

beloved religious leader around the world. The Rebbe's good work reached far beyond the Chassidic community he led so well from a small brownstone building in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn.

Awarding a Congressional Gold Medal in the Rebbe's memory is a fitting tribute to a great humanitarian whose work on behalf of all people will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI MENACHEM MENDEL SCHNEERSON

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

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I also join my colleagues in a very special opportunity to remind the world and this country and this Congress about the work of the Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson, someone who in his lifetime probably influenced as many people as anyone else maybe in the history of the world in terms of good works and good deeds.

I also thank the Chief Rabbi of Israel for being with us today and being part of a ceremony. Most Members, I think, are aware that today the gold medal that this Congress voted for the late Rebbe will be given at a ceremony at the White House, and there are activities throughout the day in terms of speeches in memory of the Rebbe.

I can speak, in a sense from a personal perspective, from the community that I represent in south Florida. Before I move to that community, there was no presence of the Chabad movement. In the near 15 years, there are six centers of learning, a school that has several hundred students. It is not just a community that, in a sense, the Rebbe taught to, but the entire community of the world in terms of education and really faith that we have the opportunity today in a special way to thank and to bless his memory.

OCALA: ALL-AMERICAN CITY

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the city of Ocala, FL. This past weekend it won the prestigious title of All-American City from the National Civic League.

Competing against 30 other communities from across the Nation. Ocala-Marion County was one of 10 towns to earn recognition for its ability to creatively overcome problems and bring its citizens together. In a time when civic pride and strong community spirit are on the wane, it is refreshing to see a city like my hometown travel a different course, one where the residents still embrace the duties and reap the rewards of citizenship.

This city is worthy of this honor. Ocala-Marion County is a town experi-

encing rapid growth while at the same time preserving those values—thrift, industry, faith, and patriotism—that keep America strong. This Nation could do far worse, and could hardly do better, than to make Ocala a model for communities everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I want to wish Ocala-Marion County continued good fortune, and I encourage the citizens and all its elected officials to wear their new title of All-American City with pride. Truly, they have earned it.

HONORING HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ADVOCACY DAY

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

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, today is denoted as Historically Black Colleges and Universities Advocacy Day.

HBCU presidents have taken on the challenge to confront the wrong-headed assault on knowledge being waged by this Congress.

Slashing education funding in general and funding for the Nation's historically black colleges and universities in particular is not only shortsighted, it is counterproductive. HBCU's have been in the forefront of providing leadership for black communities and for America.

If you look at the ranks of virtually any profession, you see the indelible mark made by historically black colleges and universities. No group of institutions has done so much with so little for so long.

I want to commend those presidents and chancellors who are here today to participate in this significant undertaking. I want to encourage them to inform Members of Congress of the critical role these schools play in educating a segment of the population that only they are capable, experienced, and proficient in educating.

I also want to pledge my support to help preserve and strengthen the unique and critical role played by historically black colleges and universities.

REPUBLICANS ARE KEEPING THEIR PROMISES

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, the budget plan the House will debate and vote on this week is one of the most important pieces of legislation this Congress will vote on for the next 2 years. It is important because this Federal Government cannot continue on the path it has been on for generations now.

We can no longer afford massive social spending programs that have little impact on the problems they were created to solve. We can no longer afford to bury future generations under a mountain of debt.

Mr. Speaker, the time has come to put to rest the idea the Government has all the answers and if we throw more money at the problems we can solve those problems.

It is time to let American families keep more of what they earn. Republicans are keeping our promises. We are finally balancing the budget, not by raising taxes but by cutting spending.

VIOLATION OF THE RULES OF THE HOUSE

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House, this little book here many Members undoubtedly have not read, but it is the rules of the House that were adopted January 4, and the majority of Republican Members said they were going to reform the House, and you could only serve on four subcommittee.

Well, how come 30 Members of the majority now serve on 5 or 6 subcommittees? Are the rules made just to be broken?

I would like to ask the couple of gentleman from North Carolina, the gentlewoman from New York, the gentleman from Indiana, the gentleman from Maryland, all freshmen, do you tell your children that rules are made to be broken, because that is what you are doing? Or do you teach them that you do not have to follow the rules, because you are in the majority, and as long as you are running the place you can do whatever you want to do, no matter what the rules say? Because that is what you are doing right now.

That is the Republican majority. They are violating the rules, because they have more than four subcommittees, and the rules say you can only have four subcommittees.

ALLOWING FAMILIES TO KEEP MORE OF THEIR OWN MONEY

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, Republicans in Congress are keeping our promises to the American people. Our budget resolution eliminates the deficit, saves Medicare from bankruptcy, and lowers taxes on working families.

Contrary to the rhetoric emanating from the other side of the aisle, our tax relief package will not bust the budget. Our tax cuts represent only 2 percent of the \$12.1 trillion in Federal spending over the next 7 years, and are fully paid for.

Furthermore, we prove our commitment to balancing the budget, by delaying the implementation of our tax cuts until CBO certifies we have produced a plan that eliminates the deficit by 2002.

Our fiscal house is in chaos because the Government spends too much money—not because it taxes too little. Lowering taxes will help families get ahead, stimulate the economy, and create new jobs and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, as we work to eliminate the deficit and reduce the size and scope of the Federal Government, we should also allow families and businesses to keep more of what they earn.

JAPAN: OPEN YOUR MARKETS

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, American trade experts are saying that the White House and the Congress should not go forward with trade sanctions against Japan because they have clear, convincing evidence that Japan is going to open their markets, and they are saying that this new evidence can be found in the fact that Miller beer can now be sold in Japan and this new chug-a-lug attitude in Japan is going to lead to bigger and better things.

Mr. Speaker, bigger and better things? Pizza? Potato chips? A few Slim Jims?

Beam me up. There is only one way to get the attention of the land of the rising sun: Midnight tonight put the sanctions on Japan. You have been screwing us for years. Open your markets or pay the price.

The pocketbook is the only thing Japan will understand. Think about it, Congress.

SALUTE TO THE ISRAELI CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the Israeli Center for International Cooperation, and the 47-year-long United States-Israeli partnership.

The center is known by its Hebrew initials as Mashav, and has developed a remarkable record in nation building all over the world.

Thanks to Mashav, Israel has developed an international reputation for its leadership in agriculture, medicine, and education.

I would like to especially note the impact that Mashav has had throughout Africa.

In Kenya, Malawi, and Zambia, eye-surgery clinics set up by Mashav have restored sight to thousands of people.

Israeli irrigation technology helps to provide food and sustenance for millions.

Mr. Speaker, I recall an old saying "give a man a fish, and he eats for a day. Teach him to fish and he eats for a lifetime."

This perfectly describes the influence that Israel, a small but dynamic friend of the United States, is having throughout the developing world.

There is a reception at 5:30 today at 2168 Rayburn. Please join us to hear more about Mashav.

FLY THE FLAG, DO NOT AMEND THE BILL OF RIGHTS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, deception is at work in this House today as Congress considers an amendment to our Bill of Rights in the name of respecting our flag, when just last week the Speaker of this House and his emissaries voted to terminate the American flag service here in our Nation's Capital.

This flag office has served millions of Americans, and over the last decade over 1 million flags were purchased for special occasions by our citizens at cost; I underline "at cost."

Nobody should profit excessively from flying our flag. All Americans, even if they are not rich enough to travel here to Washington, should be able to get a flag flown over this Capital.

Now that Speaker GINGRICH will close down this patriotic service, are we to stick a red, white, and blue feather in our caps for passing a constitutional amendment when we cannot get flags anymore?

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Mr. Speaker, the best way to show respect for our flag is to fly it. Shame on those who have put a price on flying our flag, and shame on those who would trample on our Constitution.

BALANCED BUDGET PLAN AND A TAX CUT ARE LONG OVERDUE

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I say to the gentlewoman, "I agree with you, MARCY."

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, for the past 40 years the Federal Government has supported its wasteful spending habits by increasing taxes on our businesses, our seniors, our families, our children. This week that destructive pattern will finally come to an end. Republicans will pass the first balanced budget plan in 26 years, and provide needed tax cuts to spur the economy and give money back to the people who earned it.

Despite the whining from critics, I know tax cuts and deficit reduction go hand-in-hand. The only way to reduce the amount of money the Government takes is to reduce taxes. I say to my colleagues, "The Government takes in taxes from you, the people, and I feel compelled to remind everyone in this

body it is not our money. It belongs to the American taxpayers."

Let us help America. Let us give them back what they deserve, a big old whopping mother of a tax cut and a balanced budget. Both are long overdue.

IS THIS ANY WAY TO TREAT THE CONSTITUTION?

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today the House will vote on an amendment to the Constitution, and for the first time ever probably vote a change in the Bill of Rights.

Now, changing the Bill of Rights is of such importance that surely this will take place with due deliberation. Well, actually not. It will be a closed rule, no amendments, no substitutes, and precious little debate. One hour for the first change ever to the Bill of Rights in over 200 years.

Is this any way to treat the Constitution and the Bill of Rights? This is not the first instance of disrespect for the Constitution and the Bill of Rights under the Republican majority. We had the infamous H.R. 666, a direct attack on the fourth amendment by authorizing warrantless searches.

Mr. Speaker, now, at the end of all this the flag might fly on high, but the Constitution and the Bill of Rights will lie torn and tattered at our feet.

REPUBLICANS ARE TOUGH ON CRIME

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

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton has launched a \$1.8 million media barrage to showcase his record on crime to the American people. Well, what is the President's record on crime?

For starters, the ill-conceived 1994 crime bill, which cost the taxpayers \$30 billion was filled with empty rhetoric and meaningless social welfare programs.

Remember President Clinton's pledge to put 100,000 new police officers on the American streets? But his program only funded 20,000 cops.

Well, while President Clinton and his advisers talk about being tough on crime, the Republicans have passed legislation in the Contract With America which will keep thousands of criminals off of our streets and in the prisons.

Mr. Speaker, President Clinton's solution to fighting crime is to throw billions of dollars into failed social experiments and then to spend millions more trying to convince the American people that he is tough on crime.

The Republicans have proven to the American people that they are tough on crime.