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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, our Stronghold and Provident Protector, on this May 15, designated as Peace Officers Memorial Day, we turn to You with great gratitude and heartfelt petition. Today, we pay tribute to all the men and women who serve in law enforcement across this Nation. We thank You for calling them into public service and ask You to be close to them always.

In a special way we commend to You, Lord, our Capitol Police. Each day, with courtesy and professional care, they guide and protect all who work here on Capitol Hill with all our guests and visitors. Willing to stand between us and all that could harm us, they serve with dignity and excellence.

Bless them, Lord, their families and friends. Answer their prayers and reward them for their selfless efforts on behalf of others. They are the shield You provide, and they maintain Your gift of peace on Capitol Hill.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SOLIS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 6022. An act to suspend the acquisition of petroleum for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6051. An act to amend Public Law 110-196 to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 beyond May 16, 2008.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 5 requests for 1-minutes on each side.

NEW DIRECTION FOR AMERICAN AGRICULTURE

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, yesterday this House passed a bipartisan, veto-proof farm bill strengthening American agriculture.

We successfully voted to ease the strain of rising food prices and to make a substantial commitment to land conservation and to our farmers. I want to give special recognition to Chairman COLLIN PETERSON for his leadership and for his visit to Missouri to hold an agricultural forum where we have over 100,000 farms, the second most of any State in the country.

Since first being elected, I have been working with local schools and parents to implement a Healthy Kids Initiative. I'm proud that this farm bill helps schools provide healthy snacks to students, with over \$1 billion for more nutritious, locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables.

And for the first time, fruit and vegetable producers, including the wine

producers of Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, will benefit from more than \$1.3 billion for new programs that support research, pest management, and trade promotion.

To make the transition from home-grown biofuels from the Midwest and away from dependence on fossil fuels from the Middle East, the bill creates new tax credits to promote the production of cellulosic biofuels.

Thank you, Chairman PETERSON, and all those who supported this new direction for American agriculture.

BLACK CLOTH OF SACRIFICE

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

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today, the badges of American peace officers are draped with the black cloth of sacrifice in honor of those killed in the line of duty protecting America's people.

Even though Congress has not yet passed legislation this year to designate today, May 15, as National Peace Officers Memorial Day, this is the day we remember America's peace officers.

Today at 1 o'clock in the afternoon in front of the Capitol, thousands of peace officers and families of the fallen will pay tribute to those who wear the badge and those who gave their life so that others could live.

Peace officers are the last strand of wire in the fence between the law and the lawless, between the people and the barbarians, between good and evil.

Almost 20,000 peace officers have been killed in the line of duty in the United States. 60,000 a year are assaulted. Nearly 1 million peace officers vigilantly, faithfully patrol our streets, neighborhoods and rural communities and cities. We owe them our heartfelt respect and gratitude.

Madam Speaker, peace officers who wear the badge are, as my dad used to say, "A cut above the rest of us."

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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And that's just the way it is.

ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, today I rise as a member of the Congressional Asian Pacific Islander American Caucus to pay tribute to the millions of Americans of Asian and Pacific heritage for their valuable contributions to our great country.

The district I represent has benefited from the economic and social contributions from the Asian and Pacific Islander Americans. That includes the Cities of Monterey Park, known as Little Taipei, Rosemead and West Covina, as well as other neighboring communities in San Gabriel Valley. In my district, there are approximately 120,000 API descendants.

For example, according to the Chamber of Commerce, Chinese Americans own at least two-thirds of Monterey Park's more than 5,000 businesses.

Many of the constituents I represent came to America in the hopes of providing for their loved ones and plan to reunite with their families.

This month comes at a tough time, especially for many of those of Asian descent, particularly those that were affected by the recent earthquake in China. My sympathies go to their families.

I look forward to continuing to work with the API community and others to bridge the gap to provide better services to all our residents and grow our economy.

COUNTY PAYMENTS: CROOK COUNTY, OREGON

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

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, by refusing to renew the Federal county payments program, Congress has broken the bond with rural areas all across this country. Counties such as Crook County in Oregon have been affected.

Congress' inaction means that county's road department's been whacked. It's half what it was 10 years ago. Road improvements needed for the future are being shelved. Maintenance projects are being put on hold.

Crook County Judge Scott Cooper said: "Congress just passed a new farm bill to help get products from farm to market, but without county payments, the products won't have roads or bridges to go over."

H.R. 3058 would help solve this. It's a bipartisan, 4-year authorization for county payments; yet the leadership of this House has held it hostage on the Union Calendar since January 15. That's 121 days that the Democratic leadership has prevented the House

from voting to reauthorize the county payments program.

It's time to restore the Federal Government's century-old commitment to rural timbered communities, where Federal lands make up the bulk of the area.

I call on the Democratic leadership once again, free H.R. 3058 for a vote, and keep the roads and schools open in rural America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BISHOP LEWIS DOLPHIN STALLWORTH, SR.

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Bishop Lewis Dolphin Stallworth, Senior, who passed away after a courageous battle with kidney disease.

Born in Welty, Oklahoma, in 1923, Bishop Stallworth found his life's calling with the church and the community.

Bishop Stallworth was a leader in the community, his influence extending far beyond the church that he founded in 1963. Bishop Stallworth volunteered as a police chaplain, hosted a weekly radio program, and frequently participated in local community functions. He also used his church as a place of learning, opening a school, originally located in the church basement, to educate young people.

He even organized a group of young men known as Stallworth's Soldiers, counseling them to get an education, stay out of trouble, and become model members of the community.

As evidence of Bishop Stallworth's enduring character and unparalleled passion, his love for his family, church and community, less than 5 weeks after his death, hundreds have already petitioned the school district to consider naming a school after him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Bishop Lewis Dolphin Stallworth, Senior.

CONGRATULATIONS GREATER LATROBE ICE CATS

(Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Greater Latrobe Ice Cats who were crowned Pennsylvania Ice Hockey State Champions on Saturday, March 29.

This is the first championship won by the Ice Cats in their 28-year history and only the second time in school history that a team has won a state championship.

The Ice Cats defeated the Conestoga Pioneers at Memorial Arena in Johnstown.

Head Coach Ron Makoski, who led the team to victory, reminded the

players that, win or lose, playing in a State championship would be something that each of the players would remember for the rest of their lives. I have no doubt that each of these players will remember this experience with great pride.

So congratulations to the Ice Cats, the players, the coaches and parents for capturing the Pennsylvania Cup Class AA Championship.

I know the school and community join me in best wishes to the team for their tremendous victory and distinguished season.

LIHEAP FUNDING

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

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of fully funding the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, known as LIHEAP. With energy prices at record levels, it is critical that Congress provides adequate LIHEAP funding to protect low-income seniors and families from the bitter cold in the winter and the extreme heat in the summer.

Because of rising energy prices and limited LIHEAP funding, 62,000 Pennsylvania households that were supposed to receive funding this year did not. Many of the families across the country who were not able to obtain LIHEAP funds will be forced to decide between paying their energy bill or purchasing other necessities like food or medicine. This is a decision that no hardworking family should have to make.

Madam Speaker, LIHEAP provides millions of low-income Americans with some relief from ever rising energy prices, but there are millions more that could use the help. I urge all of my colleagues to fully support funding for LIHEAP.

□ 1015

A SUPPLEMENTAL FOR THE TROOPS

(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, today the House of Representatives will debate an emergency supplemental spending bill meant to provide needed resources to our military. It should only provide money for the brave men and women fighting terrorists in Iraq and Afghanistan to protect American families at home. It is, therefore, disappointing that the supplemental bill crafted by the Democratic leadership contains billions of dollars in nonemergency spending.

While there may be components of the bill that should be debated, this is not the time and certainly not the bill to be having those debates while our