospital in America will have to post their real prices online in plain English where everyone else can see them. If they don't hold the prices, we fine them and hold them accountable

to the people. Fines will actually mean something.

Mr. Speaker, insurance companies will have to give you a straight answer online, on the phone, or in the paper about exactly what your care is going to cost you before you get it. For the first time, they will have to publicly post their real rates and drug prices, too.

Sunlight is the best disinfectant, and that is all the people demand.

Mr. Speaker, the people back home know how to spend their money better than the Federal Government. We give them a price, and they will find the best deal. Give them the power, and the prices will come down. That is how the real world works.

We are keeping a promise that should have been kept a long time ago: real transparency, real competition, and real power will be back in the hands of patients.

I am asking every one of my colleagues to join our bipartisan bill, Republican and Democrat, to stand with the families getting hammered by these bills.

Mr. Speaker, cosponsor the Patients Deserve Price Tags Act. Let's finally give the American people, all of the people who sent us to represent them, honesty and the control they deserve.

## 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 12 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

## PRAYER

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

Abide with us most Holy God. Allow Your holy spirit to descend among us and move around us that we would know of Your presence and power in the living of these days.

May Your calm accompany us in every encounter. Your serenity still the tumult of our busyness. May Your nearness impress upon us the significance of each moment of every day.

Then throughout this day, train our ears to listen for Your voice and heed Your words of guidance.

Sensitize our souls to the leading of Your spirit as we attend to the stewardship of Your grace.

Discipline our wills to yield with humility to the way You would have us serve this Nation and her needs.

For You are our Father, and we Your children. We are the clay and You the

potter who fashions our lives and shapes our days. We are all the work of Your hand. We pray that our efforts would reveal Your divine design.

In us, O Lord, may You be glorified. Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HOYER 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

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

## PUTIN BREAKS ALL TREATIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, 31 years ago, Ukraine signed the Budapest Memorandum, giving up their nuclear arsenal in exchange for territorial guarantees by America, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Sadly, it has been murderously broken by war criminal Putin as Soviets break all treaties.

President Donald Trump tried to deter war criminal Putin by sending Javelin missiles to Ukraine, placing troops in Poland, and stopping Nord Stream 2.

Ukrainian courage and determination is inspiring, affirmed by unity of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe led by President Pere Joan Pons with Ukraine support from U.K. MP Chair Sharon Hodgson.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as Trump is reinstituting peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting Trump as the New York Post has editorialized: Putin sent Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner packing with yet more aerial assaults on Ukrainian civilians. American public support for Ukraine is growing.

## HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BOB MITCHELL

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