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No. 139

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, September 4, 2026, at 10 a.m.

House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 2, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JEFF CRANK 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 LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, for more than 75 years,

Williamsport, Pennsylvania, has welcomed hundreds of baseball players and spectators across the world to participate in the Little League World Series.

Founded by Carl Stotz, this event has long been a direct reflection of the American spirit and love for the game.

During the inaugural game in 1947, only teams from Pennsylvania and New Jersey competed, and a local team from Williamsport won.

Today, Little League participation has expanded both in the United States and across the globe. Approximately 2 million boys and girls play Little League worldwide, representing more than 80 countries and all 50 States.

While the game has not changed, participation has. Since 1947, more than 20 girls have played in the series.

Mr. Speaker, children who participate in Little League learn about sportsmanship, responsibility, hard work, and, of course, build friendships that last a lifetime.

Former players have gone on to play baseball and softball in college, been drafted into professional teams, become coaches, and often serve as leaders in their communities.

Every year, the Little League World Series welcomes more than 300,000 fans. This event brings communities together and would not be successful without the hard work of volunteers who help support the teams, the fans, and the coaches.

This annual event is a great way to continue celebrating our Nation's founding and reveling in our shared love for baseball.

For many years, I have attended the games and loved seeing the teams,

fans, and volunteers supporting one another.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all the teams that competed and thank all the volunteers, umpires, and officials who make this annual event possible.

SALUTING WHITE PLAINS BEAUTIFICATION FOUNDATION

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute the work of the men and women volunteers and leaders of the White Plains Beautification Foundation. They have amassed an army of committed citizens under President Terry Hanson to get their hands dirty, and sometimes a little back and leg cramps, with sweat equity that enhances the visual improvements to the many city parks and open spaces across White Plains. This adds to the city's appeal to new residents and longtime neighbors alike.

The Adopt-a-Park program, the extensive tree-planting efforts, and the improvements on Mamaroneck Avenue and North Street as travelers enter White Plains are very real achievements by this group and their generous base of donors.

In addition to their president, let me recognize former presidents who serve as current directors: Mary Merenda, Deborah Donahoe, Beth Wallach, Marie Silverman Marich, Jean Bello, and Barbara Ramsdell; and former Westchester County Commissioner P. Lynn Oliva,

☐ 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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who heads up the Adopt-a-Park program.

Mr. Speaker, from the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, we praise the work of the White Plains Beautification Foundation for all they have accomplished.

RECOGNIZING CO-OP CITY LEADERS

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to continue to recognize the men and women who are leaders in their respective buildings in Co-op City in the Bronx, the largest housing cooperative in the world.

These leaders organize community events, holiday celebrations, and fundraisers and help advocate for building improvements and upgrades.

We salute the following individuals for their tireless commitment to their community and their neighbors: Douglas Handler, Building 3; Dawn Mitchell, Building 4; Debbie Lowden, Building 5; KaTrina Dinham, Building 12; Josie Ferguson, Building 14; Dorothea Castle, Building 15A; Sandy Krasnov, Building 15B; Jacqueline Salmon, Building 16; Francine Jones, Building 20; Toran Smith, Sr., Building 21; Joan June, Building 22; Denise Gerrald, Building 25; Michael Adolphus, Building 29; Susan Lecoq, Building 30; Kim Toulson, Building 31; and Melanie Clunie, Building 34. There are clearly a lot of these folks.

There are also townhouse associations: Kenneth Graham, Adler Place; Eva Lazaar, Broun Place; Anika Green-Watson, Cooper Place; Jacqueline Mason, Debs Place; and Ida Clark, Earhart Lane.

Mr. Speaker, from the floor of the House of Representatives, we commend all of these Co-op building association presidents for their dedication in improving the community around them.

CELEBRATING PATRICIA ANN RICHER JEFFERY'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. RUTHERFORD of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I stand today in celebration of the 100th birthday of Ponte Vedra, Florida's own Pat Jeffery.

Pat was born in Miles City, Montana, on August 30, 1926, but spent much of her childhood in Indiana. She attended Indiana University, and after graduating, she moved to New York City to attend the Katharine Gibbs School.

Pat soon began working as a publicity writer at NBC Studios. It was in New York City that Pat met her husband, Scott Jeffery. Soon, they were engaged. Scott was promoted and transferred to Colombia by the Colgate-Palmolive Company. Together, they moved to Colombia and married in the Panama Canal Zone on January 25, 1956.

Over the next 30 years, they raised four children and built a wonderful life together in Colombia.

Pat immersed herself in community service through their Episcopal church,

helping to establish the Trinity school, which provided educational opportunities for children without access to schooling.

Pat also helped other mothers in the area earn incomes to help support their families by teaching them how to make handbags and macrame. Some of those bags actually were eventually sold at Bloomingdale's and other boutiques throughout the United States.

Pat even started her own tennis apparel company called Aire, which her daughter, Barbara, and the family helped grow.

However, living in Colombia was becoming increasingly more dangerous for the family. After three decades in Colombia, Pat and Scott made the difficult decision to leave and return home to the United States.

In 1986, they retired and moved to Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. There, they embraced their new chapter in life and found a community filled with wonderful friends, endless activities, and a true sense of belonging.

From Montana to New York City and Colombia to Ponte Vedra Beach, Pat has spent her life inspiring those around her with selflessness, curiosity, appreciation, and always a zest for life.

Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize and honor Pat for living an extraordinary century filled with adventure, courage, friendship, and community service. I wish Pat a happy 100th birthday from all the constituents of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, and Florida's Fifth Congressional District. God bless her, and we pray for many more.

CONDEMNING TRUMP'S TRADE WAR WITH CANADA

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

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn President Trump's illogical trade war with Canada and juvenile executive order to rename Lake Ontario.

Since the White House can't figure out how to lower costs for American families or reach a trade deal with our closest ally, it is resorting to meaningless distractions, like renaming a Great Lake.

While my Democratic colleagues and I have introduced legislation to stop this nonsense, we are focused on the issues that actually matter: ending the affordability crisis fueled by Trump's erratic tariffs and reckless policies and stopping the most corrupt administration in American history.

Whether it is his endless war in Iran, gutting healthcare and nutritional assistance for millions of Americans, or a trade war with Canada, each manufactured crisis created by Trump shows just how self-interested, incompetent, and careless he truly is.

From communities like mine across the northern border, where ties to our Canadian neighbors run deep, through the interior and every other part of our

great country, people simply cannot afford the increased costs of goods because of these tariffs.

In western New York, family members cross the border to visit one another, and businesses rely on efficient cross-border commerce. Our restaurants, hotels, shops, and attractions depend on Canadian visitors. This relationship grows jobs and strengthens our economy.

Right now, Canadians are making a decision not to visit or do business with our country, creating economic instability at a time when Americans are already stretched too thin.

People can't afford to put food on the table because grocery costs are too high. They are having trouble paying their utility bills to keep the lights on. The cost of gas is skyrocketing, and healthcare costs are through the roof.

At the same time, people are worried whether or not they are going to have a job in the morning.

Trump's continued chaos is making it harder for families to plan, businesses to invest, workers to save, and communities to grow. Americans are bearing the consequences of this economic ambush as Trump's failed policies make life more expensive and less secure for working families across our Nation.

These tariffs are nothing more than a Trump tax, and American families are paying the price everywhere. Instead of creating jobs, growing wages, and giving working people a fair shot, this administration has pursued policies that make it harder for our families to get ahead. Americans deserve better than a President who embarrasses us on the world stage and the Republicans in Congress who rubberstamp his inflationary policies.

When voters put Democrats back into the majority this November, we will overturn these failed GOP policies, lower costs, end corruption, and restore the promise of the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, in the meantime, let's stop Trump's tax, end these tariffs, and make life more affordable for the American people.

CELEBRATING RURAL LAWYER JULIE BEAR

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize an often overlooked segment of our Nation's legal profession: rural lawyers.

Across our First District and in many of our communities, rural lawyers represent the very best of the profession, selfless service, and meaningful local impact.

Today, I want to highlight the remarkable work of Julie Bear of Plattsburgh, specializing in criminal defense, family law, estate planning, personal injury, and more. Julie has built a reputation that is nothing short of exceptional.