

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 MS. VERNA TELLER

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I am honored to have a fierce woman from my district to deliver a historic opening prayer.

Isleta Pueblo Chief Judge Verna Teller is the first Native American to deliver the opening prayer in the U.S. House.

This is a special time in our country's history and, in honor of Native American Heritage Month, a time to reflect on the contributions of Native Americans to this country.

Chief Judge Teller made her own history in New Mexico. She broke barriers when she was elected as the first woman Pueblo Governor. Because of the history of colonization, many Pueblos generally don't allow women to hold leadership positions, but that didn't stop Judge Teller from knowing her value as a Tribal leader.

I am proud to stand with Chief Judge Teller to highlight the resilience of indigenous women and our perseverance to uplift our girls and our women in all of our communities.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

COMMENDING MEMBERS OF NIAGARA FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT AND NEW YORK STATE PARK POLICE

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our everyday heroes—police and fire personnel—who sign up to rush into dangerous situations most people would run from.

Today I want to take this opportunity to commend the outstanding members of the Niagara Falls Fire Department and the New York State Park Police.

Last week, a man was discovered in the fierce and frigid rapids of the Niagara River. Without hesitation, the Niagara Falls firefighters and New York State Park Police took quick action, entering the water just yards away from the brink of Niagara Falls and, under the most dangerous of circumstances, completed a successful rescue.

We are grateful for the brave and selfless service of these first responders

and others across my community and this Nation who risk their own safety and save the lives of others.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF DEBBIE BONE-HARRIS

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Debbie Bone-Harris as she begins her retirement from the Franklin Public Utility District.

Deb began working for Franklin PUD in 2003 and has held many roles throughout the organization. She has been a stalwart advocate for hydro-power in the Northwest. She has spent countless hours educating our community about the value of the Columbia and the Snake River dams, and she has worked with both State and Federal legislators to advocate for their protection.

Deb is a leader, not only with the Franklin PUD, but in the greater community as well. She has served on numerous boards and held leadership roles with community organizations, including Pasco Chamber of Commerce, Visit Tri-Cities, Tri-Cities Legislative Council, Washington Public Utility District, Northwest Public Power Association, and Pacific Northwest Waterways Association.

As Deb begins her well-earned retirement, our community wishes her the best as she enjoys spending more time with her grandchildren, going on hot-rod adventures with her husband, and attending those rowdy sewing conventions.

I thank Deb for her advocacy and congratulate her.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FLEET READINESS CENTER SOUTHWEST

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Fleet Readiness Center Southwest at Naval Air Station North Island in Coronado, the birthplace of naval aviation maintenance.

In 1912, the entire Navy aviation squad consisted of four officers and three planes, which called North Island home. As more planes routinely landed at sea, it became necessary for the Navy to have an official aviation maintenance facility.

Shortly after the U.S. Government obtained the island in 1917, it established the Overhaul and Repair Department, the first maintenance repair and overhaul facility in the Department of Defense.

Now designated as the Fleet Readiness Center Southwest, the goals are the same: to produce quality equipment and provide support to our Nation's aviation war fighters through the overhaul, repair, and modification

of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps frontline aircraft.

Encompassing 358 acres and over 80 buildings, the Fleet Readiness Center is one of the largest aerospace employers in San Diego County, employing approximately 3,500 civilians and 900 military personnel.

Please join me in honoring one of the best facilities in the U.S. Navy, the Fleet Readiness Center Southwest at Naval Air Station North Island, on its 100th anniversary.

HONORING WALTER B. JONES, JR.

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I proudly announced my first piece of legislation as a Member of Congress, H.R. 5037.

Of course, every bill that goes through this great legislative body is important, but I think it is fair to say that every Member's first bill carries with it an importance in its own right. It marks the beginning of a new path forward, and I wanted mine to begin in remembrance of my predecessor, friend, and mentor, the late Congressman Walter B. Jones, Jr.

Congressman Jones served the great people of eastern North Carolina for over 20 years. He supported our military, he supported our farmers, and he supported our coasts. As his successor, I pledged to do the same.

This bill, which would name a post office in the town Congressman Jones was born and raised, in the great town of Farmville, North Carolina, is the least that we can do to honor the remarkable statesman and steward that he was.

In this time of great divisiveness, it is wonderful to have an issue that we all can rally around and support. I look forward to this bill becoming a reality for the people of eastern North Carolina.

LOWER THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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

Mrs. AXNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the price of prescription drugs is too high and prescription drug prices have risen 44 percent in 5 years.

Big pharmaceutical companies have raised the cost of the most commonly used drugs by 100 percent. I am talking about every day, basic prescription drugs like insulin for diabetes or Advair for asthma.

Experts say there is no end in sight, and we will see prices rise in 2020 if this continues and if we don't act now.

I recently heard from Joan in west Des Moines, who said the cost of her generic suddenly skyrocketed, and there is nothing she can do, because if she doesn't take it she will need a liver transplant.