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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 BROGAN DOLATA

(Ms. STEVENS of Michigan was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to share with you today's remarks and to have you hear them, because on January 3, 2019, it was a special day for many of us in this very Chamber. It was my first day here.

Amid the ceremonies and celebrations and the chaos of that day, I will never forget watching my dear, sweet cousin, Brogan Dolata, who had just turned 12, run through the aisles of this very Chamber to join in the chorus of children at the rostrum and help swear in then-Speaker PELOSI.

She also sat by my side as I raised my hand and was sworn in as a Member of Congress on behalf of Michigan's 11th District to the 116th session of Congress.

Brogan helped send a message to the country that a new Democratic majority had come to Washington to protect America's children and to get our country back on track.

Seven years later, that little girl who carried her pink coin purse everywhere

she went, soliciting small, dollar donations from her friends and neighbors to send her cousin Haley to Congress, is now the talented, brilliant, beautiful young woman who fills our lives with joy and hope. This weekend she accomplishes a major feat as she graduates from high school and begins her next chapter.

Brogan was born in Michigan's 11th District and raised along California's Central Coast. She is smart, funny, down to earth, and dynamic no matter what gets thrown her way. At a young age, she taught herself how to drive on her grandfather's farm and she hasn't stopped running circles around us since. That is the Michigan grit in her blood.

Brogan is also a star athlete. She found her passion in lacrosse and recently took her high school all the way to the California State championships. She scored 7 goals in the semifinals, secured a coveted spot in the northern California all-star game, and led her team to victory. Brogan knows how to win, and she does it gracefully, always looking out for her teammates and making sure everyone around her shares in success.

Brogan is the rock in our family, constantly defying expectations and making us proud. She sets her mind on her goals and works hard to achieve them. Nothing gets in her way. It has been such a treat to watch her grow into the dedicated and determined young lady she is today.

We are so excited for Brogan to pursue her dreams this fall, attending Santa Barbara City College with the plan to transfer to UCSB and become an entrepreneur just like her mother. It is only a matter of time before she takes the whole world by storm.

We know that achievements like this never happen on their own, so I congratulate my dear first cousin Chloe Dolata, and Brogan's father, Jay, on this important milestone in their lives.

They have raised an exceptional daughter, and for that they deserve all the praise we have.

From her mom and dad, to her l'oncle Brendan; to Grandberry Marcie and Gramps and Auntie Maria; to her cousins, Blake and Haley, we are so proud of her. She is the pride and joy of this family. She is our future and we can't wait to see all she accomplishes.

We have always been at each other's sides through thick and thin, and I will always be there for her no matter the circumstances.

I wanted to take a moment in this storied Chamber to recognize Brogan's accomplishments and to write her achievements into our country's history books.

Congratulations on this milestone. I love you and I cannot wait to see you soon.

REMEMBERING OUR SERVICEMEMBERS THIS MEMORIAL DAY

(Mr. CRANK of Colorado was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, this Memorial Day, I rise to remember and honor our brave servicemen and servicewomen who made the ultimate sacrifice answering the call to defend our great Nation.

Whether it is the men and women who helped us gain our independence from the British throne in the Revolutionary War or the men and women who fought bravely against Japanese imperialism, we owe all of these men and women a debt of gratitude.

I hope that we in this Chamber rise to the occasion and that we continue this tradition of this country recognizing and honoring the memory of those who gave their lives so that we could have this liberty and freedom that God entrusted to us in this Nation.

Just this year, we lost a young soul who was stationed in my district, a

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

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gentleman from Kentucky, Staff Sergeant Benjamin Pennington. He gave his life in service to our country.

Ben courageously answered the call to protect us from those who sought to do us harm, and his sacrifice is a grave and sobering reminder of the dangers that our men and women in uniform face across the globe each and every day.

Just like our police officers and our first responders, they walk out the door to deploy, sometimes a very long deployment, sometimes 9 months, 11 months, and they don't know if that is the last time they will see their spouse or their daughter or their son. We must remember this sacrifice.

Servicemembers like Benjamin remind us that Memorial Day is not only a day to mourn our fallen but a deeply personal day for our military families and for our loved ones who bear the everlasting burden. It is not about barbecues. It is about remembering those who gave their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in thanking and honoring those who have served our great Nation.

SALUTING THE MEN OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 128

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the men of The American Legion Post 128 in Rye, New York, for their patriotism and their true sense of civic duty.

This post, comprised of veterans of military service, is just one part of The American Legion Department of New York, and it is led by Commander Fred de Barros and Adjutant Tim Moynihan. Their commitment to American values will be on display this Memorial Day weekend as they host the annual parade and ceremony on the Village Green in Rye.

The ceremony will feature a presentation of the annual Americanism award this year to a deserving Rye resident, Laura Pellegrini, along with high school students who have participated in the annual essay contest.

The post members last weekend placed American flags at the graves of veterans at Greenwood Union Cemetery. Every year, they conduct Veterans Day services on the Village Green in November, and also a used flag disposal ceremony and other patriotic recognitions.

From the floor of the House of Representatives, we acknowledge and recognize The American Legion Post 128 and the Ladies Auxiliary for their service to city and to country.

REMEMBERING CONGRESSMAN ELIOT ENGEL

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and accomplishments of my predecessor, Congressman Eliot Engel, who passed away on April 10, with particular focus on his representation of the Bronx and Westchester, and his leadership on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

A product of the Bronx, Eliot was a fixture in New York politics for as long as I knew him and zealously represented the diverse constituencies that characterized metro New York, and at various times the Bronx, Westchester, and Rockland Counties.

Originally winning election as a third-party candidate, he first served in the New York State Assembly from 1977 to 1988, and thereafter as a Member of Congress for the Bronx and Westchester until 2020.

Eliot supported liberal policies at home. He fought vigorously to protect Kosovar Albanians and for the United States to recognize Kosovo as an independent nation.

Last week in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, at the urging of my colleague RITCHIE TORRES, leader BRIAN MAST, and Ranking Member GREG MEEKS, we passed a bill to honor Congressman Engel's life and legacy by renaming the U.S. Chancery in Pristina, Kosovo, the Eliot L. Engel Building.

While naming a building for someone will never replace having them in the room with you, it is my hope that this effort will allow his work, his leadership, and his legacy to live on for years to come.

May his memory be a blessing.

CONGRATULATING WILLCOX HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM

(Mr. CISCOMANI of Arizona was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Willcox High School softball team on winning the 2026 2A State championship title.

The number five Willcox Cowgirls defeated the number two Mohave Accelerated in Bullhead City with a score of 5-3 to claim the championship and finish the season with an impressive 16-3 record.

This victory marks the Cowgirls' first State softball title in 16 years, an accomplishment certainly to be celebrated. This championship didn't come easy, though. On their way to the game, the team's bus broke down, but the Cowgirls didn't let this setback get in the way of the most important day of the season.

Instead, they crammed into parents' cars to make it to the game, and they made it on time, prepared to play their absolute best.

During the game, Willcox put one on the board in the fourth inning and maintained their lead, scoring 1 in the fifth, and then 3 in the seventh.

Freshman pitcher Hattie Macumber earned the MVP of the 2A tournament after an impressive seven strikeouts and two runs.

Congratulations to Coach Trevor Ward, the whole team, and everyone who made this win possible. Their hard work has made their school and their community very proud.

To the Cowgirls, may they enjoy their victory. They have earned it.

Here is to another successful season and many more to come.

REMEMBERING CHRIS AND JACQUE SHEAFE

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor a dear friend, Chris Sheafe. He and his beloved wife, Jacque, tragically and unexpectedly passed earlier this month.

My wife, Laura, and I are deeply saddened by this loss, a loss to us personally and a loss to our entire community.

Chris was a special person, a wise and thoughtful man, who generously shared his time with people and the causes that he believed in, as well. Chris devoted decades of his life to making the American Dream a reality as a successful homebuilder.

The safety, shelter, and financial security that comes from owning your home, Chris helped make that possible for so many people throughout his life. He was also a driving force in shaping Tucson's hospitality industry as a partner in the company that constructed one of the signature resorts that our desert community is famous for: Loews Ventana Canyon Resort.

His work with organizations like Rio Nuevo, the Southern Arizona Homebuilders Association, and the Tucson International Airport Authority was a true expression of how intentionally he cared about the Tucson community which he called home for the past 50 years.

Chris devoted his career to work and shaping southern Arizona, improving our community for those who live there today and for our next generation as well. He was a man of integrity, a man true to his word, and a man who you wanted close to you all the time.

Chris and Jacque's love for the Lord was truly evident. They both always took time to greet each one of my kids and make them feel special. I have six kids, Mr. Speaker, so that took time every single Sunday when we saw them at church.

□ 1015

They brought joy into every room they entered, and together they led a life marked by service and by passion.

Laura and I are keeping the Sheafe family in our thoughts and prayers as we all grieve this heartbreaking loss.

We are grateful for all he gave to our community. He will be deeply missed, and his legacy will live on in the lives that he touched.

Mr. Speaker, may my dear friend rest in peace.

HONORING NAOMI LAKE

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank my former legislative director, Naomi Lake.

Naomi is a Chicago native who worked in my congressional office since my first day in Congress in 2019.