

is to tell the American people that you need \$2 trillion and assign that to a billionaire who has no accountability, did not have to go through Senate approval, is not a government employee, and isn't even a volunteer. Yet, he is placing his will on a Republican-led Congress in both the House and Senate.

All that is needed is three Republicans to stand up and say: No. Wait a minute. This is not what the Nation needs. We do not need to cut Social Security benefits. We need to enhance them.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues are aware, in the Speaker's district alone, there are 189,000 Social Security recipients who haven't received an increase in benefits in more than 50 years. There are 147,000 retirees, 20,000 disabled workers, 8,700 widows, 3,700 spouses, and over 9,000 children who are depending upon Congress to fulfill its responsibility and job.

Furthermore, a fact that most Members don't realize is that, in the Speaker's district in Minnesota, \$325 million per month goes to those Social Security recipients. It hasn't been adjusted in more than 50 years.

It is long overdue for Congress and for the citizens of this country to demand of their Congress that they take a vote to let the people know where they stand. Members should let the people know whether they are going to stand with them and the Nation's number one antipoverty program for the elderly and children or stand with Elon Musk and Trump to make sure that \$2 trillion is cut so that it can make way for further tax cuts for the Nation's wealthiest 1 percent.

At over \$500 billion, I would think Mr. Musk might say: Do you know what? This is a great Nation that has provided me these great opportunities. How about we care for them the same way this Nation has cared for us?

He won't lose a moment of sleep at night. For more than 40 million Americans, Social Security is the only benefit that they have. Whether it is in Minnesota or Connecticut, they will be losing sleep over the fact that they are worried about whether or not they are going to be able to get their benefits, the thing they rely on to put food on their table and to heat and cool their homes.

This is no extravagant item that people are asking for. This is something that they have earned and paid for. Their government continues to not act and respond the way that they should do.

Mr. Speaker, we need a vote. The Speaker owes it to his people. We owe it to ours. Let's have a vote and give these individuals the Social Security benefits that they need.

CELEBRATING 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMELIA ISLAND CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the king of auto racing, Richard Petty, was once asked when the first car race was. He replied: The day they made the second car.

Mr. Speaker, America is in love with the automobile, and nothing celebrates that better than The Amelia. It started 30 years ago in northeast Florida as the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance. This year, it celebrates its 30th anniversary with hundreds of exceptional vehicles descending on Amelia Island, Florida, to delight car lovers of all ages.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know how they do it, but it seems they top themselves each year, and The Amelia is definitely going to be one of the best this year.

In the words of their vice chairman, Matt Orendac: History comes to life on the fairways at The Amelia, where enthusiasts are guaranteed to discover new automobile stories and personalities.

□ 1230

This year, one of the four drivers to win the Indy 500 for a record four times, including the most recent driver to do so, Helio Castroneves, will be the Amelia's 2025 honoree.

Mr. Speaker, attendees this year will ooh and ahh over 500 unique and specialized automobiles and enjoy seminars, auctions, films, ride and drives, dinners and parties, and, of course, the crowning jewel of the Amelia, Sunday's Concours d'Elegance.

At the core of the event every year, Mr. Speaker, is a commitment to give back to the community. The Amelia has donated a whopping \$4 million to local charities and continues to have an incredible \$30 million economic impact annually on Amelia Island and all of northeast Florida.

Mr. Speaker, nothing can compare to the automobile wonder of the Amelia, and it is an event that I am proud to host in my district. I wish them a hearty congratulations on their 30th anniversary. Here is to the next 30 years.

Mr. Speaker, let the show begin.

HONORING A DECORATED GREEN BERET, ARMY SERGEANT FIRST CLASS MELVIN MORRIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HARIDOPOLOS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor a resident of Cocoa, Florida, a true American hero and decorated Green Beret, Army Sergeant First Class Melvin Morris. His extraordinary courage in Vietnam reflects the very best of our Nation's values.

In 1969, while leading his Special Forces team, then-Staff Sergeant Morris braved relentless enemy fire to recover a fallen comrade and safeguard classified information for our country.

Despite being shot many times, he fought through enemy positions, ensur-

ing his mission's success. For his valor, he received the Distinguished Service Cross, but history had more to say.

Decades later, a review of military records rightfully upgraded his honor.

In 2014, he was awarded the Medal of Honor, recognizing the courage and sacrifice that may have been overlooked for too long.

Sergeant Morris' service did not end in combat. He continued to inspire future generations, reminding us that a nation must always recognize its heroes.

Mr. Speaker, today, I salute Sergeant First Class Melvin Morris and his unwavering dedication to duty.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALAN HOLMES STAHL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Alan Holmes Stahl, a man of service, dedication, and unwavering love for his family.

Born in 1926 in Winthrop, Massachusetts, he enlisted in the Navy at the age of 17, serving aboard the USS *LST-875* and USS *LST-900* during World War II.

After his honorable discharge in 1946, he attended Oklahoma State University and married the love of his life, Barbara Jane Todd.

Together, they raised two children in Savannah, Georgia, and welcomed three cherished grandchildren.

Alan built a successful career with AT&T, retiring at 55 to dedicate his time to community service. He was deeply involved in volunteer work, serving his church, local organizations, and the Bradford Public Library.

A man of strong values and undeniable sense of humor, he brought joy to all who knew him. Known for his kindness, wit, and love for bourbon and chocolate, he left an unforgettable mark on his family and his community. His legacy of generosity, humor, and service will live on in those he inspired.

CELEBRATING 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOODBINE OPRY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Woodbine Opry on its 25th anniversary and to celebrate its legacy of old-time music and community gatherings.

The Woodbine Opry is located in Woodbine, Georgia, and is one of the longest running, free live music venues in the State of Georgia. The Woodbine Opry has provided bluegrass, gospel, and classic country music to southeast Georgia for the last 25 years, ever since it renovated the Old Woodbine School to house the venue.

Even though the auditorium in the Old Woodbine School seats less than 200 patrons, the Opry's live streams and social media pages have 15,000 to 20,000 viewers each month from music lovers all over the Nation and the world.

This month, the Opry celebrated its anniversary by showcasing songs and stories reminiscent of the days when the Opry first began. The week of festivities included a bluegrass-gospel jam session, an electric country music night, and a live band that had the old school auditorium floor packed full of dancers.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Woodbine Opry, the staff, and musicians for achieving this accomplishment and for bringing so much joy and good music to Georgia's First Congressional District.

CONGRATULATING WEXFORD, SAVANNAH'S IRISH PUB

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable achievement of Wexford, an authentic Irish pub in Savannah, Georgia, which recently has been named one of USA Today's 2025 Restaurants of the Year.

Established by siblings Tim and Jennifer Strickland, along with Chris Swanson, Wexford has become a beloved gathering spot for both locals and visitors since its opening.

Designed by Darren Fagan of the Irish Pub Company, the two-story, 150-year-old space reflects Savannah's rich Hibernian heritage, seamlessly blending industrial brick exteriors with burnished mahogany interiors and stained-glass accents.

Collaborating with Georgia Southern University's Center for Irish Research and Teaching, led by Howard Keeley, Wexford offers a revolving experience that tells the unique story of Irish immigrants in Savannah. The restaurant effectively serves as a living museum where patrons can enjoy both culture and cuisine.

The menu, crafted by Executive Chef Jason Cummings and Chef Dustin Hambrick, features traditional Irish dishes with a modern twist, including favorites like fish and chips, corned beef Reuben, and Guinness pot roast sandwiches. The food, culture, and atmosphere make it a cherished spot for business lunches, for family dinners, and for social gatherings.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PORT OF SAVANNAH

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of the Port of Savannah, which was the fastest-growing port on the U.S. East Coast in 2024.

The impacts of Georgia's ports are felt across the State and all throughout the Nation. Georgia's ports and inland terminals support more than 609,000 jobs throughout the State annually, contributing \$40 billion in income, \$171 billion in revenue, and \$5.3 billion in State and local taxes to Georgia's economy.

The Port of Savannah also led the Nation in port-to-rail speed last year. The great State of Georgia has been ranked number one for business for 11 years now, and Georgia ports have played an integral role in maintaining this achievement.

The ports of Savannah and Brunswick are set apart from the competition by their commitment to building strong partnerships, ensuring ample capacity ahead of demand, and maintaining a responsible approach with communities.

We are so thankful for the hard-working Georgians employed by Georgia ports and their commitment to strategic investment and growth.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Georgia Port Authority and the Port of Savannah for being recognized for their continued outstanding performances.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of West Virginia) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Holy and most compassionate, most merciful God, our redeemer and friend, we pray Your blessing on our individual journeys of faith and ask Your guidance over believers of the Muslim faith as they commence their holy season of Ramadan and on Christians as they enter into the season of Lent later this week.

As each community dedicates these next several days and weeks to prayer and fasting, open their hearts, cleanse their minds, and purify their spirits. May their dedication to the disciplines which serve to deny the countless things that attempt to distract us from You lead them and us to cultivate compassion to each other and to those around us.

No matter what practices we use to draw closer to You, may they be motivated by the purest desire to know You more clearly, to love You more dearly, and to follow You more nearly.

Bless us and guide our steps and light our paths.

We offer these prayers in the name You have revealed to us, and I in the name of Jesus.

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 Utah (Mr. KENNEDY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah 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.

RECOGNIZING LEAKESVILLE GARDEN CLUB'S CENTENNIAL

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Leakesville Garden Club in Rockingham County, North Carolina's oldest active gardening club. It was formed in March 1925 and was recognized as the third garden club to be organized within the State of North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, this club is more than just about gardening. It is about fostering pride in the community, strengthening bonds of fellowship between people, and upholding tradition.

This club is a shining example of the best that North Carolina has to offer. Its 100-year history is a testament to that simple fact.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Leakesville Garden Club and its members on this historic milestone. Here is to another 100 years.

RECOGNIZING READ ACROSS AMERICA

(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 to recognize Read Across America Week. On Sunday, we kicked off Read Across America Day, marking the start of National Reading Month.

Each March, teachers, students, parents, librarians, and more all acknowledge the importance of literacy and reading for all Americans.

For more than 20 years, Read Across America has been a nationwide tradition, held annually on March 2 in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers bring young people together to experience the magic of books. This celebration fosters a lifelong love of reading and reminds students that, with every page turned, they can explore new worlds and expand their horizons.

The message is clear, though: Through books, you can do anything and go anywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I join President Trump in committing to instilling a love for reading among all of our Nation's youth and recognizing this special occasion.