

Through Dave's leadership, Streb Construction became a trusted name, supported good-paying jobs, and helped communities grow and connect. Dave Streb leaves behind a lasting imprint on Iowa's landscape and an even greater impact on the people who knew him. He will be deeply missed, and his legacy will endure in every mile laid and every life connected.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend birthday greetings to my sister. Happy birthday, Marianne.

Before I yield, I will raise the podium in memory of my great colleague, Representative Doug LaMalfa. Doug will be sorely missed.

WARMTH OF COLLECTIVISM

(Mr. HILL of Arkansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, America recently witnessed the new mayor of America's largest city share his democratic socialism vision with New Yorkers. He pledged to "replace the frigidity of rugged individualism with the warmth of collectivism."

Here in our Nation's semiquincentennial, 250 years of liberty, the new mayor rejected the fundamentals of American hard work and the extraordinary benefits of markets that have freed billions from hunger and poverty around the globe.

Anyone with even a basic knowledge of history knows that government-enforced collectivism always ends in poverty, death, and despair.

Mr. Speaker, look at Cuba, where the warmth of communism has left people with no rights, no freedom, and driving cars from the 1940s and 1950s; or Xinjiang, China, where the Uyghurs are imprisoned and enslaved to labor; or certainly no modest case, the Korean Peninsula, North Korea, where people are in darkness for 12 months a year and where people are stunted by malnutrition and oppression and live in darkness, literally and figuratively.

□ 1215

Compare that to South Korea, Mr. Speaker. In less than three generations since the end of the Korean conflict, the average South Korean is three inches taller, lives 12 years longer, and earns 18 times more than their northern struggling counterpart. Same people; same peninsula. One system embraced the individual; the other, the collective.

Of course, there are the millions starved to death and thrown into the gulags by Mao's China and Stalin's Soviet Union.

These aren't abstract failures, Mr. Speaker. They are graveyards built on broken bodies. What starts as hope ends in tyranny and death every time.

COPTIC CHRISTIANS IN EGYPT

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to shed light on the discrimination faced by Coptic Christians in Egypt.

Coptic Christians face restrictions on building churches, have limited rep-

resentation in government, and, tragically, have been targets of violence and persecution. They are attacked in the streets, held as political prisoners, and have little recourse.

The discrimination they face not only violates their basic human rights, but also undermines Egypt's rich cultural diversity and history, as well as Egypt's own legal commitments to its citizens.

It is critical for the international community to encourage the Egyptian government to further embrace religious tolerance, effectively protect minority rights, and ensure equality under the law for all of its citizens.

It is important for us to bring to light these issues and do all we can to promote our values: that no matter what race or religion, all people deserve dignity and respect.

As the Coptic Pope Tawadros II told me: "All Egyptians take their water from the Nile." In that spirit, Egypt has work to do.

RECOGNIZING DR. CAM PATTERSON

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the leadership of Dr. Cam Patterson, our former chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Last year, Dr. Patterson announced his decision to step down from his leadership position after 7 years of focused, dedicated service to the university, the medical school, and the people of Arkansas.

Under his leadership, UAMS continued its commitment to excellence. As UAMS faced the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Patterson helped expand access to care across the State and navigated the pandemic while strengthening the university's reputation for excellence and research, patient care, and medical education.

As he remains at UAMS as a professor of cardiovascular medicine, Dr. Patterson will continue to advance his spirit of innovation, compassion, and service.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Dr. Patterson for his leadership and for always putting Arkansas families first.

CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF DOUG LAMALFA

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in condolence to Jill LaMalfa and the LaMalfa family of northern California, that beautiful area north of Sacramento, deep in the wilderness, home to Mt. Shasta. There was no better representation of the people of California than Doug LaMalfa.

He was a gentle giant. I had so much fun with him over the years. He was such a committed person to his constituents, to the State of California, to public service, to his relationships on both sides of the aisle. He had deep respect. From the most liberal Democrat in California to the most conservative Republican down in Texas, they all loved Doug LaMalfa. He will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, Martha and I share our condolences. We pray for the family at this tragic loss, but we are grateful for

our friendship and service with Doug LaMalfa.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COLONEL REINA "REI" SERINEO

(Mr. MOYLAN of Guam was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Reina "Rei" Serineo of the United States Air Force, a proud daughter of Guam, as she concludes her distinguished career in service to our Nation.

For nearly two decades, Lieutenant Colonel Serineo embodied the very best of what it means to wear the uniform. As an air battle manager, she logged more than 2,000 flight hours, including hundreds in combat and combat support missions, where decisions made in seconds carried life and death consequences for those in harm's way.

Across assignments in the United States, Europe, and the Indo-Pacific, she earned the trust of commanders and airmen alike, leading with precision, integrity, and care for those she served. Most recently, she helped shape the future of our Air Force through her work in the air combat command, guiding policies, training, and modernization.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Serineo's service brings great pride to Guam and to our entire Nation. I thank her for her leadership, her sacrifice, and her enduring legacy of excellence.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SENATOR CARMEN ARTERO KASPERBAUER

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life and legacy of the late Senator Carmen Artero Kasperbauer.

Born in 1935, Carmen grew up during the Japanese occupation of Guam in World War II, an experience that shaped her deep sense of responsibility to her community and her island.

She lived a life defined by service, first as a registered nurse, caring for others when they were most vulnerable, and later as a senator in the Guam Legislature, where she served two terms with professionalism and integrity.

Her life spanned generations of change on Guam, from war and recovery to a steady life of service rooted in community.

Guam has lost a matriarch, but her legacy of service lives on through her husband, Dr. Larry Kasperbauer, and her children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful island, I say "a big thank you"; "un dangkolo na si Yu'os ma'ase'." She will be deeply missed.

RECOGNIZING DR. MARY OKADA

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Mary Okada as she concludes her tenure as president of Guam Community College after many years of service to our island.

Since 2007, Dr. Okada has served as president of the Guam Community College, becoming the first woman to lead

the institution. Under her leadership, GCC strengthened its role as a pathway to workforce training, skilled trades, healthcare, and public service, helping students gain the skills they need to succeed and contribute to the broader community.

She led with care and responsibility, ensuring strong financial stewardship, and building programs that respond to the realities of Guam's workforce and economy. The impact of her work is reflected in the thousands of students whose lives were shaped by the education and training they received at GCC.

Guam is stronger because of her service and investment in our students. Mr. Speaker, I say: "Thank you"; "Si Yu'os Ma'ase'" to Dr. Okada for her leadership and for the opportunities she has created for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING DR. ERIK SWANSON

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Erik Swanson upon his conclusion of service as superintendent of the Guam Department of Education.

Dr. Swanson stepped into the role during a challenging period for public education on Guam. He brought a steady focus on students, accountability, and the responsibility that comes with leading an island-wide school system.

During his tenure, he worked to address longstanding issues facing Guam schools while supporting educators, staff, and families who show up every day for our students. His leadership reflected a clear understanding that education is not just policy, but people.

Public education on Guam carries unique challenges, and Dr. Swanson approached that responsibility with care and commitment. I thank Dr. Swanson for his service to Guam students and families, and I wish him well in the next chapter ahead.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Let Your favor, O Lord, be upon us and direct the work that lies before us this week.

We pray that as we immerse ourselves in the tasks of this day and the

duties of our office, that nothing we do would veer from Your divine design. Rather that everything we do would be found pleasing, not in our eyes, but in Yours.

Enable us, then, to stand firm. While issues and arguments will pull us to the left and to the right, may our feet remain fixed on the path You lay before us.

With this prayer, we give ourselves to the work You would have us do. Focus our efforts and our energies on work that strives to accomplish Your purpose and not our personal gain. Strengthen our convictions and compassions that they would champion Your cause alone and not the fleeting desires of our hearts.

Lord, let not our work this day be in vain, but may all that we do bring glory to You.

In the hope of Your sovereign name, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

TRUMP TAX CUTS FOR FAMILIES

(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, among the 2025 legislative accomplishments by Republicans and President Donald Trump, with the leadership of MIKE JOHNSON, the Working Families Tax Cuts has provided the cutting of taxes, limiting government, expanding freedom, and providing progrowth policies creating jobs.

Under President Trump, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 worked, but it had an expiration date. Americans would have faced historic tax increases.

This Republican law stops tax increases, continues Trump tax cuts, enabling families to make plans for jobs.

Success by President Trump with all-of-the-above energy are the lowest gas prices since 2021. Affordability is achieved, with money in your pocket and reduced transportation costs for businesses.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues.

Trump is reinstituting peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting and mocking Trump with Putin defending the illegitimate Venezuelan dictator Maduro, who was courageously arrested by Trump, jailing the narcoterrorist for killing Americans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAVID ELLIOT MEYER

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

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Elliot Meyer, my constituent who tragically passed away on December 6 at the age of 32.

While his time with us was far too short, he leaves behind an incredible legacy characterized by kindness and a drive to public service.

At Randolph-Macon College, he was awarded a fellowship to study the emerging Tea Party movement, which led to the publication of his book "Slingshot: The defeat of Eric Cantor."

After reading the book, I recruited him to an internship in Congressman CONNOLLY's office, where he quickly earned everyone's respect for his reliability and his keen intellect. He later worked as a press assistant to Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe. In 2024, he achieved a lifelong dream of becoming a Federal civil servant working in the Department of Energy's Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations.

Elliot accomplished so much in a life that was too short. He will be missed dearly.

STANDING WITH BRAVE IRANIANS

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

Mr. KILEY of California. Madam Speaker, today I rise to stand with the brave Iranians who are protesting a repressive regime that has wrecked havoc on its own people, the region, and the world at large. The United States must stand with the Iranian people in this critical moment.

For decades, the Iranian dictatorship has exported terrorism throughout the Middle East and beyond, while tormenting its own people. At this moment, it has shut down communications nationwide and is inflicting violence and death on the courageous people taking to the streets.

This latest wave of repression is a symptom of weakness. Indeed, the regime has never been weaker. It is vainly trying to rebuild a nuclear capacity that the United States can undoubtedly neutralize again. Its economy has been ruined by the regime's self-sabotage.

It is my hope that the people of Iran do not have to bear the cost of this malevolence for much longer. It is my ardent hope that a better future, one of