

to academia, to the Jewish community, and the social welfare of all of South Florida. But his greatest achievement, Mr. Speaker, is his family, including his four children, Moshe who is 11, Shuli who is 9, Benny is 6 years old, and Aryeh almost 4.

The opening prayer that Rabbi Klein delivered today reflects his intellectual fiber, as well as his determination to improve our community and our country. I thank Rabbi Klein for his invocation, and I look forward to working with him in the years ahead.

IRAQ DEPRESSING NEWS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as we have been greeted with a torrent of depressing news about Iraq, more violence, there is debate here about whether or not it is progress that the President plans to have the same troop level next summer that we had before the surge.

There is no good way out. Keep the troops there and have bloodshed; have them leave and have bloodshed. But there is one thing that every Member of Congress ought to be able to agree upon, no matter what their position on the war in Iraq: That we have a moral and practical responsibility to step up and help those Iraqis who have put their life at risk because they help Americans as guides, as translators. As Ambassador Ryan Crocker pointed out this last week, it is time for us to step up and help these people.

The Department of Homeland Security needs to have more people processing applications for those that are trying to escape the worst humanitarian crisis in the world other than Darfur. Don't make them leave Iraq for Syria or Jordan to apply when we have the largest embassy in the world in Baghdad. Support our comprehensive bipartisan legislation, H.R. 2265, to help meet that responsibility.

ULTRASOUND: THE STETHOSCOPE OF THE 21ST CENTURY

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the talented and dedicated students, faculty, and staff of the School of Medicine of the University of South Carolina for the innovative work they are doing in the development and use of ultrasound technology.

Often called the stethoscope of the 21st century, ultrasound holds great potential for future advancements in medicine. With the growing portability and accessibility of modern ultrasound devices, this technology will help physicians better diagnose and treat patients for conditions such as heart failure, gallstones, aneurysms, and much

more, particularly in rural areas. USC is leading the way by establishing an ultrasound institute to ensure graduates are well trained in the use of ultrasound technology.

I appreciate Dr. Richard Hoppman, Dr. Prakash Nagarkatti, and Dr. Stanley Fowler for taking the time to introduce me to this training program, as well as for the extraordinary work they are doing on behalf of the USC community in the advancement of health care.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

ARMY STAFF SERGEANT MORGAN D. KENNON

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago, Army Staff Sergeant Morgan D. Kennon became the first victim of the Iraqi war from the city of Memphis.

Staff Sergeant Kennon joined the Army immediately after high school, hoping to earn enough money for college and eventually become a lawyer. He was guarding a bank in Mosul when he was killed.

His father said, "He was a beautiful kid. He was a serious-minded youngster who was devoted to fulfilling his mother's wishes. If his mother needed anything, instead of being out in a park playing basketball, it was his joy to go out and do whatever he had to do to help her."

On 9/11, I received an e-mail from his sister, Miss Nicole Crawford. I will read it:

"I am the sister of Staff Sergeant Morgan Kennon. I just wanted to know exactly what you and other Members of Congress and Members of the Senate are doing to bring our troops home. It has been almost 4 years since my brother was killed, and we still don't know why he was killed.

"Mr. COHEN, it is not just hard for the soldiers serving in Iraq, it is hard for their families also who worry about them. It is especially hard for the families that have lost loved ones in Iraq.

"Please don't take this the wrong way, but if the Democrats don't do something soon and force Mr. Bush's hand, there will not be a Democrat in the White House next year. The people of this country voted for the Democratic Party because they want change."

Ms. Crawford, I am for change. I am not going to vote for any additional funds but to redeploy our troops. I feel your pain.

THE FIGHT FOR JOBS CONTINUES

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

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, at this moment in Detroit the

leaders of the UAW and the domestic auto industry, the Big 3, are busy at the negotiating table trying to come to agreement on a new contract. In these negotiations, both sides will be making tremendous concessions in the effort to restore the industry to profitability and to protect jobs. They are dealing with very difficult issues like retiree health care as well as pension reform.

I wish them luck, sincere good luck, because the future of my home State of Michigan and of manufacturing in America are at stake as are literally millions of American jobs. We should all support them in their efforts to strengthen this vital industry. What we should not do is pull the rug out from under them by enacting draconian and arbitrary fuel efficiency standards that would kill jobs while doing nothing to lessen our dependence on foreign oil.

Both management and labor are making hard choices. They are working together to build a better future and a better industry. And in the same spirit, we here at the Federal Government should partner with our auto industry to help move forward technology that would actually solve the problems and create new jobs.

While those involved in negotiations are trying to find common ground to save jobs, Congress should not be working to destroy them.

PROVIDE OUR CHILDREN WITH HEALTH CARE

(Mr. HALL of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Speaker, the Bush administration's recent decision to reject New York's plan to provide health insurance for uninsured children is just another example of how out of touch the President is with the needs of the American people.

Last year, the number of uninsured children in the Nation increased to over 8.6 million, an increase of over 600,000 children. The State of New York has committed to decrease this number, starting with our lowest income families. However, the onerous conditions placed by this administration are threatening to thwart New York's efforts.

That any Americans have no health insurance is a travesty; that so many do is a tragedy of the highest proportion.

Providing our children with health care is protecting America's future. It is difficult to imagine why the President wants to stop New York from protecting the health of its children. But this decision suggests just that. We must not allow this to stand. I am committed to working with my colleagues to do what must be done to overturn this misguided decision.

"NO FLAG HERE"

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, on September 11th, America honored those murdered by people who kill in the name of religion.

Americans held solemn tributes, prayers, and raised Old Glory across the plains and prairies of this heartland. But no American flags were displayed by students at Hobbs High School in North Carolina. The superintendent of this government school district banned the display of any country's flag on the clothing of students. Dr. Hobbs said disruptions have been caused in the school by the wearing of certain national flags. So on this almost holy day of September 11th, no American flags were allowed on clothes at this American school.

Dr. Hobbs, if you are going to ban the display or the wearing of flags, ban foreign ones, not the ones that fly over this Nation—the American flag.

Have we become so timidly concerned about offending foreigners that we now disrespect our Nation by banning the American flag? This unpatriotic paranoia is an insult to this Nation and the students of your school, and the superintendent should be ashamed. Mr. Hobbs, Betsy Ross would not be proud of you.

And that's just the way it is.

ALAN GREENSPAN AND THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, in Alan Greenspan's recently released memoir, President Bush and the Republicans in Congress come in for some sharp criticism.

Reuters said of the book, "Mr. Greenspan sharply criticizes President Bush's administration and Republican congressional leaders in his memoir for putting political imperatives ahead of sound economic policies."

The New York Times said of Mr. Greenspan's book described, "The Bush administration is so captive to its own political operation that it paid little attention to the fiscal discipline for the Nation."

Increasing America's debt by \$3 trillion, the same fiscal discipline we had in the 1990s, the pay-as-you-go rules, led to a \$5 trillion surplus when President Bush took office and has led to a \$3 trillion debt increase under President Bush and the Republicans.

The fiscal discipline that we had in the 1990s is exactly what the Democrats have put in place in this new Congress, hoping to put in place the fiscal type of discipline and the budgetary discipline that would lead us again to surpluses and balancing America's book.

And Mr. Greenspan could not have said it better, when people have taken the time to put their political interests ahead of America's long-term economic interests.

HONORING THE AIR FORCE'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 60th anniversary of the United States Air Force.

America can rightly claim to be the greatest military power. This status is due in no small part to our overwhelming supremacy in air and space. Air Force men and women have produced an unsurpassed record of achievement. Never before has our ability to project military power depended so heavily on air and space capabilities.

As an Air Force veteran and cochairman of the House Air Force Caucus, I know firsthand how the Air Force provides our Nation a unique military advantage. However, what is most impressive is the dedication of the men and women of the United States Air Force who work hard every day to ensure air supremacy.

Let me leave you with the words of one of the Air Force founders, General Hap Arnold: "Air power will always be the business of every American citizen."

DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS SENDS COLLEGE COST REDUCTION ACT TO THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

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

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today is an exciting week for all Democrats because we are sending one of our top priorities to the President's desk, and that is the College Cost Reduction and Access Act.

Education departments estimate that over 200,000 academically qualified students are unable to go to college. This legislation will be the largest investment the Democratic Congress has made since 1944.

Specifically, the Pell Grant scholarships will be increased by \$1,090 over the next 5 years. We will be able to cut interest rates from the current 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent, and that will save student borrowers over \$4,000 over the life of their loan.

Members, this is great news, and it is great news to taxpayers, because we have been able to utilize eliminating excessive Federal subsidies from the lenders in the industry to bear the cost of this program . . . and not the taxpayers.

This is a personal story for me. I have been working since the age of 12. I took out student loans and was able to get my education because of programs like this.

Mr. Speaker, this is a great day for students and Democrats in this Congress to send the college cost reduction act to the Presidents desk.

HEADING TOWARD A FISCAL TRAIN WRECK

(Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as we come to the floor 9 months into the control of this House and this country by the Democratic majority, we have to ask ourselves, what has it brought? Well, it has brought us expanded government programs outside the area of jurisdiction, increase in Federal spending, and of course efforts to raise taxes on Americans.

Just at the very beginning of this year, it was the largest tax increase in U.S. history. A short time ago, it was a \$53 billion increase through the SCHIP program. On spending, it was a \$1 billion program just yesterday tried to do. And, of course, there is a litany of earmarks that we still don't know where it is going to and who is sponsoring it.

It was a Republican majority that forced the Democrats to give us a list of all the earmarks in their spending and have asked for more transparency. But I want to remind the American public, to this day we still do not have a list of all the earmarks, who is sponsoring them, and where the dollars are going to.

I encourage the Democrat majority to do as the American public must do, to live within their means, and to be open and honest as to where the American tax dollars are going to.

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ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

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

Mr. HODES. Mr. Speaker, President Bush has called for more money, more patience, and a renewed commitment of U.S. troops in Iraq for the foreseeable future. The American people should not be fooled. This is nothing more than another stay-the-course strategy that puts us on a path for 10 years of war in Iraq.

Under the Bush plan, about 5,700 troops, or about 3.5 percent, of the American forces in Iraq would come home later this year. That's it. The rest of our troops would remain in Iraq until at least next summer. The President anticipates that at least 130,000 American men and women would remain in Iraq indefinitely for many years to come.

The President's plan for Iraq amounts to an open-ended and dangerous commitment of American troops in Iraq, and an open wallet for the American people to pay.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a plan for success in Iraq, nor is it a plan that will make America safer. It is time for my Republican colleagues to stand up to this President and say enough is enough. Democrats will continue to demand change because it is time that we