

returning home to lead. It means our businesses innovating, our farmers growing, artists creating, community organizations building, and it means a local government managing systems that work for all and not just benefit a few. It means demanding loudly, persistently with history behind us and without cowering for fear that this Nation treat the people of the territories as full and equal American citizens we are.

Mr. Speaker, let us celebrate in our actions Virgin Islands History Month.

FUNDING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concern over the lapse in funding for the Department of Homeland Security. Every single day that we fail to provide DHS with the necessary resources, the risks facing the American people dramatically increase.

The security of our homeland should never be a bargaining chip. Instead of prioritizing the safety of the American people, Democrats have chosen to weaponize the appropriations process for political leverage. This is not how our Democracy was founded to operate. Americans continue to bear the consequences of Democrats engaging in political theater.

As we return to the floor for a vote, Members of Congress must set aside partisan agendas and personal politics. Our first duty is to protect the citizens that we serve.

With the war in Iran, we have reached an increase in global instability. In moments like this, we should be strengthening our Homeland Security posture and not allowing it to lapse.

An unfunded Department of Homeland Security sends the wrong message to our adversaries and leaves our homeland vulnerable. It is neither a safe nor responsible act. It is a failure of Congress not to have met one of its most fundamental obligations.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better. The American people deserve leadership that puts their safety first. It is time to end the theatrics. It is time to fund DHS. It is time to fulfill and protect this Nation.

RECOGNIZING JORDAN OTT

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a native of McConnellsburg, Pennsylvania, Jordan Ott, who is the head coach of the Phoenix Suns.

As a three-sport athlete at McConnellsburg High School, Coach Ott has always dreamed of working for a professional sports team. That goal was recognized in 2013 when he joined the Atlanta Hawks as a video coordinator.

Coach Ott went on to serve as an assistant coach with three NBA teams.

Last June, he was hired as the head coach of the Suns, where he was named NBA's Western Conference Coach of the Month for January.

A former high school teammate described Coach Ott as someone who will accomplish everything and take credit for nothing. What a coach.

That is a character trait worth emulating by individuals throughout all of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District. In fact, it is worth emulating throughout all of America.

Mr. Speaker, I offer best wishes to Coach Ott for continued success that exceeds his incredible expectations that will continue to rise throughout the NBA.

HONORING SNIDER FAMILY OF BEDFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Snider family of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, on the selection of their operation as a recipient of the National Beef Quality Assurance Award.

Singing Brook Farm is a third-generation farm currently managed by Ross Snider and his sister Greta Halahan.

Founded by Obie and Mary Ann Snider in 1951, Singing Brook Farms was later operated by their son, Bruce. Notably, Singing Brook Farms is an established leader in education and advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Snider family on receiving the National Beef Quality Assurance Award. Their commitment to agriculture continues to benefit all of the constituents of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District.

HONORING CLAYSBURG-KIMMEL ELEMENTARY FIRST LEGO LEAGUE TEAM

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise to honor the Claysburg-Kimmel Elementary FIRST LEGO League Team that captured the championship in the Best Robot Design category during regional competition.

What is most impressive about the achievement of these fifth and sixth graders is that they were the first LEGO Club at Claysburg-Kimmel Elementary that only formed last fall.

During the competition, students demonstrated their robot creations and offered presentations on how their robots would function in real-world settings.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate this team from Claysburg-Kimmel, their teachers and coaches Suzanne Wicker and Brandon Ickes, as well as elementary school principal Kevin Edmondson and Superintendent Darren McLaurin on this incredible achievement. Best wishes for continued success.

FACING AN INFLECTION POINT IN THIS NATION AND THE WORLD

(Ms. MCBRIDE of Delaware was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today at an inflection point for our Nation and the world.

Both here at home and abroad, families are facing the crushing weight of Donald Trump's chaotic and cruel leadership. At home, inflation is driving up costs around the country, and my neighbors are struggling to afford their utility bills, their health insurance, and their groceries.

In cities across our country, masked paramilitary agents are brutally murdering American citizens, disappearing immigrants without due process, and acting with cheered-on cruelty that mirrors a secret police force.

Overseas, this President has launched more military strikes against more countries than any President in history. He is circumventing Congress and ignoring international rules. He is emboldening authoritarians and insulting our allies. Just this past weekend, the United States began yet another war of choice in the Middle East based on misrepresented intelligence and uncertain objectives.

Already six Americans have tragically died in this avoidable conflict. Whether a full-scale ground war unfolds now or not, this President's shoot-first-ask-questions-later foreign policy inevitably leads to one place globally: death, destruction, and destabilization.

Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 250th year since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In the century and a half since, our country has faced several inflection points. In each one, we are faced with a choice: Do we destroy, or do we build? Do we destroy our Union, our Constitution, and our democracy, or do we choose to build a more perfect Union?

We seem to face one of these inflection points every 80 years, when the last living memory of the previous inflection point fades as the last generation that remembers it disappears. When living memory of the Revolution faded, we faced a Civil War. Eighty years after that, as a Great Depression raged, many in America called for a dictator to emulate the strong men in Europe.

Mr. Speaker, now as we lose the last of the Greatest Generation, we are once again seeing destroyers calling into question our democracy.

□ 1215

Mr. Speaker, destroyers thrive in a culture of cynicism. They exploit it for their own gain. They want to destroy our government and sell it for parts. They want to destroy our attention span and mine what little remains for advertising dollars. They want to destroy housing and healthcare so that they can consolidate power by doling out the scraps.

They want to destroy jobs and the American worker by unleashing unregulated technology that leaves the rich richer and everyone else behind. They want to destroy international institutions and rules so that the strong can plunder the weak.

Perhaps most dangerously, they want to destroy the central ingredient of our

democracy, which is our hope in a better future and our faith in one another. The bedrock of democracy is the faith that things can change because people can change.

In this world where it feels like every force is pulling us apart and where the platforms we live on can leave us feeling like politics and persuasion are pointless, amidst all of that, I have good news. While real disagreements exist and while our politics and this place don't always bring out the best in us, I see every day back in Delaware that we are not as divided as the algorithms make it seem.

Whether I am meeting with healthcare providers or educators, farmers or first responders, students or seniors, whether I am in red areas or blue areas, I see that people are good and kind and decent.

While it may be easier to destroy, I see that we still have the capacity to build something better.

We can build the housing of tomorrow that makes the American Dream of homeownership within reach, a healthcare system that allows every American to live and to thrive.

We can be truly profamily by building a cradle-through-career support system with paid leave, universal childcare, and strong public schools so that it is actually affordable to start a family.

We can build an economy of the future that protects workers and guarantees that the new prosperity made possible by new technologies are shared by the many and not concentrated with the few.

We can do hard things, Mr. Speaker, if we are willing to do the hard work. We can do the hard work of hope, the hard work of changemaking, of choosing grace over grievance, of learning from history so that we are not doomed to relive it.

Mr. Speaker, if there is one enduring truth, it is that we can still tap people's better angels if we choose to see them.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 972. An act to amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2815. An act to provide equitable treatment for the people of the Village Corporation established for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 72. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1070. An act to establish a National STEM Week to promote American innovation and enhance STEM education pathways for all students, including those in rural, urban, and underserved communities.

S. 2245. An act to amend the Digital Coast Act to improve the acquisition, integration, and accessibility of data of the Digital Coast program and to extend the program.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), as amended by Public Law 118-159, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy:

The Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) (Appropriations).

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 98-183, as amended by Public Law 103-419, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, appoints the following individual to the United States Commission on Civil Rights for a term of six years:

Sara Frankenstein vice Gail Heriot.

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 17 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. CRANK) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Lord, have mercy upon us. As nation rises against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, as famines and tragedies surround us, let us not be distressed or deceived. For it is in times like these, when wars and rumors of wars overwhelm our sense of certainty and security, that we lose sight of Your righteousness and doubt Your hand in our lives.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Show us what right is. For far more righteous than our attempts at vengeance, and far more just than our own sense of justice, is Your holy wrath and judgment against all that undermines Your design for peace and amity, even among enemies.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Deliver us from the suffering that wars inflict upon the innocent and the upright.

Preserve them from becoming collateral damage, too often the ill-considered cost of conflict.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Keep in Your everlasting care those who serve on the front lines, who fight for freedom and defend the right to live in safety and security.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Speak Your word of truth to the leaders who wield the power to bring conflict to an end. Inspire in them a deep desire to listen for and to yield to Your will.

Lord, have mercy upon us and grant us Your peace in these days.

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 Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCGOVERN 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.

MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 38, DIRECTING THE PRESIDENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 5(c) OF THE WAR POWERS RESOLUTION TO REMOVE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES FROM UNAUTHORIZED HOSTILITIES IN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to consider H. Con. Res. 38 in the House if called up by the chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or his designee; that the concurrent resolution be considered as read; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution to adoption without intervening motion, except for 2 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees.

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

There was no objection.

MAKING FOOD MORE AFFORDABLE

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, as part of my statewide End Hunger Now