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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Kent Clark, Grace Gospel Fellowship, Pontiac, Michigan, offered the following prayer:

Our God, our Father, we call upon Your name—a name at which every knee shall bow. Your name is Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father. You are the Prince of Peace, the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the Valley, and the bright Morning Star. You are the fairest of 10,000.

You are the great creator God, alpha and omega, beginning and end, first and last. Your name is Redeemer and the Lord, the Way, the Truth and Life, Bread of Life, and Author and Finisher of our faith.

We know no greater judgment could befall a nation than for it to be deserted by God, left to be the play thing of malignant forces.

Speak to us, O great Jehovah.

We know a sparrow does not fall without Your notice, and we know that a nation cannot rise without Your aid.

In the name of Joshua, Jesus saves, Immanuel—God with us.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WALBERG led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND KENT CLARK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise—very proudly so—to pay tribute to an inspiring man, and I am proud to call him a mentor and a friend, Pastor Kent Clark.

Pastor Clark is the senior pastor of Grace Gospel Fellowship Church in Pontiac, Michigan, and he is the chief executive officer of Grace Centers of Hope. Grace Centers of Hope is one of Michigan's leading faith-based organizations that provides care for the homeless and for individuals who are fighting addiction.

Grace Centers of Hope provides comprehensive programs for men, women, and children, including group and individual counseling, GED classes and testing, financial education, addiction and abuse classes, and child care. It also has a self-funded homeownership program and offers graduates of its program the opportunity to own their own homes. It does all of this without accepting government funding.

Pastor Clark, truly, has a servant's heart, and he and his wife, Dr. Pam Clark, and their family have dedicated their lives to helping those in need—with unparalleled commitment and devotion.

Pastor Clark is a husband, a father, a grandfather, and a renowned author. He was also named "Michigianian of the Year" by the Detroit News in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to welcome my friend, Pastor Kent Clark, to the United States House of Representatives as our guest chaplain today. I would like to personally recognize and thank him for his tireless efforts and unwavering dedication to our community.

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.

ALLEN AMERICANS HOCKEY TEAM IN THE PLAYOFFS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise in support of the Third District's Allen Americans hockey team. Tonight, our stellar team defends its championship title in game six of the Kelly Cup Playoffs.

I want to congratulate the whole team on an outstanding season.

You all have accomplished so much to get where you are today, and you are just one victory away from your fourth straight championship.

To all of our fine Allen American athletes, I want you to know that your hometown is proud of you and that we believe in you. I will probably be "rocking the red" to cheer you on.

Go beat the Wheeling Nailers.

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, Norfolk, Virginia, January 1, 2014:

Melvin Alston, 32 years old;

Marcus Deering, 22.

Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania, August 6, 2013:

James "Vinny" LaGuardia, 64 years old;

David Fleetwood, 62;

Gerard Kozić, 53.

Beaumont, Texas, March 16, 2014:

Darrell Hawkins, 34 years old;

Anthony Ray Hawkins, 33;

Reshawna Hawkins, 30.

Savannah, Georgia, December 2, 2015:

Brandy Council, 34 years old.

Oceanside, California, March 13, 2013:

Edgar Sanchez Rios, 16 years old;

Melanie Virgen, 13.

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, May 24, 2014:

Jamie Williams, 28 years old;

Sandy Gaddis Barnwell, 22;

Devonte Dantzler, 21.

Killeen, Texas, February 22, 2015:

Larry Guzman, 40 years old;

Lydia Farina, 31;

Dawn Giffa, 28.

Auburn, Washington, March 31, 2013:

Nicholas Lindsay, 26 years old.

FOREST TREE DAMAGE TOLL AND FIRE DANGER

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, years of drought have left a terrible toll on the forests of the Sierra Nevada in California. The Forest Service estimates that there are at least 40 million trees that have died in California alone. The scope of this challenge is almost unbelievable, and the danger it presents is nearly unavoidable. However, there are steps that we can take to address it.

While it is refreshing that the Forest Service is finally using the categorical exclusions that have been authorized under the recent farm bill to speed forest management projects, it won't be enough to prevent forest fires of devastating sizes and scopes. The Forest Service should rapidly increase the numbers of public-private partnerships it engages in and allow the private sector to remove the dead trees that are just waiting for a spark.

The Senate should act immediately to pass H.R. 2647 and allow forest fires