

Administrators Association, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and the California Police Chiefs Association.

Not only has he been a strong leader in law enforcement across the region, Chief Crum is also a leader in molding the minds of our students. He was an instructor at Fullerton College for nearly 20 years, and he is currently a Public Safety Academy instructor at College of the Desert in the valley. He serves as a mentor to the next generation of law enforcement leaders in our region, inspiring them to serve their own communities.

I am so humbled to have worked with him over the years to keep the public safe, and I am proud to call him a friend. It has also been my honor to work with him on legislation to provide robust benefits to the families of public safety officers killed in the line of duty.

Chief Crum has given so much to the community over the years, and I have a feeling this will continue even in his retirement.

So on behalf of my wife, Monica, and the entire 36th Congressional District, I want to thank Chief Crum; his wife, Rebecca; and his children, Dylan and Madison, from the bottom of my heart, for their service and sacrifice to keep our communities safe.

While we are sad to see him retire, I wish him and his family the best during his well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING PETE M. ORTIZ ON VETERANS DAY

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, this week, on Veterans Day, we honor those who have bravely served in our Nation's military. Our veterans served with incredible selflessness; they served with great courage; and they served with sacrifice, often leaving behind spouses, children, and loved ones to keep our Nation safe and to protect the freedoms we hold so dear. For this, our veterans and their families have earned our respect and our deep debt of gratitude.

On Veterans Day, we take a moment to pause and reflect on their service. So today, I want to recognize the life of one of my district's finest members, Pete M. Ortiz.

Mr. Ortiz passed away on September 14, 2017, at the age of 76. He came from a family that has committed themselves to serving our country in uniform for generations. Since World War II, over 50 members—50 members—of the Ortiz family have bravely served in our Armed Forces, putting their lives on the line to protect our freedoms.

Following his family's legacy, Mr. Ortiz honorably served in the Army National Guard from 1956 to 1960. He was awarded the Marksman Badge and Pistol Bar, an honor presented to soldiers with high marksmanship skills. I was proud to help obtain and personally present him with these medals for his distinguished service.

Mr. Ortiz was also a beloved member of the Coachella Valley. Not only was he a carpenter and avid fisherman, he

was part of a unique desert skydive team, the Desert Skydivers of Coachella.

All those who knew him remember his zest for life and devotion to family. One of his greatest joys was getting his entire family together for a barbecue. His family remembers his masterful skills for grilling, especially carne asada, and his dream of one day opening his own taco stand.

To his wife, Patricia, and children, Pete, Tina, Sherry, and Sally, your father was an example to us all. His bravery, selflessness, and courage in the military are an inspiration challenging us to better serve our own communities. His adventures and curious spirit are a reminder to us all to live life to the fullest and enjoy the people and places that bring us joy.

So on behalf of my wife, Monica, and my daughters, Sky and Sage, we honor the service and legacy of Mr. Ortiz and his entire family.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank all of our veterans for their dedication and sacrifice for our country as we honor their service this Veterans Day.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH DOUEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great American whom I had the privilege of meeting at the Library of Congress, Mr. Joseph Douek.

Mr. Douek hails from a great family. His father came penniless to America some 70 years ago. He did what is now becoming a lost art in this country—he went to work.

He went to work as a laborer and, eventually, worked his way up to where he owned a successful photography shop. He bought real estate, and he has now retired to a great retirement life, which he has earned.

Joseph, his son, has dedicated himself to public service. He has been on the New York City Planning Commission for 5 years, and he was just re-elected. He is an example of somebody who has given his time, his tithe, and his talent to serve in the great State of New York and our great country.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating what he has done and really encouraging other people to do what he has done in that he has gone to work. He has done what Americans do.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 57 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Pastor Jeff Williams, Faith Community Church, Janesville, Wisconsin, offered the following prayer:

Our Father in Heaven, Your Word declares that You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations and that, from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

Your sovereignty when juxtaposed with our humanity humbles us and causes us to seek Your face on behalf of our Nation and those who govern us.

When beginning his rule, King Solomon prayed for You to grant him a discerning heart to govern Your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. Grant that same discernment in this Chamber today.

I pray for these who have been entrusted with the responsibility to govern this great people that they may adhere to the principles and convictions our country was founded upon.

Bless them and their families, I pray. Your prophet Moses prayed saying: "May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us and establish the work of our hands for us." May that same favor rest upon this, the people's House, today.

In Jesus' name, I pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SIREs 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.

WELCOMING PASTOR JEFF WILLIAMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BACON). Without objection, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is my absolute privilege and honor to welcome Pastor Jeff Williams, who just led us in the opening prayer. He is the head pastor at Faith Community Church in Janesville, Wisconsin.

Jeff is the son of a Swedish immigrant. Pastor Jeff began in the ministry at his home church in Rockford, Illinois, where he was born and raised.

In 1989, he and his wife, Brenda, moved about 30 minutes north up I-90 to begin Faith Community Church in Janesville. "We had nothing but a vision," he said. "No people, no equipment, and no place to meet. Just a vision and the Lord. And that was enough."

Over the years, Pastor Jeff has turned that vision into a beautiful house of worship and fellowship at the heart of our community. I have been there many times. It is really an impressive place.

Pastor Jeff has been a very good friend to me and to our family for many years. I will note, however, that he is a Bears fan, and we can forgive him for that one.

But it is an absolute honor and privilege of mine to honor and to welcome Pastor Jeff here, and I want to thank him for offering today's prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING MORGAN SCARBRO FOR HER WORK WITH VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable student in my district with a heart for helping veterans, our military, and their families. Morgan Scarbro is a 14-year-old from Eaton Rapids who created a nonprofit called Morgan's HUGS.

Since the age of five, Morgan has been giving back to veterans. If there is a veteran in need, Morgan springs into action. She organizes donation drives and collects items like hygiene products, food, clothing, and more. When Morgan competes in beauty pageants, she encourages her fellow contestants to donate as well.

Morgan helps in so many other ways, too, including visiting veterans in nursing homes and putting her own Christmas on hold to give presents to military families.

Morgan's dad is a disabled veteran, and she has seen, firsthand, the sacrifices made by the men and women who serve our country. We owe them an immeasurable debt.

As Veterans Day approaches, may we follow Morgan's example and do everything we can to take care of our Nation's heroes.

OPPOSING REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN

(Mr. SIRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Republican tax plan. As I have said many times before, this plan gives tax breaks to the wealthy and corporations, over the needs of American families, while adding a predicted \$2.1 trillion to the national debt over the next decade.

Particularly devastating for New Jersey is the partial elimination of the State and local tax deduction. More than 25 percent of New Jerseyans would face a tax hike over the next decade due to this change.

Per person, New Jersey taxpayers paid \$3,478 more in Federal taxes in 2015 than they received from the government, more than any other State. Not only would the bill aggravate this disparity in New Jersey, it would also eliminate vital deductions that give relief to those burdened with high medical costs, student debt, and unexpected losses due to natural disasters.

Mr. Speaker, I will not support a one-sided plan that harms New Jersey and those who are most in need of tax relief.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LEWIS VILLA

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, this coming Saturday marks Veterans Day, a day on which we honor and cherish heroes like Lewis Villa from Hopewell Township, Pennsylvania.

Nearly seven decades ago, Mr. Villa, a graduate of Aliquippa High School, followed in the footsteps of his two older brothers by enlisting in the Army. He joined the 456th Airborne Field Artillery Battalion of the 82nd Airborne and eventually became an Army Ranger assigned to 1st Company, 1st Platoon, 1st Squad of the Airborne Rangers.

He deployed in 1950 to Japan, and then Korea, where he was captured by communist Chinese forces and spent 28 months in a prisoner of war camp.

After returning home, Villa became a mailman, where he met his beloved late wife, Helana, and had two children.

Lewis Villa is a treasure of the Aliquippa community, and he rarely fails to land a joke, and always lights up a room with laughter. I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to him as well as to all our veterans.

Happy Veterans Day, and may God bless them and their families.

THE REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN

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

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the need for tax policy that benefits hardworking families in New Hampshire and all across this country.

We are long overdue for real tax reform, but, unfortunately, the plan unveiled by my Republican colleagues is more of a giveaway to millionaires, billionaires, and corporate special interests.

In fact, consider this: 80 percent of the tax breaks in their bill go to the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans. This is while cutting \$500 billion from Medicare and \$1 trillion from Medicaid. That trade is, frankly, unconscionable. This bill is a bad deal for Granite Staters and a bad deal for the American people.

The Republican tax plan eliminates important deductions for hardworking middle class families. It caps property tax deductions, eliminates student loan interest deductions and the medical deduction tax credit. The plan even ends the Work Opportunity Tax Credit that encourages employers to hire veterans.

House Democrats are offering a better deal. I urge my Republican colleagues to work with us to support working families.

HONORING OUR NATION'S VETERANS

(Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our Nation's veterans. I would like to take a moment to thank our Nation's heroes for their selfless service to our country.

It was a privilege to welcome home veterans on the Indy Honor Flight last month after they traveled to D.C. to visit memorials honoring their service and the sacrifice of our Nation's Armed Forces. It was both a humbling and inspiring opportunity to meet so many veterans who are patriots in every sense of the word. We owe it to them and their families to ensure they have access to quality care and the services they deserve.

I am proud to see many important veterans bills pass through the House this week and look forward to continuing our work in Congress to support our American heroes.

To all of our veterans, we thank you for your service, and enjoy Veterans Day. We salute you.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CARRIE BARNETTE

(Mr. KIHUEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of Carrie Barnette, a woman who was known for her love of pickles, hummingbirds, and willingness to help others.

Carrie loved country music, and she grew up listening to it at her grandparents' house. She frequently went to country music concerts and had traveled to the Route 91 Harvest music festival with her childhood friend, Jenn.