

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.

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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

troops are desperately in need of additional funding.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates and our military leadership have told Congress that the money is vital to ensuring our troops have the resources they require to defeat terrorists overseas. Including billions of dollars in unrelated spending is a dangerous impediment. I hope my colleagues will instead support the clean supplemental bill introduced by Representative JERRY LEWIS of California.

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

NATIONAL AMERICORPS WEEK

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, as a cosponsor of House Resolution 1173, I rise today to recognize National AmeriCorps Week.

Last night, the House passed this resolution overwhelmingly. Since 1994, nearly 500,000 AmeriCorps have served with thousands of nonprofits, public agencies and faith-based organizations across America.

Through AmeriCorps, these individuals dedicate their time and energy in a variety of areas to help meet the needs of local communities. In my home State of California alone, more than 7,900 people this year will participate in one of more than 7,500 AmeriCorps programs throughout the State. One such program is coordinated by the Santa Barbara County Education Office in my district. This program provides daily tutoring and reading for over 700 at-risk students, recruits volunteers for additional educational programs, and works to increase disaster preparedness in the schools in the county.

The 62.4 million hours served by AmeriCorps members have bettered the communities and touched the lives of countless Americans. This is the U.S.A. at its best. To all these incredible AmeriCorps members, I commend you and thank you for your service.

PABLO BACHELET

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate my good friend, Pablo Bachelet, the Latin American correspondent in Washington for my hometown newspaper, The Miami Herald. Pablo is leaving the paper to join the Inter-American Bank for Development.

Pablo, the father of two, is a sophisticated and keen observer of the history and politics of Latin America, writing incisively about democracy, diplomacy and security issues, and exploring the rich and sometimes com-

plicated relationships that America has with the people of this dynamic region.

Pablo has traveled extensively in Latin America, writing about everything from hurricane devastation in Grenada and the struggles against drugs and corruption to the grief caused by the disco fire in Buenos Aires and U.S. policy toward Mexico or Cuba or Colombia or Venezuela.

Throughout his career, Pablo has always displayed a masterful command of the issues to keep us, the Herald's loyal readers, informed about a region so important to our interests. Pablo's extensive experience and knowledge will serve all of us who care deeply about the economic and social progress in Latin America.

My words are not ones of farewell, but ones of welcome for a new beginning and an upward march of a great talent and a warm and thoughtful human being.

Felicidades, Pablo.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2642, SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1197 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1197

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2642) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI, a motion offered by the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with each of the three amendments 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 two hours equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion except that the Chair shall divide the question among each of the three House amendments.

SEC. 2. During consideration of the motion to concur pursuant to this resolution, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the motion to such time as may be designated by the Speaker.

SEC. 3. The chairman of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the daily issue of the Congressional Record dated May 15, 2008, such material as he may deem explanatory of the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER). The gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER). All time yielded during consideration of this rule is for debate only.

I yield myself such time as I may consume. I also ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 1197.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, H. Res. 1197 provides for the consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2642, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2008.

The rule makes in order a motion by the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations to concur in the Senate amendment with three House amendments. The rule provides 2 hours of debate on the motion controlled by the Committee on Appropriations. The rule provides for a division of the question on the adoption of the three House amendments listed in the Rules Committee report. The rule also provides that the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD dated May 15, 2008, such material as he may deem explanatory of the motion.

Madam Speaker, with a deep appreciation for the importance of the legislation before us today, the Rules Committee has reported out a rule that allows for a full, thorough debate on three amendments critical to the future of our Nation. This process will give each Member ample opportunity to vote their conscience on whether to fund the war or not, place conditions on our Iraq policy or not, or choose to support veterans over millionaires.

The legislation we are about to take up was forged with the idea of consensus. It meets the spending requirements made by President Bush, including the \$5.8 billion that he asked for to strengthen the levees in New Orleans. In addition, it does not include a single earmark, except those explicitly requested by Mr. Bush's administration.

On the other hand, the legislation is not a blank check because it is important to remember why we are really here today. This is the sixth year of the war in Iraq. More than 4,000 United States service men and women, 28 from my district alone, are dead. Tens of thousands have been wounded and physically disabled, and far too many suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder and a host of other mental health issues. What's more, the civilian death total is devastating. Millions, not thousands, of Iraqi men, women and children are dead. Millions more have been forced into camps or other countries that will accept them.

At a time of economic emergency, when the American family is under siege, the war continues to be waged at