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No. 41

## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NORMAN).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
March 4, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RALPH NORMAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2026, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

### RECOGNIZING THE 300TH SESSION OF THE ALVIN BROOKS WEDNESDAY NIGHT BLACK MEN CHATS

(Mr. CLEAVER of Missouri was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a towering figure in the history of Kansas City, Missouri, and in the life of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, Mr. Alvin Brooks, on the occasion of the 300th consecutive meeting of the Alvin Brooks Wednesday night Black men's chats.

That is 300 consecutive weeks. That is 300 consecutive weeks of showing up,

300 sacred spaces for dialogue, and 300 opportunities for healing, mentorship, accountability, and growth.

At age 93 years young, Mr. Brooks has not only witnessed history, he has helped shape it.

As a young man growing up in the super-segregated city called Kansas City, Alvin Brooks refused to accept the limitations imposed on him by racism and injustice. At a time when the color of our skin too often determined the boundaries of our opportunity, Mr. Brooks chose courage. He chose service. He chose to become one of Kansas City's few Black police officers in 1954.

That decision was not only about a career. It was about breaking barriers. It was about ensuring that marginalized voices would have a place where they could be heard.

Alvin Brooks was a mover and shaker. Throughout his distinguished career in law enforcement, Mr. Brooks became a crucial pillar of our community. He served not only as an officer but as a bridge-builder. He served not only as a public servant, but as a civil rights advocate. He served not only as a leader within the department, but eventually as president of the Kansas City, Missouri, Board of Police Commissioners.

Even beyond those titles, Mr. Brooks has always been what Kansas City knows him to be: a steady presence in moments of crisis, a trusted voice in times of unrest, and a moral compass when our city needs clarity and calmness.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that." Alvin Brooks has been and continues to be that light: a light of nonviolence, a light of racial reconciliation, a light of justice, and a light to show the way for the changing and coming generations.

Even at an age when many would have long ago stepped back, Mr. Brooks stepped up. In the midst of a global

pandemic in 2020, a time of isolation, anxiety, and national reckoning, Mr. Brooks established the Alvin Brooks Wednesday night Black men's chats. What began as a virtual gathering became something extraordinary, a consistent intergenerational forum bringing together men from across Missouri and eventually from across the whole Nation. The discussions included faith and public policy, civil rights, education, public health, the history of the Negro Leagues, and the urgent issues facing Black communities in America.

For nearly six uninterrupted years, Mr. Brooks has convened those meetings every single week. The chats have brought together civic leaders, education, faith leaders, civil rights advocates, students from historically Black colleges and universities and public officials, including Members of this very House in a space rooted in respect and growth.

That consistency is not accidental. It is a reflection of how Alvin Brooks has always been and will always be.

His commitment to service extends even further through the work of a civil rights leader and as a former member of the Hickman Mills school board, where he continued to invest in the future of Kansas City's children. He understands that community empowerment begins with education and that equity must be built generation by generation.

Mr. Speaker, what makes this milestone so powerful is not just the number 300. It is the discipline, faith, and the love behind it.

In an era when civic discourse can feel fractured and fleeting, Mr. Brooks reminds us that democracy is strengthened in small rooms and virtual gatherings just as much as it is on this floor. He reminds us that leadership is not about spotlight but stewardship.

For decades, Alvin Brooks has carried the mantle of responsibility with grace, helping guide communities through pain and progress alike.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g.,  1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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Today, as we recognize this historic man, this giant of a man, his legacy of resilience and courage and service without ego will continue.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Alvin Brooks.

#### ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN IS THE WORLD'S LEADING STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM.

(Mr. BAUMGARTNER of Washington was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, for nearly half a century, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism, has brutally targeted and killed Americans.

Through its own forces and its network of proxy militias, Iran has killed and injured thousands of Americans: diplomats, servicemembers, and civilians alike. No other terrorist regime has claimed more American lives. When the Ayatollahs of Iran chant "death to America," they mean it. President Trump's bold and decisive actions have helped protect American lives and defended our national interests.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind this body of the Iranian regime's ongoing and bloody campaign against the American people.

The following is only a partial record.

November 1979: Iranian students, backed by the regime, seized our embassy in Tehran and took 66 Americans for 44 days.

April 1983: an Iran-backed terrorist group bombed the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, killing 77 Americans.

October 1983: Iran-backed Hezbollah terrorists bombed the marine barracks in Beirut, killing 241 U.S. military personnel, including 220 Marines.

March 1984: Iran-backed terrorists kidnapped CIA Station Chief William Buckley in Beirut. He later died in captivity.

July 1989: Iran-backed Hezbollah terrorists murdered U.S. Marine Colonel William Higgins after kidnapping him while he was serving on a U.N. peace-keeping mission.

Throughout the 1990s, Iran-backed terrorists repeatedly targeted Americans in Israel and the Palestinian territories.

April 1995: a car bomb in the Gaza strip killed eight people, including one American citizen.

1995 through 1997: a series of suicide bombings on buses and shopping districts and public places in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv killed and wounded American citizens and dual nationals.

June 1996: Hezbollah terrorists directed by Iran bombed the Khobar Towers housing complex in Saudi Arabia, killing 19 U.S. airmen and wounding hundreds more.

August 1998: al-Qaida suicide bombers, facilitated by Iran-backed Hezbollah, bombed our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, killing 224 people, including dozens of Americans.

In the 2000s, Iran and its proxies continued targeting Americans, including multiple bombings in Jerusalem and at Hebrew University that killed and wounded American citizens.

October 2003: Iran-backed terrorists killed three U.S. diplomatic personnel in a bombing in Gaza.

Between 2003 and 2011, Iran-backed militias killed at least 603 U.S. troops in Iraq, roughly one in six of every Americans killed in combat and fatalities in that war, including some of my friends.

March 2007: former FBI agent Robert Levinson disappeared in Iran and is believed to have died in an Iranian prison, becoming one of the longest held American captives in history.

In the last decade, the pattern has continued.

December 2019: Iran-backed Kataib Hezbollah terrorists killed an American contractor and wounded U.S. servicemembers in a rocket attack in Iraq.

January 2020: Iranian ballistic missile attack on Ain al-Asad airbase in Iraq left 109 U.S. troops with traumatic brain injuries.

February 2021 and July 2021: Iran-backed militias launched rocket and drone attacks that wounded U.S. servicemembers and American contractors in Iraq and Syria.

September 2022 and November 2022: Iran and IRGC-linked operatives killed American citizens in Iraqi Kurdistan and Baghdad.

March 2023: an Iranian drone strike on a coalition base in Syria killed an American contractor and wounded five U.S. servicemembers and another contractor.

October 7, 2023: Iran-backed Hamas terrorists murdered 46 Americans and kidnapped at least a dozen more in the October 7 massacre.

Between 2023 and November 2024: Iran and its proxies conducted more than 180 attacks on U.S. Forces in the Middle East, wounding over 180 American servicemembers and killing three.

January 2024: Iran-backed Kataib Hezbollah terrorists killed three U.S. servicemembers and wounded more than 40 in a drone attack on a U.S. base in Jordan.

November 2024: an Iranian national and IRGC asset was charged in a plot to assassinate President Trump on behalf of the Iranian regime.

June 2025: Iran-backed militias attacked multiple U.S. bases in Syria and Iraq, again targeting American troops.

Mr. Speaker, this is only a partial list of Iran's bloody war on American citizens. For decades, administrations of both parties have understood this threat. President Trump's actions are part of a necessary effort to defend American lives. I spent a lot of time in the Middle East in a lot of places, and there has been one constant: Iranian-backed terrorist groups have always been trying to kill Americans. That ends now.

#### DEATH OF NURUL AMIN SHAH ALAM

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart as our community and our Nation mourn a death that should have never happened.

Nurul Amin Shah Alam was 56 years old. He was a Rohingya refugee who came to the U.S. legally after fleeing persecution and violence in Burma, searching for safety for himself and his family.

He made his way to Buffalo, the city of Good Neighbors.

He was nearly blind. He spoke very little English. He could not read, write, or navigate on his own. On February 19, DHS gave Mr. Shah Alam what they called a courtesy ride. That so-called courtesy ride resulted in him being left alone at a closed coffee shop miles from his family's home in the dead of winter.

It would also be the last time Mr. Shah Alam was seen alive. His family was not notified. His attorney was not notified. There was no coordinated handoff, no protection for a man that was a vulnerable individual with disabilities.

For 5 days, his loved ones checked hospitals and shelters. They walked the streets in search of Mr. Shah Alam, and they waited for answers that would never come.

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Mr. Shah Alam was tragically found dead. His last known interaction was with Kristi Noem's Department of Homeland Security. That fact alone demands a full and independent investigation. When someone in government custody is abandoned and then found dead, the American people deserve answers.

Under Trump and Kristi Noem, we have seen a disgusting pattern of cruelty, inhumanity, and injustice from their Department of Homeland Security. It is a pattern rooted in hate, division, and intolerance, with a willful and complete disregard for human life.

Leadership matters. Accountability matters. The Department of Homeland Security under Kristi Noem has neither.

Our communities deserve a government that protects the vulnerable, not one that drops them in the cold in the dark of night.

The death of Nurul Amin Shah Alam is a failure of our entire system. Those at the top must answer for it, starting with Kristi Noem.

Mr. Shah Alam should be alive today. He came to our country seeking refuge. Instead, his family laid him to rest last week.

This should not be just another headline or more background noise to be forgotten. A man is dead after being abandoned by our government. His