

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 333 and NAY on Roll Call No. 334.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House during today's two roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 333 and YEA on Roll Call No. 334.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 740

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 740.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is granted.

CELEBRATING DR. WILLIAM STEWART
MITCHELL III's 100th BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate a milestone that truly brings a smile. This week, Dr. William Stewart Mitchell III of Fleming Island, Florida, marks his 100th birthday, a century defined by faith, family, and devoted service to our Nation.

Dr. Mitchell graduated valedictorian of Hamilton County High School before entering the Navy in 1943. Recognizing his talent, the Navy placed him in the B-12 program at Emory University, where he again graduated valedictorian from dental school. He went on to serve with the 1st Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, providing essential care as a naval officer in the Dental Corps. His distinguished career spanned sea service, Active Duty, Reserve Duty, and retiring as a lieutenant commander.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Mitchell has built a legacy of excellence and dedication to others. Today, I honor him as he celebrates 100 years on this planet, and I recognize a life that has given this Nation countless reasons to smile. It is a privilege to share his story with this Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Dr. Mitchell a happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM

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

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Washington University women's soccer team, who just secured their second-straight Division III national championship. These student-athletes reflect the best of St. Louis.

What they achieved this season didn't happen by accident. It came from years of work, a culture of accountability, and a shared belief that

success in the classroom and success in competition strengthen each other.

St. Louis is proud of them, and WashU is proud of them. Their run reminds us that our city grows stronger when we invest in our young people.

I congratulate the players, coaching staff, and entire community. I will admit, a lot of us are already looking forward to the three-peat next year.

RECOGNIZING PIONEER HIGH
SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Pioneer High School football team. The Pioneer Panthers had an incredible season and a well-deserved visit to the 1A State Championship finals.

While the end of this football season wasn't what the Pioneer team really had hoped for, each and every one of the football players on this team should be proud of the hard work that allowed them to reach the State championship. Their dedication in every game is an inspiration to their school and community.

I also thank the parents, teachers, staff, and coaches for all of their contributions and support throughout this football season.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Pioneer Panthers on reaching the IHSAA 1A Football State Championship. I know they will continue to deliver great successes on and off the football field in the years to come.

□ 1040

HONORING 13TH ANNIVERSARY OF
SANDY HOOK SHOOTING

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

Mrs. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as this Sunday marks the 13th anniversary of the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. On December 14, 2012, a senseless act of gun violence claimed the lives of 20 innocent children and 6 selfless educators.

This day continues to be one of grave reflection and sadness for the people of Connecticut. There are no words to describe the heartbreak I felt on that day. After all these years, the hurt is still raw, and I still feel that same heaviness.

Communities across the State and the Nation remember the stories of those children in that kindergarten class. We honor their memories and reaffirm a shared commitment to end the epidemic of gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, today we remember, reflect, and honor the lives of those we lost and hold the Newtown and Sandy Hook community up in prayer.

CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF HI-TEST LABORATORIES

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

Mr. MCGUIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of a great company in my district.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago, Bill Yancey founded HI-TEST Laboratories to test naval equipment and ships to make sure they can survive shock and vibration.

Using machines and explosives, HI-TEST has tested everything from the smallest electronic component to entire completed ships, which requires 40,000 pounds of explosives.

HI-TEST ensures that our sailors and marines are kept safe and that our ships can continue to fight. They have a facility which is the biggest and best in the entire world, and their all-American crew of engineers and craftsmen are the best in the world, as well.

Mr. Speaker, located in the Fifth District of Virginia, this company, still owned by Bill and operated by his family, keeps America in the fight on the sea.

HEALTHCARE CRISIS IN NORTH
CAROLINA

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, we have reached the precipice of a full-blown healthcare crisis in North Carolina and this country. ACA tax credits are only weeks away from expiring. Unless Congress acts, an estimated 157,000 North Carolinians will lose their coverage.

This week, I led my North Carolina colleagues in demanding actions from Speaker JOHNSON. What is his strategy? Where is the plan?

I am the proud cosponsor of a bipartisan solution to this crisis, but Speaker JOHNSON refuses to put any bill on the floor for a vote. Next week is our last legislative week of the year and our last chance to preserve access to lifesaving care for our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of North Carolina, I am pleading with my Republican colleagues to join Democrats in saving healthcare for millions of Americans.

CELEBRATING 125TH
ANNIVERSARY OF GREAT DANE

(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 honor the 125th anniversary of Great Dane. The company began in 1900 as the Savannah Blowpipe Company in Savannah, Georgia.

What began as a blowpipe company turned into a steel products company,

helping shape the transportation industry with trailers: flatbeds, refrigerated, and dry freight. Since then, the company has been expanding past its hostess city roots to 11 different plants across America, employing 4,000 people.

In the 1940s, the company revolutionized food distribution by circulating air over ice blocks to keep things fresh.

In World War II, the company was honored with the Army-Navy Excellence Award for making military-grade trailers to support troops in Europe.

Then 9 years ago, a state-of-the-art research and development lab opened for the company in Savannah.

Mr. Speaker, let us celebrate this extraordinary company whose legacy of innovation, endurance, and excellence continues to shape the world of transportation and inspire future generations.

FUNCTIONING IN THE FACE OF AN AFFORDABILITY CRISIS

(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 today because American utility prices are going up and those currently in charge of this country are doing nothing about it. My constituents are looking at monthly bills that have increased by 19 percent, and that is not affordability-plus-plus-plus.

Rather than looking for bipartisan solutions to make energy more affordable, this majority and the Trump administration continue to fixate on putting young people back in coal mines and opening Alaska to oil and gas drilling. There is no set correlation between more drilling and lower consumer prices.

We must act now to fix our outdated electric grid to bring more renewable energy sources online. This will make us less reliant on natural gas prices that fluctuate.

This week, the majority brought bills before this House, claiming to save Americans money on utility bills. These bills did nothing to update our electric grid, interconnect clean energy projects, or combat the Trump administration's attacks on clean energy permitting.

Mr. Speaker, while we waste our time on this legislation, I continue to hear from constituents worried about being able to afford their next utility bill. This is not how Congress should function in the face of an affordability crisis, and this crisis is real.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL GUARD'S 389th BIRTHDAY

(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, Saturday is the National Guard's 389th birthday. Nearly four

centuries ago, the National Guard was founded in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Since then, the National Guard has exemplified the spirit of citizen soldiers. These are ordinary men and women who answer the call to serve their community and country at a moment's notice.

From the footprints that mark the snows of Valley Forge to the sandy beaches at Normandy, from the skies above Vietnam to the deserts of the Persian Gulf, the National Guard has been there for America every step of the way. For 389 years, these men and women have represented America's best.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor the men and women who have worn the uniform of the National Guard, past and present. We salute their sacrifice, their courage, and unwavering dedication to serving the American people through war and peace, disaster and recovery, and every moment in between.

Happy birthday to the National Guard.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CANDIS KING

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

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Miss Candis King. Candis was a lifelong resident of Prince William County and the beloved daughter of my friend, Delegate Candi Mundon King, and Deputy Sheriff Joshua King.

Candis was known for her kindness and creativity and the ability to brighten every room. She left a lasting impact on her peers, teachers, and community. Tragically, Candis passed away from complications of sickle cell disease. We need to invest more in medical research, expand access to care, and raise greater national attention to this serious disease.

I extend my deepest condolences to Delegate King, Deputy Sheriff King, and their entire family. Their strength in the face of unimaginable loss is truly inspiring.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Miss Candis King who was only 15 years old when she passed. Though her time was far too short, her legacy of joy, creativity, and resilience will endure.

WELCOMING SWIRE COCA-COLA TO COLORADO SPRINGS

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

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome the Swire Coca-Cola manufacturing plant to Colorado Springs. This week, the company announced a 620,000-square-foot facility at Peak Innovation Park near the Colorado Springs airport. This is an in-

vestment of \$475 million and will create at least 170 jobs. It will modernize production for more than 230 beverage options across 60 well-known Coca-Cola brands.

I also congratulate the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce for bringing this economic boost to the Pikes Peak region. This news shows once again that Colorado Springs is becoming an economic titan of the West and a destination for global brands.

Mr. Speaker, I am personally very excited for easier access to my favorite drink, Diet Coke, right in my hometown.

□ 1050

CONGRATULATING MARYJO McCLOSKEY

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

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize George Fox University Women's Golf Head Coach MaryJo McCloskey.

In 2006, Coach MJ helped found the women's golf program at George Fox, and since then, she has coached hundreds of talented student-athletes.

During her time coaching, she has put together an inspiring track record. She is an 8-time NCAA Division III West Region Coach of the Year, a 10-time Northwest Conference Coach of the Year, and has an NCAA National Championship under her belt.

In addition to coaching her award winning team, she recently published a book titled "When Girls Win," which delves into the personal challenges Coach MJ has faced as a woman in a male-dominated field while illustrating how people like you and me can build a winning mindset.

MaryJo has been a fixture at George Fox University, and her hard work and determination led her to be one of two inductees to the Women's Golf Coaches Association's Hall of Fame.

Oregon's Sixth Congressional District is extremely proud of what Coach MJ has achieved. Her tremendous honor is not only a testament to the investment she has made in herself, but also to her family, her community, and, most importantly, to her team.

I congratulate Coach MJ.

RECOGNIZING EMMA HALL

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

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Ms. Emma Hall, my deputy chief of staff and the first and only communications director since the beginning of my journey here to D.C.

Emma has served in my office and the constituents of Utah's Fourth Congressional District for nearly 5 years.