

We had a hearing in Miami. There are over 100,000 Haitians living in the Dade County area in Miami. They do not publish the form in Creole. So how are you going to count this undercounted area? How do you tell these people, "Tough, you cannot get counted, or else if you call in we will find a translator for you?"

What is wrong in publishing the form in Creole? They will publish the instructions in Creole, but they refuse to publish the seven-question short form in Creole. And that is true of all the other languages. They do not even do it for Braille. If you cannot see, what do you have to do? You have to call the Census Bureau and discuss it with someone on the telephone. Why will they not listen to some ideas to improve it?

Another one that local officials should support is to give them a chance to check the numbers before they become final. They did it in 1990. It is not a new idea. But they are afraid for people to check their work. They make mistakes. We all make mistakes. Why not allow local officials, mayors, city managers, county commissioners, what have you, to check the numbers before they become official?

Conducting the census is hard work, and we need to concentrate our efforts into doing the best census possible to eliminate the undercount and get everyone counted.

#### YOUNG PEOPLE WORKING FOR LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, an important part of what makes livable communities is a broad concept of what constitutes the infrastructure that constructs them. That means both the natural environment as well as the built environment. And most important, it also means our people.

Today I would like to focus for a moment on one of the most important parts of the human infrastructure in a livable community, our young people. They are a key part in our community in Portland, Oregon, not just young people at work learning to prepare for their future careers but making real accomplishments as they go.

This week in Washington, D.C., one of my constituents, Jennifer Fletcher, from Grant High School, is being honored by Seventeen Magazine for her volunteerism. Jennifer is one of those extraordinary young people, although only 16 years of age, who has focused in on things that will make a difference in her community. I think in part inspired by a movie that was shot at her high school, "Mr. Holland's Opus," a Richard Dreyfus story about how a music teacher was able to inspire a community to make investments for its future.

Jennifer has done something that would make any screen writer proud. She has founded "Arts Alive" in our community in response to funding cuts for arts programs at their schools. "Arts Alive" is dedicated to providing funding for these schools, and she has exhibited extraordinary creativity in how to go about it.

Her most recent accomplishment was to stage a benefit concert. She approached her favorite singer, Jackson Browne, to help her in the cause. She handled all the details from ticket sales, to securing a Portland concert hall, to arranging transportation and hotel accommodations for the band. And as a result of her dedication and marvelous skills, the concert was a huge success, bringing together people in the community to celebrate the arts, to be a part of a larger effort, and, by the way, raising almost \$100,000.

I am proud of the difference that Ms. Fletcher has made. I applaud her future efforts. But they are just the tip of the iceberg in our community. As I look at the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps, which has put young people to work improving the environment, hiring at-risk high school young people, giving them school credit for their work but giving them real-life activities where they were shoulder to shoulder with professionals in creating recreation trails, viewing areas, restoring watershed, preventing soil erosion, promoting recycling, and participating in wetland restoration projects, real work for real kids, learning kids, earning while they went.

In David Douglas High School, I have seen young people solve very creatively a transportation problem between two of their buildings by creating their own light rail line, converting two buses, laying the track, all with volunteers and donated labor.

The Northwest Service Academy, with 150 AmeriCorps volunteers, working with over 10,000 people in the community, dealing with issues of storm water runoff, roof drain disconnect, converting hundreds of homes to different approaches to solve this problem much more cheaply than if we were just building concrete underground cisterns.

The goal of a livable community through smart growth and careful planning is to get more out of our scarce dollars, our land, and our people. By harnessing the creative power of our youth, putting them to work through education, employment, and environmental activities is one of the most creative ways that we can truly make America's communities livable.

And for all our talk about smart growth and transportation initiatives and protecting the environment, I hope that we will continue to focus on ways to harness our young people to be full partners in making our communities livable.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 11 a.m.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m.) the House stood in recess until 11 a.m.

□ 1100

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LINDER) at 11 a.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

O gracious God, from whom all blessings flow, we remember in our prayer all those who turn to You with their petitions and their needs. Where there is hunger, grant nourishment; where there is sadness, grant a full measure of joy and gladness; where there is uncertainty or anxiety about the future, grant Your peace that passes all human understanding. May Your good spirit, O God, that is with us in all the moments of life grant peace and pardon and hope to us and to all Your people now and evermore. 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 Wisconsin (Mr. KLECZKA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KLECZKA 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.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 540. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit transfers or discharges of residents of nursing facilities as a result of a voluntary withdrawal from participation in the Medicaid Program.

The message also announced, That pursuant to section 201(a)(2) of Public Law 93-344, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, announces the joint appointment of Mr. Dan Crippen as Director of the Congressional Budget Office,

effective February 3, 1999, for a term expiring on January 3, 2003.

# LET US GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

(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, in the wake of shocking revelations of Chinese espionage, and the unlawful and unauthorized transfer of nuclear technology from our Nation to the People's Republic of China and the curious coincidence that the Clinton-Gore campaign took Chinese money in the 1996 presidential campaign, let me propose four immediate steps that this House should take.

Number 1, Mr. Speaker, let me call on the President. If he wants to get to the bottom of this scandal, as his spinners suggest, this President should release forthwith the report of this House's select committee headed by the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) into the entire episode.

Number 2, I should point out, Mr. Speaker, 60 colleagues have joined me in signing a letter to the chairman of our Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS), urging him to conduct his own hearings since the Cox committee will soon lapse.

Number 3, I would call on this Congress to close our national laboratories to these so-called cultural exchanges because what they are are pilfering—our technology.

And Number 4, Mr. Speaker, Sandy Berger must go.

## CHINA WILL STOP AT NOTHING

(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, in 1992 a Russian spy who defected to America said China is determined to destroy America from within. He further said, and I quote, China would buy or steal our industrial and military secrets. He said China would buy American politicians. And the Russian spy further said, and I quote, China will stop at nothing. In spite of all this, China got for free our missile technology, China got naval bases, and China gets and continues to get a sweetheart trade deal financing the next major threat to our sovereignty.

Beam me up. Someone in high places in America is in bed with the Chinese Red Army and the Chinese Communists.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back a \$50-billion-plus trade deficit that threatens our future.

# CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCOTLAND COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to rise today to pay special tribute to Scotland County, North Carolina, as it celebrates in 1999 its 100th anniversary. I also want to recognize this Thursday, March 18, as Agricultural Appreciation Day in Scotland County.

Although Scotland County is relatively young among North Carolina counties, having been created by the North Carolina General Assembly on February 20, 1899, it has a rich and interesting history. Central in the history of Scotland County is the presence of and dependence on agriculture. Agriculture in Scotland County, just like in the rest of America, is recognized as the foundation of our society.

Scotland County Farmers contribute over 40 million dollars to the local economy. There are approximately 125 farms in Scotland County which produce cotton, soybeans, corn, wheat, tobacco, oats and hay; hogs and broilers are also raised in Scotland County.

Scotland County farmers contribute over \$40 million to the local economy. There are approximately 125 farms in Scotland County which produce cotton, soybeans, corn, wheat, tobacco, oats, hay and hogs. Broilers are also raised in Scotland County.

Mr. Speaker, Scotland County farmers are the stewards of the soil and water resources that provide substance to feed, clothe and shelter the American people and those around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with others in Scotland County to honor those individuals involved in agriculture, one of the most noble of professions, and thank each farmer in Scotland County, indeed each farmer in America, for their hard work and commitment to stewardship of the land and providing food and clothing to the world.

## KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO VETERANS

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the Republican solution to add \$1.9 billion to the administration's proposal to save and improve the health care of our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, few things are more sacred and solemn than the promises we have made to our Nation's veterans because we would not enjoy the peace, the prosperity and the freedoms we have today without their sacrifices. Unfortunately, though, that promise does not mean much to some because they would like to pass a budget that literally is a slap in the face to every veteran we have.

Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago we elevated the VA to a Cabinet level department

for a very good reason. We wanted the VA to have the President's ear. But is the President listening?

We need to protect the future of VA health care, we need to protect the future of our veterans. Unfortunately, however, the administration's proposed budget fails to do this.

I encourage all Members to support our Nation's veterans, back the Committee on Veterans' Affairs' budget recommendation and keep the promises we have made to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice to this country.

# REPUBLICANS TAKING THE LEAD IN MAKING SURE SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE WILL BE THERE WHEN PEOPLE NEED IT

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, to make sure that the Social Security and Medicare are there when people need it, the Republican plan locks away 100 percent of the retirement surplus in a safe deposit box.

Now I know that the response of many seniors in my district is, "But I thought that was already the case," or, "Why wasn't that done a long time ago?"

Mr. Speaker, I cannot answer for 40 years of Democrat control of this body, but I can say that Republicans are taking the lead on the issue. While the President's plan takes only 62 percent of the surplus and reserves it for Social Security, the Republican plan takes 100 percent of the retirement surplus and locks it away for both Social Security and Medicare.

Now let me repeat that the Republican plan locks away 100 percent of the retirement surplus and reserves it for Social Security and Medicare. Let us not kid ourselves. The retirement surplus alone will not solve the problems of Social Security and Medicare, but our commitment to strengthen these two programs and protect seniors is clear.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Democrat colleagues to join us in a commitment to protecting these programs for seniors.

## PUT THE TRUST BACK INTO THE SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUND

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

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, this week we know two things we did not know last week. First, Republicans are setting aside more money for Social Security than the President is in his budget. Second thing we know is that the President's budget numbers do not add up. In fact, the numbers are so wrong that no one is defending them. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, or CBO, found that they have not