

Society of Philadelphia for his contributions to the business community in the Philadelphia region and the community of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, where he lives with his family.

Since 1935, the Justinian Society has searched, as the premier legal organization in the Philadelphia area, for Americans of Italian ancestry. Comprised of attorneys, judges, and law students, the society has directed itself to maintaining the honor of our legal system and the high ethical standards that distinguish its practice in our society. The Justinian Society accomplishes its mission by promoting continuing legal education programs, offering scholarships to Italian American law students and by promoting civic engagement by the legal community.

Mr. Speaker, Pat Deon is a respected member of the Bucks County community. A successful businessman and entrepreneur, Pat has become a leader in his region, serving on numerous local and statewide boards and commissions. Since 1995, Pat Deon has been a volunteer member of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority and has been its chairman since 1999. Since being named chairman of SEPTA, Pat Deon has transformed this \$3 billion public transportation asset from an organization wracked by inefficiency to a model of progress and competence.

With SEPTA well in hand, Pat turned his attention to our highways in 2002 when he was appointed to a 4-year term as a member of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission.

Besides his public works, Pat Deon is also actively involved in community service. He is vice chairman of the Board of Directors of Temple Lower Bucks Hospital, a board member of the Bucks County Community College Foundation, and the Bucks County Enterprise Zone.

In addition to these endeavors, both Pat and his wife, Carlene, are strong supporters of the Special Olympics, the American Red Cross, and Race for a Cure. His work with the Special Olympics alone has allowed a delegation of 116 athletes and coaches to attend the first-ever USA National Games in Iowa.

For many this would be enough, but Pat has also excelled in business. Pat Deon has completed residential and commercial real estate projects in Bucks and Montgomery Counties and construction services in the northeast region. He is the owner of WBCB-AM Radio in Bucks County and a successful restaurateur through his ownership of the Temperance House Restaurant and Inn located in Newtown Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no better person deserving the honor of the Justinian Society than Pat Deon. His success is a clear example of the American dream and that it is indeed alive and well.

In addition to serving as a model of success, Pat Deon is also an example of

modesty. He never searches for the spotlight and never creates fanfare or publicity for his good works. I am proud to represent him in the Congress and am proud to acknowledge him here today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SALUTE TO COLLEAGUE AND THE WAR IN IRAQ

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I assume the time of Mr. PALLONE of New Jersey.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker for recognizing me at the time shortly after my colleague LYNN WOOLSEY has spoken, because I rise to salute LYNN WOOLSEY as a great point of inspiration to her colleagues and for all Americans who are fighting to end the deadly, wasteful war in Iraq.

I rise at this particular time because yesterday was Primary Day in California, and Congresswoman WOOLSEY had a challenge. I do not think that challenge was unrelated to her position on the war in Iraq. I think the challenge was a frontal attack on the majority of Americans who now disapprove of this administration's actions in Iraq. I think that the candidacy of the opposition was a not-very-subtle attempt to intimidate the leading spokesperson of the peace movement. I think it was a blatant effort to send a message.

Congresswoman WOOLSEY is supported, fortunately, by the constituents in her district. Everybody knows that. Congresswoman WOOLSEY has been here for 14 years. She has a great record in areas ranging from child care to policies related to the war in Iraq.

I want to congratulate her on a stunning, decisive victory. There was never any doubt of her winning, but she swept the field. I think with almost a two-to-one vote.

The voters sent a message to all those who would challenge her and try to silence her that they care about what is happening in the world, they care about what is happening in Iraq. They are the majority, just as right now the majority of the people in America are against the war in Iraq.

Her wide margin reaffirms support for her positions.

No one has spoken more passionately and consistently against the war on this floor than LYNN WOOLSEY. I think she has a record of floor speeches, 5-minute speeches. About 149 5-minute speeches have been made against the war in Iraq.

The bold move of the war supporters to go after her, to get newspapers to call her a radical and clamor for a more moderate voice, all of these things did not happen by accident. I think it was a plot. In her 14 years, LYNN WOOLSEY has earned the right not to be challenged. She has a unique point of view based on her unique set of experiences. I serve with her on the Education Committee. There is much to be discussed about Iraq and the war in Iraq, and not enough time is ever allowed to do it. I think she has chosen the only avenue possible.

We have not discussed very important matters, like the oil contracts. What is happening with the plan to disperse the oil in Iraq after the U.S. leaves? Nobody ever talks about that. How much of the oil revenue will flow to American corporations for technical assistance and rebuilding versus to the Iraqi people?

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Underlying the problem of getting the settlement, the question is never discussed. Power sharing is discussed. Getting the government set up is discussed.

Senator BIDEN was ridiculed for saying you ought to take Iraq and split it up into three parts, one for Sunnis, one for the Shiites and one for the Kurds. I do not think that general proposal is all he meant, but power sharing is a major issue. Why can't we discuss power sharing. We have the Voting Rights Act here in America, one of the best examples of power sharing in the world.

Other nations are looking at us and trying to find out how do you have a minority represented when the majority is a very different group. How can you get the minority to the table? There are ways to do that, and power-sharing ought to be discussed openly. Maybe they need a Voting Rights Act in Iraq. That could be put on the table as part of the solution to guarantee to the Sunnis and that Kurds that despite the Shiites being in the majority, they will always have a place at the table.

As far as orderly withdrawal of the troops, I think Congressman MURTHA, an expert if there ever was one, a man who knows the military very well, has proposed a very conservative but effective way to draw down the troops. Nobody knows better than Congressman MURTHA what is happening in that war. He goes frequently to visit the wounded at Walter Reed Hospital and at the Naval Hospital. He knows the dilemma of the men on the ground, the troops there. He knows and that is why he spoke out so forcefully about the situation in Haditha. He knows that under

pressure, people will break. The best Marines and the best Army people and the best Navy people will break under pressure in a war that they think is useless.

We might have had the favor of the Iraqi people when we went in there, we might have had some flag waving and had some people that appreciated us, but we took away their electricity, we took away their water, and we took away their safety so there is a lot to be discussed and we should all value LYNN WOOLSEY for the fact that she comes frequently to discuss Iraq on this floor and does a great service for the Iraq people, as well as for the Members of this House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SODREL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SODREL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING HENRY HYDE

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SODREL).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the distinguished chair of the Middle East Subcommittee, Ms. ROSLEHTINEN, for putting together a Special Order this evening for one of the finest persons ever to serve in the United States Congress, our hero, HENRY HYDE.

I have been blessed during my service in Congress every day for the last 12 years because I have been able to call HENRY HYDE "Mr. Chairman" first on the Judiciary Committee, and then for the last 6 years on the International Relations Committee, because he has been the chairman of both those committees.

He is a leader who has won the undying respect of colleagues on both sides of the aisle. He is known to be fair and respectful. He is a man of the utmost integrity, and he wields the gavel with grace and humor. The Almanac of American Politics has called him "one of the most respected and intellectually honest members of the House." Politics in America notes that "few can match him in the sheer power of his oratory or the agility of his intellect."

You know, if central casting in Hollywood were looking for someone to play the role of the wise and honorable committee chairman, it would need to look no further than HENRY HYDE.

It would be impossible to talk about HENRY HYDE and not talk about the one issue that I think he has cared more about than all of the other issues that he has dealt with here as a Mem-

ber of this House, and that is the pro-life issue. He has been Congress' conscientious. He has been the Nation's conscientious on this important issue. HENRY HYDE has been a leader who has never wavered on behalf of unborn babies. We have had many distinguished Members of Congress who have engaged in this discussion, this issue, this battle, but nobody has been more committed or more effective or more eloquent than HENRY HYDE.

When he leaves this Congress, he will be greatly missed, but he will leave behind a committed band of followers who have learned under his tutelage and will keep the pro-life flame burning. We owe it to those unborn babies, and we owe it to our leader, HENRY HYDE.

For the last 6 years, Chairman HYDE has headed up the International Relations Committee. And as members of the committee, we know that HENRY commands the respect of leaders throughout the world. When presidents and prime ministers and kings and sultans and emirs and chancellors and other leaders come here to Washington, they make it a point to pay a visit to Chairman HENRY HYDE because they respect him greatly and they seek his guidance and his counsel.

HENRY has also been a great friend to me personally. I cannot thank HENRY enough for all of the things that he has done for me since I first came to this institution. It has been wonderful to be his friend. But more importantly, I want to thank him on behalf of those defenseless little babies that he so tirelessly has defended during his years in Congress.

His eloquence and good sense has changed the way that Americans feel about abortion. He tells it like it is, and he has paved the way for another generation of leaders to fight this noble battle. It is a battle that I have no doubt that one day we will win.

Mr. Speaker, when the 110th Congress convenes next January, the Capitol of the United States will be a different place. For the first time in 32 years, HENRY HYDE won't be taking the oath of office to represent the 6th District of Illinois in the United States House of Representatives. For those of us that have had the honor to serve in this Chamber, there will be a sense of loss. But I know that our friend, HENRY HYDE, will have plenty to contribute to his beloved country. A couple of years ago, HENRY told a Chicago newspaper "maybe I lost a step or two, but I don't think God is through with me yet." Let's hope not. God bless you, HENRY HYDE, and God bless the country that you have loved so much.

EXECUTIVE ORDER ON SYRIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleague, Mr.

OWENS, in commending Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY for her consistent and strong voice in opposition to the war in Iraq. It is a voice that is needed in this Congress. She utters words and takes positions that are needed, that we need to hear in this Congress, and those positions reflect the positions of the American people and the people in her district. I have had the opportunity to actually visit her district, and I know that LYNN speaks well with respect to the issues and their position on this war.

I would like to talk about another aspect of President Bush's Middle East policy that I think could be problematic for us if the interpretation is one along the lines of the interpretation of information that was received that led us into the war in Iraq.

What I am talking about is the April 26 national emergency that was declared by President Bush. On that day, he issued an executive order to freeze the assets of those suspected to have been involved in the October 1, 2004, assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri and 22 others. On the face of it, this might look like a straightforward attempt to bring justice to the perpetrators of a heinous act of terrorism. But I decided I would not just rest with the Speaker's announcement, the Clerk's announcement, and that I would actually read the document. I read the document, and then I reread the document, and then I read it for a third time.

When we examine the language of the document, we have to ask ourselves are there some other motives involved in the issuance of this executive order.

The reason I say that is because of the language that is used in the executive order. It says that this executive order applies to persons involved in "any other bombing that implicates the government of Syria or its officers or agents."

Now the keyword is "implicate" because that means that you are talking about bringing into intimate or incriminating connection. Well, I remember, and I was not in this body in 2003, but the President chose to invade Iraq in 2003 because we were told that Iraq was implicated in possessing weapons of mass destruction. That Iraq was implicated in the tragic events of September 11.

We now know that both of those implications were false, but that is after nearly 2,500 young men and women from these shores have been killed, countless thousands others have either mangled bodies or addled minds as a result of the shock and the shell shock and the presence in the theater of war.

How many tens of thousands of Iraqis are now dead as a result of the implications that the American people were told and then action taken on those implications?

Now once again, the President is implicating an Arab regime and taking action that preempts a conclusive investigation into the facts.