

Please join me in praying for Martin and Gracia's safe release, for the welfare of their family and friends, and for all of us that we share the Burnham's strong faith and use it to make our world a better place.

BALTIMORE ZOO WELCOMES ALASKA

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, at times it seems that so much that we deal with on this floor is beyond our control. Yet it seems that there are small steps that we can take to make a difference.

One such step is a livable community promotes humane treatment of animals, whether in our community or the wild. Wild animals, such as polar bears, should be allowed to remain in their natural habitat and be contained only in spaces that directly replicate their natural environment, such as accredited zoos.

Many have been appalled at the polar bears languishing in sweltering temperatures in the Suarez Brothers Circus in Puerto Rico. I am happy to report that yesterday U.S. marshals and agents with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rescued Alaska, one of the polar bears. It turns out that the origins and identity of this polar bear may have been false on the Suarez Brothers' import permit obtained when entering the United States. If true, the circus would be violating international and domestic wildlife protection laws.

I applaud the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for taking this action. I understand that Alaska will be housed at the Baltimore Zoo, and I think we can look forward to welcoming her to a safe and healthy environment. We can only hope the other six will be spared a life of misery performing circus tricks in tropical climates.

□ 1015

RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEER EFFORTS OF NATIONAL ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION TO REBUILD PENTAGON ROOF

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the small roofing contracting companies who have donated labor, funds and supplies to rebuild over an acre of the Pentagon's roof.

On September 11, the Pentagon experienced severe structural damage when terrorists flew American Airlines Flight 77 into the building. The massive fire caused by thousands of gallons of jet fuel destroyed over 40,000 square feet of the slate roof.

At the urging of Northern Virginia Roofing, a contracting company owned

by a husband and wife team in Falls Church, Virginia, the National Roofing Contractors Association negotiated an agreement with the Department of Defense to give the Pentagon a new roof. To date, nearly \$400,000 in cash and supplies has been raised by small roofing contracting companies who felt compelled to defeat the terrorists in their own special way.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

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

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, tomorrow is International Women's Day. This is a day when women from all countries come together to celebrate a common struggle for justice, equality, and peace. It is a day that celebrates the acts of bravery and determination by ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of women's rights.

Women have made incredible progress in the last 9 decades since the first International Women's Day was celebrated. However, we are still seeing overwhelming numbers of acts of violence against women. Worldwide, domestic battery is epidemic, and it is estimated that one of every three women and girls has been beaten or sexually assaulted in her lifetime. We must reaffirm our commitment to ending discrimination and violence against women.

Those who say that ending domestic violence is impossible need only look at the progress made in Afghanistan to know that we can make a difference. On this International Women's Day, we should be proud of the progress we have made, but recommit to end violence everywhere.

MOURNING LOSS OF MITCH TYLER, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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

Mr. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join Hoke County, North Carolina, in mourning the loss of one of our most respected citizens, Superintendent of Schools Mitch Tyler. At the age of 46, Mitch was taken from us far too early, and we will feel the loss to our community for years to come. Mitch had been superintendent for less than 2 years, but his more than 20 years in education, from the State and university levels to Hoke and Cumberland County, made him a well-known, trusted figure and a respected role model.

Mitch, a Robeson County native, started his career in Hoke County. He was a teacher or administrator at West Hoke Elementary, J.W. McLauchlin Elementary and the Turlington School. From 1989 to 1992, he was principal of

Hoke County High School. He also worked as a coordinator of Hoke County's Indian education program, a senior assistant to State Superintendent Mike Ward and a director of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke where he was a liaison to region schools.

He was a tireless and selfless advocate for children and an enthusiastic consensus-builder encouraging camaraderie, teamwork, and self-respect among teachers and staff. They knew they could trust his word and that he would do things right. Mitch was also a man of faith who served as assistant pastor and Sunday school teacher at Shannon Assembly of God.

Today we mourn the loss of Mitch Tyler, a man of great character and a leader who always strived to do what was best for children. Barbara and I join the Hoke County community in prayer for Mitch's wife and two teenage children as they grieve the loss of husband and father. Yet we celebrate the life of one who lived so well. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

COMMEMORATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FAITH COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

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

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise this morning to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Faith Community Credit Union. Faith Community Credit Union is headed by my good friend, Rita Haynes; and in the 50 years of this credit union, this credit union has come from a small church credit union to being a community credit union where they now in fact have the opportunity to administer Small Business Administration loans to small businesses in our communities.

Last week I had the opportunity to address the National Credit Union Association, and I was introduced by my good friend Rita Haynes. I want to celebrate the great work that the Faith Community Credit Union has done for our community. It has even taken the step of trying to provide loans for people who are being subjected to predatory lenders and those payday loans that you have seen all over the TV where people come in and say to you, get a loan this week and you can pay it off next week with next week's check, and then what do you do with the money that you do not have at that time?

I am so pleased that credit unions are stepping in where many other financial institutions have stepped out. I again rise to celebrate Faith Community Credit Union's 50th anniversary.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY

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

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Susan B. Anthony and her contributions to the struggle for women's rights many, many years ago.

March is Women's History Month and the perfect time to recognize this incredible woman who truly shaped our country's history and society. She remains one of our Nation's greatest champions, not just for the rights of women but for the rights of all Americans. In addition to the work she did for women and women's rights, she was a leading advocate against the evil of slavery in her day.

Another piece of her legacy that is often brushed over but equally important is her commitment to the rights of unborn children. She opposed abortion because she championed equal rights for all. She did not see a difference in fighting for women's rights and protecting the right to life for all children. She fought for both.

As we think back on Susan B. Anthony's tireless work to promote the dignity of all life, let us renew our own commitment to fight for equal rights, especially for unborn children who have no voice to fight for themselves.

AIRLINE SAFETY

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

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to inform my colleagues that when they get on their airplanes this evening or tomorrow morning, it is highly, highly unlikely that the checked baggage that will go into the belly of their airplanes will be checked for explosives. Despite the passage of 4 months after this House and the other Chamber and the President signed into law a requirement that 100 percent of all the checked baggage be screened for bombs, not one single bomb-detection piece of equipment in response to that legislation has been installed in an American airport. The reason for that is that finally, 6 months after September 11, the Federal Government finally this week got around to placing an order for the first 100, about 5 percent of what we need, of these machines to get this job done. We have to buy 2,000 of these machines to get this job done, and 6 months after this event the Federal Government still has only ordered 100.

We want to urge the administration to act with greater dispatch to meet this 100 percent target. We were told this week the Inspector General said the target of December will not be met. We want to make sure the administration moves and moves quickly. We need to get this job done.

WELFARE REFORM

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to endorse welfare reform in America. There was an excellent lead editorial this week in the Carolina Morning News of Savannah dated March 4, and I quote:

"The 1996 welfare reform bill, passed by a Republican Congress and signed by President Clinton, stands as one of the great social policy successes of the last 50 years. It was to the cycle of dependency on the dole what the collapse of the Berlin Wall was to communism, both literally and symbolically."

America provides more opportunities to its people than any other country in the world, and our educational system and entrepreneurial spirit are unmatched. Therefore, we should work with President Bush to ensure all Americans have jobs and can fulfill themselves to the highest of their abilities.

Madam Speaker, as the newest member of the Welfare Reform Action Team, I am confident, working together, we can assist more and more people to achieve the American dream. I fully support welfare reforms that will accomplish this important task.

CBO PREDICTS SURPLUS FOR 2003

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

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, the \$74 billion Bush tax relief plan is already yielding benefits in the form of accelerated economic activity. According to yesterday's estimates from the Congressional Budget Office, higher economic growth added \$23 billion to Federal revenue in fiscal year 2002 and \$16 billion in fiscal year 2003. Congress' nonpartisan analysts now show a \$5 billion surplus in fiscal year 2002; and if we exercise fiscal discipline as we consider new programs and set the budget targets, this new revenue brings a balanced budget within reach for fiscal year 2003.

That is good surplus news. CBO is changing budget estimates released just 2 months ago. I applaud their quick response to new economic information. However, we need to do more. We need real-world budget estimates that incorporate the effects of economic incentives on proposed policy changes. We need to hold our budget analysts accountable every year for the difference between what they have told us would happen and what actually happened. With that, we can improve future budget projections and make sure this economy is rolling again.

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2001

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 360 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 360

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3090) to provide tax incentives for economic recovery, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 360 provides for a single motion offered by the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, or his designee, that the House concur in the Senate amendment with the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying the resolution. This resolution waives all points of order against consideration of the motion to concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment. It provides an hour of debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. Finally, the resolution provides that the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion.

Madam Speaker, this is this body's fourth attempt to find the middle ground. This is the House's fourth attempt to address the needs of unemployed Americans and to provide a needed boost to our economy. This House is putting forth a solution in order to build a consensus.

The amendment made in order under this resolution includes special depreciation allowances for certain property and a 5-year carryback of net operating losses. If we help businesses, we help create much needed jobs. It provides an additional 13 weeks of temporary extended unemployment benefits for those who have exhausted their regular benefits. It includes the liberty zone tax benefits for reconstruction of New York City. Finally, it extends a number of expiring, yet very important, provisions such as tax credits for electric vehicles, the welfare-to-work tax credit, the Archer medical savings accounts, tax credits for production of alternative energy sources, work opportunity tax credits, temporary assistance to needy families, or TANF, and that is to name just a few.