

Proposition 8. Indeed, they lent their voices and resources to countless causes rooted in fairness and opportunity for all.

Civically, Rob and Michele were fierce champions of the First Amendment and the creative rights of artists, never wavering in their belief that freedom of expression is essential to a vibrant and just society. They understood that democracy depends on compassion, engagement and the courage to speak out.

Professionally, Rob was an iconic figure in film and television whose work will endure for generations. And Michele's own leadership—behind the camera and in support of artistic expression—were integral to the couple's success. Their partnership was a testament to the power of collaboration and the beauty of shared purpose—and their legacy lives on in the countless lives they touched through art and advocacy.

Paul and I, and our entire family, mourn the loss of our very dear friends Rob and Michele with profound sorrow. (And moved by the loving statement by Jake and Romy, we hold their loved ones close in our hearts and are praying for them, and all who are grieving during this unimaginable time of pain. May Rob and Michele's memory be a blessing, and may their lives continue to inspire kindness, courage and hope.)

RECOGNIZING JOHNNY WAYNE FARRIS

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my good friend, Johnny Wayne Farris, who was recently nominated as candidate for Time magazine Dealer of the Year. He is also being recognized nationally by Time magazine for his community service and industry accomplishments.

Johnny Wayne Farris is the president of Farris Motor Company, founded by his grandfather in 1929. Farris grew up in the industry and joined the company full-time in 1972—when I was in the second grade, Mr. Speaker—after graduating from Tennessee Tech University.

Farris Motor Company's mission is to be the dealer of people and truly has accomplished that in his time with the company across Tennessee.

Farris has an honorable record of humanitarian aid and philanthropy, as well. He has shipped over 140 containers of humanitarian assistance over the last 12 years to support east Tennessee families and refugees at home and abroad.

Johnny Wayne Farris is not only a great businessman; he is in my fraternity, Sigma Chi. He is also even a better member of his community, helping anyone and everyone he can.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate my dear friend, Johnny Wayne Farris, and thank him for all that he has done for east Tennessee and me and my family.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JEAN E. CORRIGAN

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, this month, my community, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, lost a giant, Jean E. Corrigan.

Whenever I hear the term "grass-roots" or "boots on the ground," I think of Jean. She believed wholeheartedly and full-throatedly in Democratic values and devoted her life to them. It didn't matter if it was for the school board or the American President; Jean gave herself entirely to candidates who she believed in.

She led by example, always willing to knock doors, make calls, and volunteer at polling places. She served on countless committees and was vice chair of her local party, the Abington-Rockledge Democratic Committee.

Her front porch was an election season hub of lawn signs, literature, lists, and listening sessions on the latest intel. All the while, Jean was a devoted wife and mother.

Her husband, Pete; children, Joe, Dave, and Pauline; and her beautiful granddaughters were lucky to have them in her corner. I was lucky to have Jean in my corner, too, and we were all lucky that the Corrigan's shared Jean and her many talents with us.

May God bless Jean Corrigan. She taught us well.

□ 1850

FEDERAL RECOGNITION FOR LUMBEE TRIBE

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

Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, today marks a monumental day for the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, the effects of which will transcend generations. The Lumbee have fought tirelessly for decades to achieve full recognition by the U.S. Congress. Today, that day has arrived.

The Lumbee Fairness Act, which I offered as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, will soon head to the President's desk, as part of the annual defense bill, for his signature, providing full Federal recognition. This is a historic milestone, decades in the making, and a moment of celebration for a community that has never wavered in its resolve.

This amazing achievement would not have been possible without the steadfast leadership of Chairman John Lowery and generations of Lumbee. Their voice has been heard, and their commitment and perseverance have brought us to this historic moment.

I commend and thank President Trump for his tremendous support, as well as our current Senators THOM TILLIS and TED BUDD, former Senators Elizabeth Dole and Richard Burr, and

my many colleagues here in the House who continually supported this effort.

Madam Speaker, I thank them all, for the Lumbee are a great and honorable people who deserve Federal recognition with all the rights and benefits that come with it.

REMEMBERING DONALD PAYNE, JR.

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

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend, Donald Payne, Jr., on what would have been his 67th birthday.

There were a few differences between Donald Payne and me. We often got confused. His birthday was on December 17; mine was on December 13. He came from north Jersey; I come from south Jersey. I served the First District; he served the 10th District.

What mattered most was what we had in common. We both fought for families in the State of New Jersey. Don brought to New Jersey the values of what we were to be from New Jersey each and every day.

He was tough. For those of you who knew him, he had dialysis in the morning and would come here in the afternoon and continue to work. For anybody who has ever been through dialysis, that was tough, and he knew it. We owe him a great debt of gratitude for coming to work each and every day.

I will always remember him for his kindness, his compassion, and his open heart; and I will be forever grateful for his friendship.

Madam Speaker, from one Don to another from New Jersey, we miss him and his bow tie.

HONORING TENEILIA "SWEET TEA" ANDERSON

(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. Madam Speaker, we all know the simple joy of a glass of sweet tea—refreshing, comforting, a lift to the spirit. Teneilia "Sweet Tee" Anderson of Fernandina Beach, Florida, brought that same sweetness into every room she entered.

This week, at the age of 86, she passed away peacefully, surrounded by friends and family, and today, I rise to honor her life of service.

Sweet Tee was a devoted wife and mother, a clown, a business owner, and a woman of deep faith. I would often see her at the hospital dressed as her alter ego, Lucianna the clown, with her husband, Don, as Hambone, visiting sick kids, reminding us that healing begins with kindness and connection. Even up until her death, she was working with my office to protect children.

My thoughts are with her husband, Don; daughter, Kim; granddaughters, Brook and Ashley; and her entire family.

Madam Speaker, Sweet Tee's life was like her name, a steady sweetness that brightened every day, and her legacy will continue to inspire. Sweet Tee will be missed.

RECOGNIZING ANNIE MALONE AND FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE CARE COALITION IN ST. LOUIS

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

Mr. BELL. Madam Speaker, as the holidays roll around, I want to say this to folks across the St. Louis region: This season isn't just about what is under the tree. It is about who we show up for.

There is a lot happening in the world right now. Some of it is heavy. At home, I see a community that still believes in looking out for one another, especially our children. Not every child has the stability they deserve, through no fault of their own. When families can't carry that load alone, the rest of us have to help.

That is what organizations like the Foster and Adoptive Care Coalition do every day, and it is what Annie Malone has done for generations, helping young people aging out of the system find their footing.

As we celebrate with the people we love, I hope we also think about how we can help others. That is how we make this season matter.

Madam Speaker, I wish St. Louis happy holidays.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ERNEST L. "ERNE" STEVENS, JR.

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

Mr. WIED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Ernest Stevens, Jr., a proud citizen of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, who sadly passed away recently.

For more than two decades, Ernie Stevens served as chairman of the Indian Gaming Association, where he was elected to 13 consecutive terms. Under his leadership, Tribal government gaming grew into the largest segment of the U.S. gaming industry, generating more than \$43 billion annually and supporting healthcare, housing, education, and jobs in Native communities.

He also served his own Nation as a member of the Oneida Business Committee and was a steadfast advocate for Tribal sovereignty, always reminding us that Tribal gaming was about building nations, not just business.

Beyond his professional achievements, he was a mentor, a family man, and a source of inspiration to countless young leaders. He leaves behind his wife, Cheryl; their five children; and 20 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, the people of Green Bay, the Oneida Reservation, and all of

Indian Country mourn the loss of this remarkable leader. May his memory continue to inspire generations to come.

SCHOOL SHOOTINGS ARE NOT INEVITABLE

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

Ms. ANSARI. Madam Speaker, only in the United States of America do we now have college students who have survived not one but two school shootings.

That is the reality for students at Brown University right now, students like Zoe Weissman, who was a middle schooler at the school next to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School during the Parkland massacre. Years later, she found herself again facing an active shooter on a college campus. Mia Tretta was shot as a teenager at Saugus High School and survived, and now, she has lived through yet another school shooting at Brown.

Let that sink in: Two shootings in one lifetime, all before graduating college.

We cannot allow ourselves to become numb to this. This level of trauma is not normal. It is not inevitable. It is not acceptable.

If we are serious about protecting young people in America, Congress must act now. That means universal background checks, a ban on assault weapons designed for mass killing, cracking down on ghost guns, and investing in mental health and safe storage policies grounded in data.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. Fedorchak). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. ANSARI. I will say it again. This is not inevitable.

□ 1900

HONORING LOWNDES COUNTY, GEORGIA, ON ITS BICENTENNIAL

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the bicentennial celebration of Lowndes County, Georgia.

Two hundred years ago, the Georgia State legislature established Lowndes County, named after a prominent lawyer and Congressman from South Carolina.

The area quickly became a haven for settlers seeking opportunity and prosperity, evolving with the times while never losing its sense of community.

From moving entire towns to meet the railroad's arrival in the 1850s to developing thriving industries like textiles, timber, and turpentine, the county spirit of adaptability is evident throughout its history.

Today, the county and the city of Valdosta are still thriving, being a critical hub for Georgia with Valdosta State University and having nicknames like Winnersville and Title Town.

Not only does it have culture, but it offers thousands of acres of beautiful wetlands from the Grand Bay swamp.

These traditions, these values, and achievements make Lowndes County a shining example of Georgia's enduring spirit and a model community to be honored and emulated.

I congratulate Lowndes County on 200 years. Here is to 200 more.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S TARIFF POLICIES

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

Mr. LATIMER. Madam Speaker, any day now, the Supreme Court will issue a ruling on whether the President can impose tariffs under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

President Trump's tariff policies have hurt America's small businesses, who often cannot absorb the cost of higher duties. Now, the economy is showing warning signs. Unemployment has risen to 4.6 percent, and small businesses shed 120,000 jobs in November alone.

That is why I recently joined 20 of my colleagues in sending a letter to Treasury Secretary Bessent and Homeland Security Secretary Noem urging both Departments to dedicate resources to planning for the Supreme Court's decision. Proper planning is needed around an information campaign for small businesses on how to navigate the tariff protest process, ensuring that eligible tariff refunds are provided on an expedited basis. Without a plan, the complexity and time needed to pursue a refund will further burden small businesses.

I urge the Trump administration to work quickly to guarantee that small businesses, the lifeline of our economy, are not left behind because of this erratic policy.

HONORING EARL LACKEY

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

Mr. BEGICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Earl Lackey, a pioneer of Alaska's motorsports community and the driving force behind Alaska Raceway Park.

Earl's commitment to racing spans more than half a century. In the early 1960s, while stationed in Germany as an Army helicopter mechanic, he worked on a pit crew at the legendary Nurburgring.

Those early days sparked a lifelong devotion to motorsports. He raced