

swelled to 200 within a month. Today, after less than 5 years, Crossroads welcomes more than 1,700 people per week-end.

Pastor Armstrong is an inspiration to the Mansfield community, bringing a unique and meaningful preaching style to his congregation. Through practical application of the Bible's truths to everyday living, he reaches out to the unchurched in and around Mansfield in a most effective way.

A graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary, Pastor Armstrong initially pursued a business degree in college, ultimately realizing his calling to the ministry. He and his wife, Michelle, are the proud parents of twin girls, McKenna Kate and Isabelle Grace.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Father Coughlin for giving Pastor Armstrong the opportunity to open today's session; and on behalf of my colleagues, I want to thank Pastor Armstrong for his spiritual guidance as we begin our work today.

#### REFLECTING ON OUR FALLEN FRIENDS

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago have now passed since the hot, sad day that an act of senseless violence took our friends, Detective John Gibson and Officer J.J. Chestnut, from us. The tragic shock of their loss is gradually receding and the weight of their absence is settling on us more deeply. It weighs on us because of the special men that they were.

And when we reflect back on our lost friends, their bearing, conduct and commitment reminds us of David's words to Solomon. He said, "Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid nor discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you."

As we know, David charged his son Solomon to build a great temple for the Lord. Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson were the protectors of a great tradition: open and accessible democracy.

Our fallen fellows and friends served their country and the cause of freedom in the United States Capitol, a building that stands as the world's foremost temple of liberty. But the Capitol could never have been built without an older American tradition of sacrifice and defense of the core freedoms that support our society. No less than other heroes who fell far from American soil, J.J. Chestnut and John Gibson are a part of that noble group.

Three years ago, hundreds of people were in grave danger. And as they operated under dire circumstances, Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson stood tall for all of us. When America needed them to be courageous and strong, they were. And I know that they are with the Lord now.

They have our deepest respect and our deepest gratitude. We will never

forget them or the values that they embodied. Today our hearts and prayers go out to the Chestnut and Gibson families. God bless them.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair desires to make an announcement.

On July 24, 1998, at 3:40 p.m., Officer Jacob J. Chestnut and Detective John M. Gibson of the United States Capitol Police were killed in the line of duty defending the Capitol against an intruder armed with a gun.

At 3:40 p.m. today, the Chair will recognize the anniversary of this tragedy by observing a moment of silence in their memory.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM IS SECURE

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, this is a \$5 billion Treasury Note. More than \$1 trillion of these are on deposit. Let me read from it: "This bond is incontestable in the hands of the Federal Old Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund," Social Security. This bond is supported by the full faith and credit of the United States of America. The United States of America is pledged to the payment of the bond with respect to both principal and interest. More than \$1 trillion is on deposit.

Americans will pay \$93 billion this year more in FICA taxes than is necessary to support the system, with the idea they are being deposited to pay for their retirement. In 2016, there will be \$6 trillion on deposit, and Secretary O'Neill of the Treasury and the Bush Privatization of Social Security Commission is downtown right now like a hive of termites trying to undermine the system and say we might not honor that \$6 trillion of debt.

Well, if the bonds on deposit backed by the full faith and credit of the United States of America will not be paid for Social Security, what other debts will this government default on?

#### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to go on record as saying I, for one, do not believe that former Senator Moynihan is a termite.

Mr. Speaker, I am worried about the left wing of the Democrat party. Mr. Speaker, I think they are losing it. In all corners of the Washington liberal establishment, there is panic. War has been declared on the people's tax relief.

Just as the checks are in the mail, dire predictions and horrifying stories are being told about a government doing without, catastrophe for the economy, all because we sent a small portion of record surpluses back to the taxpayers who sent their money to Washington.

Good grief, Mr. Speaker. What are we to do with this kind of panic on the left?

Over the weekend, they put their foot down. A very distinguished Member of this body announced with pride his belief that the tax increases of 1993 were the right thing to do and that he would do it again.

Mr. Speaker, in a fine bit of revisionist history, the Democrat leadership has proclaimed that 1993 budget, Bill Clinton's first budget, as a huge boon to the American economy and the American people.

Let me say this about that budget. It did do three very important things: it did raise taxes on energy; it did raise taxes on seniors; and it raised taxes on the working middle class, that is, Mr. Speaker, working moms trying to move up the economic ladder. And this Member said he would do it again. I give him credit for brutal honesty, that is, it is honest and it is brutal.

What a view of the world. What a denial of basic economics.

Tax relief is good for the American economy, good for American families. The refund checks being delivered today to American homes even as we meet will help buy school clothes, help pay bills, maybe even help with home improvement projects to make a house more energy efficient.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my friends from the other side of the aisle, reject this view that the Government needs this money more than real people do. Come out into the light. Reject this war on tax relief and embrace the sunshine of economic opportunity for the 20th century. Try it once. Try it once. Cut taxes for real people; and I bet you will feel so good you will say, I will do it again.

#### SUPPORT THE GANSKE-NORWOOD-DINGELL PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

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

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I have always been a strong advocate of the Patients' Bill of Rights and am proud to be part of cosponsorship of the Ganske-Norwood-Dingell bill, which is the bill that we will be debating this week, and no other bill.

There are protections within the Patients' Bill of Rights. The Patients' Bill of Rights creates an external appeals process that, once exhausted, allows the patient to pursue claims against the HMO in State or Federal court, depending on the cause of their harm.

What is getting those opposed to patient protection all hot under the collar? Because opponents do not want

hard-working Americans to have access to their State courts when HMOs deny them proper health care. This hypocrisy escapes no one. No one is paying attention to the fact that the great defenders of "States' rights" in this Chamber are the ones opposed to allowing Americans access to State courts.

And why is it? Because they are afraid. They are afraid to let juries and State courts make decisions about what an HMO owes a patient who has been harmed as a result of the HMO's heartless, bottom-line-driven cost-cutting.

#### ALLOWING HANNAH TO LIVE

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, right now the White House is trying to decide whether or not to allow scientists to kill living human embryos to harvest their stem cells. The debate, of course, is over whether or not living human embryos are people or property. If they are property, you can do anything you want with them. If they are people, they deserve protection.

Take a look at this chart of the life of Hannah, a 2½-year-old girl who was adopted as a frozen embryo. Here shortly after she was conceived; here when she was adopted and then implanted into her mother's, adoptive mother's womb; here on New Year's Eve, 1998, when she was born; and over here on the right you can see when she was a toddler, a baby.

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Where on this chart did Hannah become a person? Where on this chart does she deserve protection?

Many of us believe that she deserves the right to protection, that she deserves to continue to live from the start. We hope the White House will make sure that all unborn girls and boys have the same chance to live and grow.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

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

H.R. 2131. An act to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 16. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the George Washington letter to Touro Synagogue in Newport, Rhode Island, which is on display at the B'nai B'rith Klutznick National Jewish Museum in Washington, D.C., is one of the most significant early statements buttressing the nascent American constitutional guarantee of religious freedom.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2761 of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, appoints the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group during the One Hundred Seventh Congress.

The message also announced that in accordance with sections 1928a-1928d of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Parliamentary Assembly during the One Hundred Seventh Congress.

#### FBI GETTING AWAY WITH PERJURY

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the FBI did not steal guns nor computers? Beam me up. The FBI destroyed incriminating evidence that would have whacked the FBI right out of the box. Even Chief Inspector Clouseau can smell out this diversion. From Waco to Ruby Ridge to Boston, the FBI has not only suborned perjury, they have lied to the courts, they have lied to Congress, they have lied to the American people, and they are getting away with it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the fact that the FBI destroyed evidence deliberately. They had no intention and no need to take any guns or any computers.

#### WALK FOR HOPE AGAINST BREAST CANCER

(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, on Sunday, October 7, hundreds of south Florida residents will participate in the third annual Walk for Hope Against Breast Cancer at Aventura Mall. Walk For Hope Against Breast Cancer will help raise funds for life-saving research at the City of Hope Medical Center and at Beckman Research Institute, a National Cancer Institute Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Despite education on preventative measures and on early detection, the rate of cancer among women has continued to increase at an alarming rate. Current statistics indicate that 2.6 million women have breast cancer. Today, one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and this year we will lose more than 40,000 women to this devastating disease.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the event cochair of the walk, Michael

Yavner and Mason Mishcon who, through their efforts, will enable City of Hope Medical Center to continue to provide care, regardless of a patient's ability to pay. Funds from this walk at Aventura Mall will also benefit clinical trials and hereditary and genetic-associated research.

I congratulate City of Hope and all involved in Walk for Hope for their dedication to fighting breast cancer.

#### KOREAN WAR MIA'S SUPPORT INTERNET-BASED INITIATIVE CALLED FINDING THE FAMILIES

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

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, we recently celebrated the 51st anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War, and among those that we honored were the 6,000 soldiers in that war who were designated as Missing In Action.

The cooling of tensions on the Korean Peninsula have allowed an unprecedented opportunity for the repatriation of the remains of those lost servicemen. At the same time, recent advances in DNA technology have made it possible to identify those remains once a DNA sample is obtained from a living descendant.

An organization called the Korean War Project has set up an Internet-based initiative called Finding the Families to locate the 6,000 families of servicemen missing in action from the Korean War. I have placed a link on my government Web site to their homepage so that the citizens of my district can search the directory of missing soldiers from their area in an attempt to find a living descendant who can provide a DNA sampling. I urge my colleagues to provide matching support in tracking down those missing families by providing similar links on their own Web sites, in addition to generating more public awareness of this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, our missing heroes deserve more than just our passive pledge not to forget, they deserve our active support. Supporting the Finding Families program is a way to do just that.

#### KEEPING PROMISES TO AMERICA'S PATIENTS

(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, Napoleon Bonaparte once said that "if you wanted to be a success in the world, promise everything, deliver nothing." But we all know how successful Napoleon fared.

Yet, the supporters of the Ganske-Dingell Patients' Bill of Rights and its Senate equivalent seem to have forgotten the lessons of Napoleon Bonaparte. They are promising American families new patient protections and rights to