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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. 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.

HONORING SEGERSTROM HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM

(Mr. CORREA of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the Segerstrom High School girls' soccer team for earning a victory and the CIF Division 6 championship, again showing Santa Ana as the home of champs. The Jaguars won 4-0, securing their first CIF championship in history. This is a testament to their hard work and dedication.

Congratulations to Coach Diego Aguirre for his leadership, and players Aymar Salgado, Isabella Barrera, and Jewel Orellana for scoring in the CIF championship game.

Congratulations to all the players on the team's success. They have made their school and the Santa Ana community so proud, and we look forward to seeing their future successes.

HONORING BERA FAMILY

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bera family and their multigenerational commitment to service, education, and our community.

This family legacy began with Kanta and Babulal Bera, who came to the United States from India in the late 1950s. Kanta and Babulal believed that education was the pathway to opportunity in the middle class. They worked multiple jobs, while pursuing graduate degrees and raising Raja, Rimal, and Ami, their three sons.

The Beras' dedication to global health spanned from Orange County to India. From starting an all-girls school in India that has graduated more than 7,000 students to supporting health and housing efforts not only in India but in southern California, the Beras have expanded opportunities to countless communities to pursue their educational opportunities.

Two generations now of Beras have attended UCI School of Medicine. UCI School of Medicine has become the center of their efforts to support future medical graduates.

In 2020, the Beras donated \$100,000 to the UCI School of Medicine to permanently support medical students traveling to India. These aspiring medical students are able to work in global clinical environments and underserved communities here in the United States.

The personal history of the Bera family inspires all of us to pursue education and to give back to our communities, not only in America but around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Bera family. I thank them for showing us how it is done.

HONORING GERARD "JERRY" GALLOWAY

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life and legacy of Levittown's own Gerard "Jerry" Galloway of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, my hometown.

He passed away at the age of 75 after a courageous and hard-fought battle with cancer.

Born in Philadelphia as the first of 10 children, Jerry's deep Catholic faith instilled by his parents, Jim and Jane, guided him throughout his life of service to his family, his community, and to his country.

Drafted into the United States Army in 1968, Jerry served our Nation with quiet strength before earning a bachelor's degree and two master's degrees in education and psychology later in life.

He devoted his career to serving individuals with autism and intellectual disabilities, working with students who were too often labeled as difficult or unreachable. He showed every child the attention and love that only he could give.

A lifelong member of Queen of the Universe parish, my home parish in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Jerry brought Holy Communion and companionship to those who were unable to attend Mass. He and his family are the heart and soul behind the annual Bucks County St. Patrick's Day Parade. He will be remembered not only for his faith and service but for his "king of cool" spirit that made everyone he met feel known and feel loved.

We extend our deepest sympathies to his beloved wife, Edna; his daughters, Meaghann, Bridget, and Maria; his grandchildren; and to all who knew and loved him.

Jerry Galloway's legacy of faith, family, and service will forever be remembered with pride by the Galloway family and the entire Bucks County family. He will be dearly missed, and we love him.

CELEBRATING 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MAE KRIER

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, this week we celebrate the 100th birthday of my friend, the indomitable Mae Krier of Levittown, Pennsylvania, one of our Nation's original Rosie the Riveters.

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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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As a young woman in World War II, Mae went on to work for the home front, helping build the aircraft that formed the backbone of America's airpower.

For decades since she has been a tireless advocate to ensure that millions of Rosies receive the recognition they have long deserved. They riveted, welded, and labored in our factories, in our shipyards, in our farms, in our schools, and in our hospitals.

Mr. Speaker, I was honored to lead the Rosie the Riveter Congressional Gold Medal Act and to present Mae Krier with that gold medal, the very first one, the highest civilian honor from Congress, on the shores of Normandy during the 80th anniversary of the D-Day invasion in tribute to all the women whose hands and hearts helped win this war.

Mae is the embodiment of a trailblazer. Her contributions during the war and her tireless advocacy for women's empowerment and equality have laid the foundation for the America we cherish today and for the next generation of young women.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Rosie the Riveter Mae Krier a very happy 100th birthday and in honoring all the Rosies whose courage and patriotism changed America forever.

HONORING JAMES A. LEWIS IV

(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 to honor the life and legacy of James A. Lewis IV, who tragically passed away on January 26, 2026, at the age of 46.

James was the beloved son of Reverend Dr. James A. Lewis III and Lady Zandra Lewis of Miracle Missions Full Gospel Church.

He was a loving brother to Lisa, Colby, Tamara, Jamila, and Jermaine. He was a trusted friend. Above all, he was a devoted father to Jadah and grandfather to JaKai James Smith, instilling a love that will forever run deep within them.

For James, his friends, family, and community were everything. On Sundays, one didn't have to look far to find James. He would be at the grill, apron on, with tongs in hand and a smile on his face, graciously making sure everyone had a full plate. It was a simple demonstration of his kind and generous spirit. One of the quiet ways he showed love was by making sure everyone was taken care of.

He carried that same spirit of service into every facet of his life, including his work at the Erie County Medical Center and Golisano Children's Hospital of Buffalo. He helped keep patients safe, supported frontline caregivers, and ensured that healing could happen.

James went on to build a business of his own, starting a cleaning company,

driven by excellence and commitment to service. Through his work, James supported community institutions of all sizes and helped create spaces where opportunity and hope could flourish and take root.

James measured his success by whether his family was cared for, whether his work was done well, and whether he lived in accordance with his faith. Today, his legacy lives on through his beloved family. In them, his strength endures; and his spirit carries forward.

The backbone of this Nation is built by those like James A. Lewis IV, people who serve quietly, love fiercely, and build community one act of kindness at a time.

May we honor him not just for what he did but for who he was. May we carry forward his example by loving our families more intentionally, serving our communities more faithfully, and remembering that greatness is often found in everyday acts of devotion.

Our community and our Nation grieves with the Lewis family. May memories of his life and the knowledge that he is now in the arms of the Lord comfort them. May James A. Lewis IV rest in peace.

HONORING BERNARD LAFAYETTE

(Ms. SEWELL of Alabama was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the extraordinary life and legacy of Bernard LaFayette, who passed away on March 5, 2026, at the age of 85. He was a giant of the civil rights movement and a lifelong champion of justice, equality, and nonviolence.

Bernard LaFayette was an extraordinary man who had extraordinary talents and extraordinary courage. As a Freedom Rider and a cofounder of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, otherwise known as SNCC, Bernard placed himself on the front line of the struggle for civil rights, risking life and limb to challenge injustice and dismantle segregation across the South.

As a trusted lieutenant of Dr. Martin Luther King, he helped to advocate a philosophy of nonviolent social change that moved our Nation closer to its founding promise of liberty and justice for all.

His liberation was one of selflessness. His leadership was instrumental during the most pivotal moments of the civil rights movement, especially in my hometown of Selma, where his organizing efforts helped secure the right to vote for countless Black Americans.

Yet, what set Bernard LaFayette apart was not only his bravery in those defining moments but his lifelong commitment to ensuring the principles of nonviolence would endure forever.

Through his ministry, his scholarship, and his teaching, Bernard LaFayette dedicated himself to training new

generations in the principles and the discipline of peaceful resistance.

He believed deeply in what Dr. King called the Beloved Community, a Nation and a world rooted in justice, in reconciliation, and love. He worked every day of his life to make that vision a reality.

On a personal note, as a proud daughter of Selma, I am forever grateful for the sacrifices made by Bernard LaFayette in the name of justice and equality. I know that I get to walk the Halls of Congress as Alabama's first Black Congresswoman because of the resilience, the courage, and determination of people like Bernard.

My thoughts and prayers are with his beloved wife, Kate, as well as his family, friends, and all those whose lives he touched.

On behalf of Alabama's Seventh Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the extraordinary life and legacy of a civil rights icon and a nonviolent advocate, Bernard LaFayette. May he rest in power and in peace.

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NEBRASKA WILDFIRE CRISIS

(Mr. SMITH of Nebraska was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in keeping the people of Nebraska in their thoughts and prayers as our State confronts the worst wildfire crisis in our history.

Nebraska has always been defined by resilience. From the pioneers who endured brutal blizzards, devastating droughts, and an uncertain future to build a life on the Great Plains, to the families who call it home today, that spirit has never left us. It is who we are.

Today, that spirit is being tested once again. On March 12, four fires ignited across central and western Nebraska. In less than a week, they have burned over 826,000 acres, and there is still no clear end in sight.

This past weekend, I joined Governor Pillen and Senator RICKETTS to tour the affected areas and meet with local officials to learn about the latest containment efforts. What I saw and heard was certainly sobering. The scale of this devastation is staggering.

Across 10 counties, no less than 46 structures have been destroyed and 470 more are threatened. At least 600 Nebraskans have had to evacuate their homes, and 1 Nebraskan, Rose White of Arthur, Nebraska, has lost her life. I certainly take a moment to offer my heartfelt condolences to her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and all who knew and loved her.

Right now, these fires continue to burn, and Mother Nature is not predicted to be of any assistance any time soon. The Morrill fire, now the largest wildfire in Nebraska's history, has already burned more than 643,000 acres