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No. 45

House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 16, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DONNA F. EDWARDS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, our Hope and our Salvation, You go ahead of us and prepare a place for us.

Here on Capitol Hill, there are countless workers, from carpenters to staff writers, pages, clerks, Parliamentarians, electricians, and others, who work behind the scenes.

They prepare this institution for the work of the elected Members of Congress. You alone know the faith and dedication of these silent workers.

Hidden from the public eye, they can never be taken for granted. Each, in his or her own way, serves the Nation and, through their faithfulness, gives You glory.

Bless them, Lord, their work and their families. Hear their prayers and reward them with Your love and compassion, now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 13, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, The Capitol,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 13, 2009, at 9:09 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 338.

That the Senate passed S. 39.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 37.

Appointments:

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control.

Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

THE DEMOCRAT BUDGET: TAXING, SPENDING, AND BORROWING TOO MUCH

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the Democrat budget spends too much, taxes too much, and borrows too much.

Last week we talked about the massive increase in government spending President Obama is planning, the largest since World War II.

This week we will tell you how they plan to pay for all this new government spending—with the largest tax increase in American history.

The Democrats' budget will raise taxes by \$1.4 trillion on American families and businesses over the next 10

□ 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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years. President Obama promised a tax cut for most Americans, but he raises energy taxes on 100 percent of Americans. The Democrats' budget will put a new tax on charitable giving that could cost American charities as much as \$16 billion a year. This will harm numerous organizations at a time when many of these groups are now struggling with the economic downturn.

This is the wrong direction, Mr. Speaker. We need to stop this spending, taxing, and borrowing.

CONGRATULATING THE ARKANSAS EDUCATION TELEVISION NETWORK

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Arkansas Educational Television Network.

This important resource for Arkansans was recently recognized for its commitment to education by the Corporation For Public Broadcasting, awarding AETN with a My Source Community Impact Award for Education for its Spring Break Family Day that was designed to encourage children to learn and be physically active through PBS characters, educational games, crafts, and contests.

I am proud to support this fine organization and its mission. AETN offers lifelong learning opportunities to our community and provides programming and services that enrich the lives of Arkansans. For its innovative efforts and committed response to the diverse educational needs of our community, it is clear AETN is deserving of this honor.

With the help of organizations like this, our community is building a brighter future for our children. I am glad to see that this station, which plays such an important role in our State, has been recognized on the national level. I commend the employees for their good work and wish them continued success for the 2009 Spring Break Family Day.

WE SHOULD PRAISE, NOT INSULT, LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Wall Street Journal recently reported that Speaker PELOSI called work site arrests and deportation of illegal workers "un-American."

That's quite a powerful word: "un-American." And it's quite a spectacle to have the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives call the actions of our law enforcement men and women "un-American."

We should praise them, not insult them, for enforcing our immigration laws.

Twelve million Americans are out of work. Seven million illegal workers

hold jobs that should go to citizens and legal immigrant workers.

Let's let the American people decide what is "un-American." We should not criticize law enforcement personnel. Instead, we should be grateful for the job they do.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

JOHN SCOTT CHALLIS, JR. POST OFFICE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 987) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 8th Street in Freedom, Pennsylvania, as the "John Scott Challis, Jr. Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 987

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JOHN SCOTT CHALLIS, JR. POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 8th Street in Freedom, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "John Scott Challis, Jr. Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "John Scott Challis, Jr. Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may

have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support for the consideration of H.R. 987, a bill to designate the United States postal facility located at 601 8th Street in Freedom, Pennsylvania, as the John Scott Challis, Jr. Post Office.

Introduced by Representative JASON ALTMIRE on February 11, 2009, and reported out of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee on March 10, 2009, by a voice vote, H.R. 987 enjoys the support of the entire Pennsylvania House delegation.

As recently noted in the Ellwood City Ledger, John Scott Challis, Jr., "came into this world fighting." Only 2 days after his birth on December 16, 1989, John was helicoptered from The Medical Center in Beaver County to Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh, where he spent 16 days in hospital care and received lifesaving surgery.

As his beloved family and friends in Beaver County, and as many of us across the Nation well know, John never stopped fighting throughout his young life, even after being diagnosed with hepatocellular carcinoma, an adult form of liver cancer, at the age of 16. John's response to his initial diagnosis was indicative of his eternal determination and resolve, as well as a reflection of his own personal motto of "courage and believe equals life."

In April of 2008, John learned that his cancer had spread and that, most likely, he had only a few months to live. Nevertheless, John never ceased to live his life to the fullest and do what he loved most, which was spending time with his family and friends and playing and following the game of baseball.

On April 14, 2008, John first received national attention when he was able to pinch-hit for his beloved Freedom High School baseball team in a game against Aliquippa High. John cracked the first-pitch fastball into the outfield for an RBI single, and upon making it to first base proudly exclaimed to everyone, "I did it, I did it."

The following month, John graduated with his senior class. And in June of last year, John was able to take a family vacation with his devoted parents, Scott and Gina, and his younger sister, Lexie. He also visited the Pittsburgh Pirates Clubhouse and reminded the players to cherish the game of baseball and, of course, to cherish life.

Regrettably, John lost his battle with cancer in August of 2008. However, his memory and inspirational message will never be forgotten. In John's honor, the John Challis Courage For Life Foundation was established in 2008. The organization is dedicated to providing sports opportunities to student athletes with life-threatening illnesses.