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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOMEZ).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 25, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIMMY GOMEZ to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Dr. Barry C. Black, Chaplain, United States Senate, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

O, God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, thank You for the spirit of contentment we can receive from You, bringing quietness and faith to our hearts.

Today, use our lawmakers for Your purposes, enabling them to live worthy of Your name. May the words they speak bring edification and unity, as our legislators build bridges of cooperation. Lord, give them the wisdom to depart from strife, remembering that soft answers turn away anger.

We pray in Your great name.
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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr.

JOYCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania 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.

RAISING AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UPCOMING CENSUS

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to a share story of the Ridley School District, which is leading the charge in our community to raise awareness of the importance of the upcoming Census.

Under the leadership of Kelli Mullany, the director of pupil services, the Ridley School District has launched a districtwide effort to ensure a complete and fair count in the 2020 Census.

Ten years ago, Pennsylvania undercounted over 25,000 children, resulting in a loss of nearly \$44 million in funding for critical programs like healthcare, SNAP, school lunches, affordable housing, teacher training, and classroom technology. These programs were all impacted by the undercount.

Since children are among those most likely to be undercounted, it is particularly important for schools like Ridley to promote a complete Census count. Community leaders like Kelli are working hard alongside local churches, preschools, shelters, housing authorities, public libraries and using social media to spread the word that we all count.

The Census is the basis for how the Federal Government distributes billions of tax dollars, so we need a complete count. Our children and our communities can't afford another

undercount this year. We all need to spread the word that the Census is easy, safe, and important.

RECOGNIZING ANDREA DEVORRIS COHEN

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andrea Devorris Cohen, a dedicated community leader whose work has benefited the people of Blair County.

As the president of Lakemont Park, Andrea has led the recent transformation of this amusement park into a renewed recreational epicenter for our community. From new playgrounds and walking trails to batting cages and basketball courts, Lakemont Park has been restored to a beautiful facility where families and friends can gather together.

A homegrown Altoona leader and the daughter of Nancy and Don Devorris, Andrea has spent her career working for our community and improving the quality of life in Blair County. This week, she will be honored by the Central Blair Recreation and Park Commission for her many contributions and achievements.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 13th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, we thank Andrea Devorris Cohen for her leadership in the revitalization of this historic recreational center, as well as her continued service to our community.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

□ 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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