

my colleagues join me in congratulating it for 20 years of unparalleled excellence for our community and indeed our Nation.

APRIL IS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and I join with all of those across the country who are taking the opportunity to raise this issue, and that is the issue of sexual assault that occurs far too often, often goes unreported, often leaves individuals feeling shameful and feeling that they have no place to turn.

That is a kind of terror and a kind of terrorism that our country must rid itself of. So I urge all of us to join together to make sure that we can reduce the incidences of sexual assault.

ASTHMA AWARENESS DAY

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, today is Asthma Awareness Day, and as a former suffering asthmatic, I want to commend this Congress for the work and research efforts that have been undertaken by the National Institutes of Health.

I want to give my colleagues a few of the statistics that are startling: 4.8 million children have asthma; 10.6 million people have experienced an asthma attack or episode in the past 12 months; 3.9 million asthma-related outpatient visits to private physicians; and another 2 million asthma-related visits to emergency departments. Over 12,288 people died of asthma-related symptoms. The cost, of course, is staggering, \$12.7 billion. Missed school days, 10.1 million annually, and missed work days, over 3 million.

Much work needs to be done, but the first most important work is to continue to promote asthma awareness and research, hopefully to bring a breath of life to young children and cure this disease.

RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL MOVING ACROSS AMERICA

(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, do my colleagues recognize this symbol here, the national symbol for dangerous radioactivity? I hope so. Because these signs, and we should get used to them, will soon be in our neighborhoods, our communities, near our schools and parks, along our highways and railways in our districts.

The most dangerous toxic type of radioactive material known to man, spent nuclear fuel, is very close to being carried through 44 States, 703 counties and 109 major metropolitan areas, and probably through my colleagues' own neighborhood. If this Congress votes to pass the resolution designating Yucca Mountain as the Nation's nuclear waste dump, we will see this symbol driving by our homes, schools and churches for at least the next 38 years.

Mr. Speaker, are our constituents prepared to live near a nuclear shipping route that leads to Yucca Mountain? Are the 123 million Americans living near these routes prepared for a nuclear disaster? Let us protect our rail and highways and, more importantly, our American families. Vote no on House Joint Resolution 87.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the over 260,000 women who are sexually assaulted in America every year. We just concluded sexual assault month last month as we ended the month of April.

Today, May 1, I want to make sure that Americans know that sexual assault will not be tolerated. There are programs in our government, both public and private, that help sexual assault victims reach their potential if they have been horrendously assaulted. This is a better country than that. We are better people than that. There are programs both for the assaulter, as well as the woman or man who has been assaulted.

It is our responsibility as families, as leaders, to work with these people who need additional assistance. Mr. Speaker, I would hope that we as American citizens reach out to those people, support the programs and move this country forward.

TEN COMMANDMENTS AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

(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, a week ago hundreds of my constituents watched something very sad in my district. A work crew placed a piece of sheet metal over a plaque depicting the Ten Commandments that hung on the wall of the Chester County Courthouse for over 80 years. The county commissioners did not want to do it, but a Federal judge ordered it.

This week, a newspaper, the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, all the way on the other end of the State, said the court's order was reminiscent of the Taliban and the Buddha statues, but I find it more disturbing than that.

Last week, the Supreme Court ruled that computer child pornography was perfectly legal as long as real kids were not used making it. We can turn on the TV at 4:00 in the afternoon, watch Jerry Springer interview people about their most disgusting sexual activities. The American Nazi Party is told they have a constitutional right to march through a Jewish neighborhood in Illinois, but a plaque of the Ten Commandments is so offensive we have to cover it up.

I am not exaggerating. The woman who sued our county said she was offended every time she went to the courthouse seeing the plaque. Mr. Speaker, something is very, very wrong with America's court system when child pornography is protected, can be viewed on computers, but the Ten Commandments have to be covered up.

MAKE EVERY MONTH SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, the month of April, which was Sexual Assault Awareness Month, has come to an end. However, I propose that we make every month sexual assault awareness month until there is no longer a woman in this world who fears being raped or assaulted.

We are devoting extensive resources to ending terror around the world, while at the same time 1 in 6 women continue to be terrorized by sexual assaults in their lifetime. Sadly, this is not new or shocking news as each year the statistics change very little.

It is time to take a stand. It is time that we make ending violence against women a national priority. It is time that we devote the same amount of resources to ending a form of violence that terrorizes over half the population of this globe as we provide to the war on terrorism.

We can do something about it today. There will be a motion to instruct today introduced by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) which will instruct conferees to agree that we should strengthen the Violence Against Women Office and make it independent within the Department of Justice. This will make sure that we put the kind of attention and resources that we need to stop violence against women.

RECOGNIZING THE GOODWILL AND ALTRUISM AT THE PLACENTIA TRAIN ACCIDENT

(Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, on April 23, a terrible train accident occurred in my district in Placentia, California. Tragically 2 people lost their lives while hundreds of others were injured.

I rise today not to add commentary to the unfortunate accident, but rather to recognize the goodwill and altruism that is very much a part of America in a post-September 11 world.

Mr. Speaker, the fire, police and ambulance services, along with the local hospitals, all reacted swiftly to the accident. There were bystanders who rushed to the scene to offer aid and comfort to those who were hurt. One of those bystanders, a convenience store owner, rushed to the scene with cases of bottled water. Another grabbed a first aid kit from her car and rushed to help. Employees from a local telephone company brought dozens of cell phones to the emergency center so people could call their loved ones.

Despite the tragedy of the situation, average Americans rose to the occasion to help strangers and friends alike.

Mr. Speaker, if there is anyone who wonders what makes an American an American, they need only look at the simple acts of kindness and charity that citizens everywhere engage in when something terrible happens. America is the same today as it was in the wake of September 11. It is strong and will remain so regardless of whatever hardships are thrown our way.

GROWTH IN THE ECONOMY

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, we heard about the Bush recession on this floor months ago, even though the recession in which we found ourselves had begun a matter of weeks after George Bush became President of the United States. So I am waiting, Mr. Speaker, to begin to hear about the Bush recovery on this floor from our friends on the other side of aisle.

The Department of Commerce announced the economy grew by 5.8 percent in the first quarter of 2002, and even The Washington Post credited tax cuts in part for fueling this recovery.

There is more that needs to be done. There is not yet good news in the area of unemployment, so we must practice fiscal discipline and additional tax relief to certify the Bush recovery. We must make last year's tax cuts permanent, Mr. Speaker, and we must not spend one penny more than the President's request in the upcoming defense supplemental.

Tax relief, fiscal discipline, the cornerstone of the Bush recovery.

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BRING OUR CITIZENS HOME

(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, well, here we are at the beginning of May 2002. Ludwig Koonz was taken to Italy

in 1994. Jeff Koonz, his father, won court cases prior to that giving him custody. Jeff continues to fight the fight to get his son returned, the U.S. citizen's son returned, to the United States of America.

The mother who took the child, Ilona Staller is still doing her pornography. She still has her Web site up. She is still doing exotic sex shows all over the world, raising her son in that environment. We have not heard from our State Department. We do not know exactly what they are doing about this to fight to bring every U.S. citizen who is outside of this country and who wants to be here in the United States home, where they belong.

All I can ask is that you consider, my colleagues, what you would do if it were your child. Would you sit by complacently, like we are doing; or would you be standing on the shores of our country demanding that every child taken out of our country be returned? Help us bring our children home.

STRENGTHEN WELFARE REFORM

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be part of the effort to strengthen the historic 1996 welfare reform law, TANF, or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.

Since 1996, nearly 3 million children have been lifted from poverty. Nine million citizens have left the welfare rolls altogether. And the black child poverty rate is at its lowest point in history.

Mr. Speaker, over the past 6 years, we have found that a paycheck is the best path from poverty to self-sufficiency. The Republican plan and the President's plan will help even more low-income parents know the dignity that comes from a paycheck instead of a welfare check.

Through welfare reform, we can assist even more low-income Americans improve the quality of their lives for themselves and their children.

PRAYERS FOR MARTIN AND GRACIA BURNHAM

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 340th day that Martin and Gracia Burnham have been held captive by Muslim terrorists in the Philippines.

Today is May Day, traditionally a festive day to celebrate spring time. This May Day will not be festive for Martin and Gracia. It will be a day of terror, as each of the past 339 days has been. Unfortunately, it will not be a joyous day for their children either, Jeff, Mindy, and Zach. It will another day these children are without their beloved parents.

America has the personnel, the necessary tools, the training, and the ability to rescue Martin and Gracia Burnham from the Islamic terrorists that hold them hostage. All we lack is the political will to do it.

I ask my colleagues: What would you want if you were held captive today by terrorists? I can answer that for you. You would want your government to do everything it possibly could as quickly as it could to get you free. That is exactly what we should encourage our administration to do.

As always, I ask you to join me in prayer for Martin and Gracia and for their loved ones that this nightmare may soon be over.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 402 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 402

Resolved, That any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2871) to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except