

Ten years later, the world can still hear the echoes of the cheers that erupted at the Brandenburg Gate when President Reagan called upon Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to tear down this wall.

Today we commemorate freedom and democracy throughout most of the world, and we also celebrate President Reagan's bold vision and courageous quest for freedom.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue our work in Congress, I urge all my colleagues to help celebrate the freedom and democracy that helps keep America strong.

CRIMINALS HAVE MORE RIGHTS THAN LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS

(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, a Minnesota factory worker said, enough is enough. His cabin was ripped off three times. His neighbors' cabins continue to be ripped off. The police said they could do nothing.

So Lenny Miller booby-trapped his cabin and busted the burglar red-handed. And guess what? Some bust. Lenny Miller is going to jail with a \$12,000 fine. And the burglar is getting free health care.

Beam me up. Something is wrong, Mr. Speaker, when Americans cannot protect their own property and when criminals have more rights than law-abiding citizens.

There is one bright side. I yield back the fact that in Wisconsin there will not be many cabins ripped off this year thanks to Lenny Miller.

TRIBUTE TO SERVICE OF SERGEANT RONALD D. BUSBY

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

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the heroic service of Sergeant Ronald D. Busby.

From his hometown of Columbus, Ohio, Ronald answered the Vietnam War's call to arms by enlisting in the U.S. Army in 1967 at the age of 20. He quickly earned the rank of sergeant and began to distinguish himself for his acts of courage and leadership.

On the evening of August 8, 1968, Sergeant Busby led a night ambush patrol. For his actions that evening, he was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart.

Tragically, like so many of his fellow soldiers, Sergeant Busby was killed in action that fateful evening. He was three days shy of his 21st birthday.

I have heard the phrase "All gave some, some gave all." For veterans like Sergeant Busby, those six words represent more than a phrase; they represent a legacy larger than the tallest mountain. His example lives on as a re-

minder that America will remain the land of the free only so long as it remains the home of the brave.

As we approach the final Veterans Day of the 20th century, let us remember Sergeant Busby and our countless veterans who served their country so faithfully for our freedoms.

TRIBUTE TO JANE SMALL, FOUNDER OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Jane Small, one of the founding mothers of the National Women's Political Caucus. Jane recently passed away.

In 1971, Jane worked to found the NWPC to recruit and support women seeking elected office regardless of party affiliation.

During Jane's history, she guided the caucus through the ERA movement and the struggle to secure a woman's right for reproductive choice. As an inspired feminist and activist, Jane was a key player in electing numerous candidates across the Nation.

I know Jane particularly for her leadership in California politics. She served on both Governor Jerry Brown's and Governor Gray Davis' advisory committees on women's issues.

Jane was an activist. She was a leader. Women in the political arena live in her legacy. She will be forever missed.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS—AMERICA'S UNSUNG HEROES

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, public school teachers are America's unsung heroes. Day in and day out, they dedicate themselves to helping prepare our children for the future.

It is important to make sure our children's teachers have access to the training and tools they need to meet their commitment to students and parents.

But the Clinton-Gore administration disagrees. It wants the Federal Government to hire 100,000 teachers; but it puts hardly any emphasis on quality. That just does not cut it.

America's children do not just need teachers. They need good teachers. Many of the teachers out there are good, but many could be better and they deserve the chance to make themselves better.

Where new teachers are needed, new teachers should be hired. Where teacher quality is a greater concern, State and local initiatives like merit pay, teacher testing, tenure reform, and new opportunities for teacher development might be better uses of that money.

So let us give teachers the opportunity to be the best teachers they can be, and let us give America's children the best hope for a bright future.

AMERICA WANTS A CONGRESS THAT WORKS FOR THEM

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, this Republican-led Congress is a Congress of catchy slogans and gimmicks in trying to pass the appropriation bills, gimmicks like trying to create a 13th month for budget purposes, gimmicks like trying to declare everything an emergency, like the 2000 census, even though it has been in the Constitution for over 200 years.

Now their latest gimmick is a button to tell themselves to stop raiding the Social Security Trust Fund. Instead of gimmicks in raiding the Social Security Trust Fund to pay for the emergency spending, American people ask for things that cost very little and would improve their lives, like a patients' bill of rights so they and their doctors can make their medical decisions and not the HMO; like an increase in the minimum wage so everyone can enjoy our strong economy; like 100,000 more teachers so we can have smaller class sizes; and prescription drug coverage for seniors.

Mr. Speaker, let us work for the American people. Unfortunately, under the Republican-led Congress, it is always the same old story. Tax breaks for the rich and a tax on Government. America wants a Congress that works for them, like Democrats are fighting for.

CONGRATULATING CESAR "EDDY" BLASS

(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, this morning I am delighted to congratulate Mr. Cesar "Eddy" Blass, who will celebrate 15 years as president of the American Peruvian Action Committee, APAC-USA.

Eddy has won the attention of his community with his service which has enabled him to contribute to our South Florida community. He is a dedicated, tireless advocate for the plight of the Peruvian Americans in their long-sought goals of residency and eventual U.S. citizenship.

Through his actions, Eddy has become a leader in the fight to unify Peruvian Americans throughout the United States; and, as a result of his extensive community service, he has received a host of awards, certificates, and recognition.

This Saturday APAC will commemorate its 15th anniversary and honor its president and founder, Cesar "Eddy"

Blass. He has been an inspiration to the lives of his fellow countrymen, as well as for our entire South Florida community.

In honor of his 15th anniversary as president of the American Peruvian Action Committee, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Cesar "Eddy" Blass.

AMERICANS DESERVE TO HAVE ISSUES THEY CARE ABOUT MOST ADDRESSED

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because this Republican Congress is failing American families.

The gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT) originally promised that the Republican-controlled Congress would finish work on the budget nearly 2 months ago. Yet, they continue to sit here and waste our time with political stunts.

The American people have become used to a Republican Congress that is no longer just a "do nothing" Congress, but a "do the wrong thing" Congress.

Americans deserve a budget; they deserve to have the issues they care about most addressed. There is positive legislation that our constituents are asking us to bring to the House floor. We could be saving Social Security, building new schools, reducing classroom size. We could be increasing the minimum wage so that workers can provide for their families. We could be ensuring patients' rights and putting the care back into health care. Instead, we are mired down in partisan rhetoric and debate.

Mr. Speaker, the people of southeast Texas and I have been waiting for over 5 weeks for the Republicans to finish the budget, but we cannot wait much longer. They need to quit stalling and together let us get the people's business done.

EDUCATION SPENDING BILL

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

Mr. SCHAFER. Mr. Speaker, there are few issues in America more important than education. And in fact, the White House and Congress really do not disagree on the amount of money that we ought to spend on schools in this year's appropriations process. But what is holding up the debate is the question of how to spend those dollars.

The Republican party clearly believes that governors and State legislators, school board members, and principals and superintendents ought to be free to spend the dollars that we are appropriating as they see fit. But the President has a different idea. He wants to tell States specifically how they must spend the money.

In some States, hiring more teachers makes sense. In other States, it might not. But here is the President's answer to the question put by a reporter: "Mr. President, on the issue of funding for teachers, sir, you resent it when Congress tells you to spend money in ways which you do not deem appropriate. Why should a state governor who would like to spend that money differently feel any differently?"

The President's answer: "Well, because it's not their money."

When you have an attitude like that in Washington that the taxpayers' money belongs to Washington and not the taxpayers, it explains how the White House is willing to squander the American tax dollars in a way that neglects children and abandons our schools.

SAY YES TO AGENDA FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, in response to the previous speaker, I sat yesterday with the superintendent of schools in the city of Portland and members of the school committee in Portland, Maine; and they do not want block grants. They want class size reduction above all else.

Mr. Speaker, this session is winding down and the Republican Congress has a sorry record. We have not done very much this session, and much of what we have done has been done wrong.

Many Democrats worked hard to pass campaign finance reform with the help of some Republicans here, but the leadership has killed it. Democrats tried to make our schools safer by passing modest gun safety laws, but Republicans said no. Democrats have worked to make health care safer for patients by passing a patients' bill of rights, but Republicans said no.

Democrats in this administration tried to make the world safer by ratifying the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Republicans said no. Democrats have been working hard to get prescription drug legislation passed, but Republicans in the Committee on Ways and Means the other day said no.

Next year let us say yes to an agenda for American families. Let us say yes and get this agenda enacted.

AMERICAN FAMILIES DESERVE BETTER

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority has failed to act on the basic issues facing hard-working Americans. The Republican leadership started the year by trying to spend the surplus on an \$800 billion tax break for the wealthiest Americans, and they did

this despite the fact that we need to strengthen and protect Social Security and Medicare. Their current plan fails to extend the life of Social Security by even one day. It neglects the need for a Medicare prescription drug benefit and hurts every American family in some way.

The Republican leadership stifles common sense gun safety measures like child safety locks and background checks at gun shows, despite the fact that 13 children are killed every single day by guns. The Republican leadership is siding with the gun lobby and letting gaping loopholes remain open.

This Congress should not leave town before its work is done.

The Republican leadership should listen to the public, enact sensible gun safety laws, strengthen Social Security and Medicare, pass a prescription drug benefit bill and a minimum wage bill. Our families deserve better.

RESPONSIBILITY IN EDUCATION

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, we have all heard of the three Rs when it comes to education. Let me add a fourth R: responsibility, because responsibility is the key. Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States, responding to the press when it comes to judicious spending of educational dollars said, and I quote, "Well, because it is not their money."

Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle ought to understand both the arithmetic and the responsibility. My liberal friends want the money to be controlled by the educational bureaucrats in Washington. We in the common sense, conservative majority say the money should be spent at home, first and foremost by teachers in the classrooms, by superintendents in the districts, and yes, by governors in the States, along with the respective superintendents of public education. Because while education is a national priority, it ultimately is a local concern.

Mr. Speaker, the President and my liberal friends should join with us to make sure that local control and responsibility is paramount.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD ALLOW MICROSOFT TO CONTINUE TO INNOVATE FOR AMERICANS

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I am calling on the United States Justice Department to put away any dream of breaking up Microsoft. Microsoft and its employees should not be punished for being one of the most creative, dynamic teams of people in American economic history.