

CONGRATULATING AMBASSADOR CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. MOORE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Ambassador Christian School football team from Huntersville, North Carolina, on an impressive victory in Dublin, Ireland.

These student-athletes traveled across the Atlantic to represent North Carolina in the Global Ireland Football Tournament, where they took on Grapevine Faith Christian School from Texas.

I am pleased to report the Ambassador Christian Lions came away with a 24-point victory, putting their hard work and dedication on full display.

Ambassador Christian School opened its doors in 2024, and this football program is already making its mark.

Mr. Speaker, the players and coaches represented Huntersville, North Carolina, and the United States with great pride. I look forward to seeing what this team accomplishes next. Congratulations and go Lions.

I would be remiss, Mr. Speaker, if I did not point out that they were not the only North Carolina team that dealt a defeat to a Texas school in Ireland. I would just simply say God bless America and go Heels.

HONORING BRUCE JAMES

(Ms. MEJIA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MEJIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Passaic County commissioner and my friend Bruce James.

Bruce served as a county commissioner for over 20 years and previously served as a union leader at the Passaic County Board of Social Services.

Bruce was a lifelong champion of working people and was integral to our fight to raise the minimum wage in New Jersey. For two decades, he showed up for our community for stronger parks, safer streets, and a county government that met families on their hardest days. He sat across that desk himself, and he never forgot it.

Bruce did this work because he believed that working people deserved dignity, respect, and a government that fights for them as hard as they fight for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, we carry forward Bruce's fight and his legacy with love.

RECOGNIZING SLOVAK REPUBLIC CONSTITUTION DAY

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

Mr. HURD of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 1 as Constitution Day of the Slovak Republic, commemorating the adoption of Slovakia's Constitution in 1992.

A constitution is more than a legal document. It is a people's decision to govern themselves under law and to place limits on the power of government.

That principle has a particular meaning in Slovakia. Following decades of Communist rule, the Slovak people helped build a free, democratic republic grounded in constitutional government and in the rule of law.

Today, Slovakia is a friend and NATO ally of the United States. Our Nations share strong ties in security, trade, energy, and diplomacy. Generations of Slovak Americans have made that friendship deeper still.

Mr. Speaker, on Constitution Day, I congratulate the Slovak people and celebrate the freedom, self-government, and enduring friendship that bind our two nations.

HONORING ELLERY CHOKE

(Ms. STRICKLAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Ellery "Ken" Choke, the chairman of the Nisqually Indian Tribe, who passed away on August 4, 2026.

Chairman Choke was born on February 25, 1964, in Centralia, Washington, and served as chairman of the Nisqually Tribe from 2018 to 2021 and was reelected chairman in 2024.

Chairman Choke was a respected and beloved leader who placed his community at the center of service. He was dedicated to protecting the land, water, salmon, and people of the Nisqually Tribe for generations to come. He will be remembered for his tireless service and commitment to his Tribal nation and to the South Sound community at large.

I was personally pleased to work with him on our efforts to transfer the Clear Creek Hatchery from U.S. Fish and Wildlife to Tribal ownership. I remain committed to honoring his legacy by moving this project forward and making it reality.

I am hopeful that his dedication to ensuring Tribal treaty rights, protecting our natural resources, and boosting salmon species in our region will continue on through those he knew.

He made South Sound, the State of Washington, and the Nation better; and he will be deeply missed. He is survived by his wife, eight children, and six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in a moment of silence and hold Chairman Choke's family, loved ones, and the entire Nisqually Tribe of Indians in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

□ 1110

HONORING COACH ED KARPOVICH

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

Mr. BRESNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Ed Karpovich, who retired last month from the University of Scranton golf team after an extraordinary 44 years as head coach.

He leaves a lasting mark on countless athletes, including myself, who had the privilege of learning from him. Before coaching, Ed was a distinguished golfer for the University of Scranton Royals, and in 1982, he came back to lead the team, transforming the program into a powerhouse.

During his coaching career, he led the team to over 400 wins in dual matches, a MAC title, and two landmark conference titles. Ed used his love of golf to cofound the Glenmaura National Collegiate Invitational, which draws talent from all over the country, including watching Chris Shank land a 40-foot putt.

Most of all, he understood that above being a coach, he was a teacher and a mentor. He not only invested in his student-athletes as players, he developed them as people, instilling excellence on the course and in all facets of life.

I am honored to have played for Coach Karpovich, to have learned from him, and to call him a mentor.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Coach Karpovich on an extraordinary career and thank him for the lasting impact he has had on generations of student-athletes in northeastern Pennsylvania.

RECOGNIZING AIS RADIANCE PROGRAM

(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 we approach Labor Day, we should remember that the strength of our workforce can't just be measured by the jobs we create, but also by who we choose to include.

The Radiance Program, established by AIS of Leominster, Massachusetts, is a shining example of how businesses can unlock opportunities for people with physical, intellectual, and developmental challenges.

I thank Nick Haritos, Deanna Zarrella, Richard Marchand, and the entire team at AIS for their dedication to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I especially celebrate the young adults in the Radiance Program. Their hard work, determination, and willingness to learn new skills is truly inspiring. They are building careers, gaining confidence, and strengthening the teams and communities around them.

Programs like this make a huge difference, and I hope others follow the

leadership of AIS and recognize the incredible talent that exists in every single community and see what is possible when everyone has the opportunity to succeed.

VICTORY FOR UKRAINE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, with the insidious invasion of sovereign Ukraine by war criminal Putin on February 24, 2022, over 1 million people have been murdered, with nearly 70,000 Ukrainian civilian casualties.

Putin falsely believed Ukraine would fall quickly, but brave Ukrainians have inspired the world, with America and over 50 other countries supporting Ukraine.

War criminal Putin continues the cowardly bombing of families and infrastructure, including this hospital for children in his failed invasion. In contrast, Ukrainians have achieved 35 years of independence with victory for Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to cosponsor with Chairman MIKE MCCAUL the bipartisan President Donald Trump-endorsed Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act, introduced by Senator DARLINE GRAHAM, with a vote in the Senate of 86-11.

In conclusion, God bless our troops. President Donald Trump is reinstituting peace through strength, revealing that dictator Putin lies, insulting Trump and mocking Trump with Trump now supporting stronger sanctions.

Our sympathy to the family of city of Columbia Police Officer Christopher DeLong; his wonderful, devoted widow, Hannah DeLong; Columbia Police Chief Skip Holbrook; Columbia Mayor Daniel Rickenmann; and his colleagues and friends.

REMEMBERING XAVIEN HARRISON

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I honor the life and legacy of Nashville town councilman and pastor, Xavien Harrison.

Xavien was a devoted public servant, pastor, and advocate for young people who believed in the power of community. He truly invested in the next generation, helping young people to see their full potential.

He brought the same spirit of service to the Nashville Town Council, where he worked to build partnerships and make his community stronger. His faith, compassion, and commitment to Nashville left a lasting mark on eastern North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, we pray for Jacquetta, his family, the Philadelphia Mis-

sionary Baptist Church, and the people of Nashville, and we stand with them.

RECOGNIZING CITY OF HOMEWOOD, ALABAMA

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

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the city of Homewood, Alabama, as it celebrates its 100th anniversary this year.

Homewood's history began long before its incorporation in 1926. The first settlers arrived in the area in the early 1800s. Union Hill Cemetery, established in the 1870s, serves as the final resting place for many of the early settlers of the area as well as veterans who fought in the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, and both world wars.

In 1926, communities, including Rose-dale, Edgewood, and Grove Park developed and eventually came together to form the city of Homewood. The historic Hollywood community joined Homewood in 1929 and remains known today for its distinctive Mission Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival homes.

Over the decades, Homewood's population boomed and the city continued to forge its own identity, including establishing an independent school system in 1970.

Today, Homewood is known for its excellent schools, thriving businesses, beautiful neighborhoods, and strong sense of community.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate this remarkable milestone, I congratulate the people of Homewood on a century of growth and success. I look forward to all that the next 100 years will bring.

ELECTIONS CLAUSE

(Ms. HOYLE of Oregon asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, Article I, Section 4, Clause 1 of the Constitution says: The time, place, and manner of elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the legislature thereof, but Congress may at any time by law—by law—make or alter such regulations.

There is a court order saying the administration may not interfere with vote by mail. In Oregon, we only vote by mail and have done so since 1995, and yet, here we are.

Where are my colleagues who took an oath to uphold the Constitution and the rule of law? Where are my colleagues who took an oath to uphold the separation of powers between Congress and the executive branch and representative democracy? Where are my colleagues who took an oath to uphold the peaceful transfer of power, to allow every eligible citizen to vote? Where are my colleagues?

History will not judge this cowardice well. Where the hell are you? Stand up and uphold the Constitution. You took a damn oath.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

RECOGNIZING SLOVAKIA'S CONSTITUTION DAY

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Slovak Caucus, I rise today to recognize Slovakia's Constitution Day, marking 33 years as a sovereign state.

The U.S.-Slovakia relationship rests on shared democratic values and security interests.

Today, Slovakia is a vital U.S. partner and NATO ally, but this friendship began more than a century ago.

During World War I, the United States stood with Slovak's democratic aspirations and later welcomed the creation of an independent Slovakia in 1993.

Today, nearly 1 million Americans proudly claim Slovak ancestry, including many in my district in northeast Indiana. Our relationship carries renewed momentum today in energy security, economic cooperation, and defense partnerships, including the partnership between the Slovak Armed Forces and the Indiana National Guard.

Mr. Speaker, I wish the people of Slovakia a happy Constitution Day, and may the United States and Slovakia continue to stand together for generations to come.

□ 1120

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT CLAUDE RHEA WALLS

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sergeant Claude Rhea Walls of Wilson County, Tennessee, for his extraordinary heroism during the Korean war.

On May 18, 1951, while serving with Company C, 1st Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea, Sergeant Walls defended his battalion's forward command post against numerically superior Chinese forces. He delivered devastating automatic rifle fire and grenades, then voluntarily stayed behind with another fellow soldier to cover his platoon's withdrawal.

After his brother-in-arms was severely wounded, Sergeant Walls rendered first aid and evacuated him, repeatedly stopping to suppress the Chinese forces. His selfless actions saved his fellow soldier and preserved his battalion's withdrawal. Walls' valor was