

On the limestone is carved the names of those men and women who died in those conflicts.

In many of our communities veterans of past wars are no longer remembered on Memorial Day.

But in Indianapolis, over 6,000 people came to honor those who sacrifice in defense of this country. And it was also a day, to honor those who have taken their place.

My colleague, Mr. JACOBS, who served in Korea, set the tone for the event, when he said:

We gather not in triumph and glory, but in sorrow. We must never forget the young Americans that sacrificed their lives, so that we may live in liberty.

I saw sorrow and pride in the face of Sgt. Sammy Davis, who received a Congressional Medal of Honor for gallantry during an enemy attack during his tour in the Vietnam war. And Adrian Cronauer shared with us the original "Goooooooood Morning Vietnam."

Captain Scott O'Grady joined in the ceremony. He is the soldier who captured America's heart, when he was shot down over the skies of Bosnia and through his faith in God made his way to freedom, in June of last year.

Captain O'Grady shed a tear at the playing of "Taps" to honor those who did not come home from Vietnam and Korea.

The second ceremony that Ruthie and I participated in was a special memorial service in Centerville, IN—a small, quite town in Wayne County.

There, folks gathered from miles around at the Crown Hill Cemetery, to lay wreaths, place flags and honor our brave men and women who served in our Armed Forces.

Post Adjutant Earl Dingworth and members of the American Legion Post 287 were on hand to honor those who had made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Chaplain Roy Brown, from Richmond's Veterans of Foreign Wars [VFW] Post 1108, asked God's blessing for those who serve, and for their friends and family.

It was both an honor and privilege for me to salute those brave Americans who sacrificed and will sacrifice their lives on behalf of this country.

I would like to commend our brave servicemen and women, our veterans and their families as Hoosier Heros, Hoosier Heros because they have taken the ultimate oath in defense of our liberty.

I would like my colleagues and all Americans listening today to join me in taking that same sacred oath our forefathers took over 200 years ago.

To pledge in the defense of America our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

Those are the kind of American values our Country stands for.

Because the men and women who take this oath are not only Hoosier heros, but America's heros.

And that Mr. Speaker, is my report from Indiana.

REPORT FROM INDIANA: TONY STEWARD

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to give a Report from Indiana.

In my home State, we gear-up for the Indianapolis 500 during the month of May.

It is a cherished Hoosier tradition celebrated across the State since 1911.

Many young children, grow up, dreaming about someday racing in the 500. Few, have been so lucky.

But this year, Hoosier racing fans were able to cheer for a home-town boy.

Tony Steward, a 25-year-old of Rushville, IN, and from my district, was that young man.

Tony Steward is to be commended for his courage and dedication to reaching one of his life-long goals.

Tony is a 1989 graduate of Columbus North High School.

And this year, he participated in "The Greatest Spectacle on Earth" * * * The Indianapolis 500.

Race-fans across the State, cheered for the Columbus native and Rushville resident.

He earned one of only 33 slots on race day.

He qualified with the fastest time and earned the prestigious pole position.

And for the first 31 laps, he led the race.

He bravely challenged the 2½ mile oval at speeds of up to 230 miles-per-hour.

During the 82d lap, his engine blew and he finished the race in 24th place.

But his performance earned him the 'Rookie of the Year Award.'

His participation in this historic auto racing event made us all very proud.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. VENTO] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. VENTO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereinafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

USE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to use the time of the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. VENTO]. I would like to make a few comments on what just transpired here a few minutes ago.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

TAKE POLITICS OUT OF WELFARE REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, in my view, welfare reform is one of the most serious problems facing this country. I do not honestly believe that the American people will have any confidence in the ability of their Government at any level until they are convinced that we can reform welfare, get rid of the existing dead-end system and create a real opportunity to move people from welfare to work. I think for that to occur, and I have been here quite awhile and

I have seen previous welfare reform attempts fail because they become politicized, I think that if you want welfare reform, to succeed you have to have serious people trying to do serious things to work out serious disagreements and come to a serious compromise on how we approach the problem. That is what we ought to be doing.

Instead, in my view, by scheduled this blatantly political proposal before the Congress next Tuesday, when no one is scheduled to be here, we are simply seeing a situation in which the majority party evidently is more interested in going after the President than they are in dealing seriously with welfare reform; at least that is my view.

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If we were serious and if we really did want Wisconsin to receive the waivers that are being requested, then we would ask the President to, to the maximum extent possible, cooperate with Wisconsin in bringing about the acceptance of those waivers. That, in fact, is exactly what the President said when he was in Wisconsin, that he would work with Wisconsin to try to provide the waivers that were necessary.

I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that given the fact that the chief executive of the State of Wisconsin, Governor Thompson, exercised some 90, I thought it was 79, I am now told it is 90 separate item vetoes on 27 different subjects, it appears to me that the Governor used his brain and thought about some of the problems that he has thought were in the package that was passed by the legislature.

It comes with considerable ill grace for anyone in this body to suggest that the President ought not be able to also use his brain and evaluate honestly whether or not this package measures up to the claims made for it by the Governor of the State of Wisconsin. If it does, the waivers should be granted. If it does not, the Federal Government ought to work with the State until those matters are worked out. That is what we would do if we were serious people.

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I think what is at issue here is under current law there is a 30-day comment period. Those members of the public who are interested in the proposal can come forward to either support or to oppose.

In my office, I have received numerous letters and petitions from residents of the State of Wisconsin who watched the bill pass the State legislature, watched the Governor sign it, and now they want to have their say as to whether or not these 75, not 1, but 75 waivers, should be granted. Mr. Speaker, they run from soup to nuts.

Even if the President supports this, and I cannot speak for him, nor can he speak for me, regardless, the law would

still provide that 30 days will be used for a comment period, and then the President can decide and the Secretary of HHS and everyone else. So that is what we are asking be done here.

This is being foisted upon us on a day when the Congress is not in session. We have six bills up when Congress is not in session, this is the seventh, which has not even been printed yet. The purported offeror, the gentleman from Racine, Kenosha, he himself, when asked on the floor tonight, did not know himself what the waivers were all about. He is being used as some kind of pawn here. It is really sad what is going on. The only thing we are asking is let us let the people of Wisconsin, on an issue that greatly affects them, be heard. That is what they are asking me to provide for them.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution, this action, cuts off the 30 days.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I would simply make the point that unless we give the people that 30-day waiver, this will be a supreme act of arrogance in which only politicians are allowed to voice their opinions.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, welfare reform is a serious issue. The welfare reform of Wisconsin attempts to put people back to work, but that does not mean that people in Congress should stop doing our work. I think it would be a gross abdication of our responsibilities to, sight unseen, approve these waivers.

I called Governor Thompson's office yesterday to get a copy of his waiver request. I still have not received it. If they are asking 435 Members of Congress to vote on his waiver request, sight unseen, that is bad public policy. It shuts out the American people, and this Congress should debate this issue.

WHAT THE 104TH CONGRESS HAS BEEN DOING FOR CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DELAY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, as we know, this Saturday, Washington will be the site of a rally for children, called the Stand for Children.

I commend the organizers of this rally for their commitment to helping children. I hope this rally will be a balanced presentation on how best the Federal Government can help our children, and more importantly, make our children's future brighter.

I am taking this special order tonight to let the American people know what the Congress has been doing for children.

The truth is that the 104th Congress is the most prochild Congress in the last 40 years.

What is a prochild Congress? What does that mean for people outside the

beltway, people who struggle to raise a family, people who want to pass on a better America to their children?

A prochild Congress must meet three tests.

First, it must be fiscally responsible. Passing on a bankrupt nation is the surest way to undermine our children's future.

This Congress passed the first balanced budget in a generation. It tried to restrain the growth of entitlement programs that will bankrupt the country in 10 years unless action is taken now.

Our children, individually, already owe hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt, because of the profligate spending habits of past Congresses.

We must stop spending our children's futures. This Congress has succeeded in reigning in wasteful Washington spending, and that is probably the best thing we could do, to stand for children.

Second, a prochild Congress works to strengthen the family.

Villages do not make the best parents. Parents make the best parents. It does not take a village to raise a child. It takes a family. It takes parents.

Allowing parents to keep more of their money to spend on their children is the quickest way to take the strain off the family structure.

Our \$500-per-child tax credit is real relief for parents to help them meet the higher costs of raising children.

Welfare reform is another way we have worked to strengthen the family. Our current welfare system has destroyed too many families. It has actually made it harder for two-parent families to stay together.

We have worked to change that system, by requiring work, by removing the disincentives for marriage, and by making it harder for fathers to abandon their kids.

A prochild Congress also promotes adoption.

I read with interest the First Lady's recent discussions of adoption, and the President's endorsement of our adoption reform bills.

Getting children into safe, loving, and permanent homes should be the paramount concern, not political correctness.

I hope the President's words match his deeds and that he continues to support our efforts to promote adoption and remove the barriers to adoption.

Finally, a prochild Congress is a prolife Congress.

We have been the most prolife Congress in the last 20 years.

Some on the liberal left will make the argument that you can be both prochild and proabortion.

I disagree. You cannot speak on behalf of children on one hand while promoting policies that kill them on the other.

I am proud of the work of this Congress, and I am proud of the work they have done to help children have a brighter and more prosperous future.

The 104th Congress does stand for children and for that we should all be proud.

WEAVING THE FABRIC OF A STRONG COMMUNITY MEANS DEVOTING MORE RESOURCES TO PREVENTING TEEN PREGNANCY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I disagree with the last speaker, that this Congress has been a prochild Congress. It certainly has not acted on behalf of children when it refused children the opportunity to have a decent lunch so they could learn better. It certainly has not acted in the good interests of children when they refused to allow them to have food stamps, where indeed their families were suffering. It certainly has not acted well on behalf of children where they were denied Title I educational funds that go to disadvantaged children to learn better, so they can make a contribution. Finally, it certainly has not acted in the best interests of children when it denies its family or wants to deny its family a liveable wage so they can provide for their families.

Mr. Speaker, I want to join the debate today by saying this is May, and May is, indeed, a month when we want to advocate about children, about Teenager Pregnancy Prevention Month. This is a time that we should look at that.

I want to speak maybe a little more philosophically.

Mr. Speaker, the fabric of our society is woven from numerous threads. Threads from the Federal Government's policies and services are interwoven with threads from State government policies and services, along with threads from county and municipal governments, civic organizations and private sector efforts.

These threads form an intricate pattern of policies, programs and services, all interconnected, that in turn effect the lives of all our citizens.

To achieve a strong community fabric, the Federal Government must carefully consider the length, the strength, the flexibility, the vibrancy, and the quality of threads that we contribute to the weave of policies, programs, and procedures.

The goal of teen pregnancy prevention efforts should be to assist teens to achieve social responsibility and long-term economic self-sufficiency. Achievement of this goal depends on the efforts of the participant, the service provider, and the administering governmental agencies. The primary role of the Federal Government should be to facilitate the success of each parties' efforts.

Our current teen pregnancy crisis evolved over several generations when the social fabric became worn and tattered and began to unravel. Consequently, we must realize that we cannot break this intergenerational cycle or eliminate the crisis over night.

We must carefully examine the fabric of our programs to determine where