

HONORING PASTOR SHAWN KUMM,
GUEST CHAPLAIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mrs. LUMMIS. I rise in honor of today's guest chaplain, Pastor Shawn Kumm. He is joining us from Laramie, Wyoming, where he has served the congregation at the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church for 13 years.

Originally from Iowa, Pastor Kumm settled in Wyoming in 1996. He has held two offices in the Wyoming District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, first as secretary to the board of directors, followed by his nomination in 2003 to vice president of the synod, a position which he currently holds.

Pastor Kumm and his wife, Barbie, have two children, his son, Nickoli, and his daughter, Alexandra, who joins him here today.

Pastor Kumm has provided invaluable help to the members of his church and my constituency. I thank him for his positive impact, leadership, and service to the community and wish him the best as his congregation continues to grow with God's blessing.

I also want to acknowledge Representative JEFF FORTENBERRY, who joins me here today, and Pastor Kumm's parents, who reside in Representative FORTENBERRY's district.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches from each side of the aisle.

WMATA TRAGEDY

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, on Monday evening, as millions of Americans were making their daily commute home, tragedy struck in our Nation's Capital. The collision outside of the Fort Totten station in Northeast Washington, the worst in the 33-year history of Washington's Metro system, claimed the lives of nine people and left more than 80 injured.

Among those lost were Ana Fernandez of Hyattsville and Cameron Williams of Takoma Park from my State of Maryland. My heart and my thoughts, as I know all the Members' thoughts, are with the loved ones as well as all of those suffering the sudden loss caused by this tragedy.

Those include the family and friends of train operator, Jeanice McMillan, and passengers, Lavonda King, Mary Doolittle, Veronica Dubose, Dennis Hawkins and Ann Wherley and her husband, Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. Let me also extend my gratitude to

the first responders and medical professionals whose work at the scene was so critical in preventing further tragedies.

While the cause of this accident is unknown at this time, we do know this: The safety of our citizens is our highest priority, and we must take every precaution to make sure this loss of life does not occur again.

In the very near future, I will be joining with my colleagues from the region in introducing the final measure required to authorize \$3 billion in dedicated Federal and local funding for Metro. Millions and millions of tourists from throughout this Nation ride on this system as well as tens of thousands of the employees who work for this country.

We received formal notice from the Governors of Maryland and Virginia and the Mayor of the District of Columbia that the jurisdictions had amended the WMATA Compact to enable such funding just last week, and I hope we can move quickly to pass this legislation critical to meeting Metro's capital and maintenance needs. We don't know that that was the cause, but certainly it is a consideration.

Hundreds of thousands of people rely on Washington's Metro system every day, from the Federal employees who keep our Government running to the visitors from every corner of the country who come to our Nation's Capital. Let it be our tribute to those we mourn today to ensure America's subway is safe for all who use it.

I know my colleagues join me in expressing our sympathy and prayers to all those who were struck by tragedy the other night.

"WE ARE OUT OF MONEY"

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

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, our Government will attempt to borrow \$104 billion just this week, a world record. As Congress accelerates spending, Treasury has borrowed \$560 billion in January, \$707 billion in February, \$750 billion in March, \$665 billion in April, and \$773 billion in May.

To cover increased borrowing, the Fed is now electronically printing money to cover our debts. Their records show they have printed \$152.7 billion to cover our mounting debts.

We are quickly running out of other people's money. Printing dollars electronically will accelerate inflation next year.

Remember, inflation is the enemy of senior citizens on a fixed income. President Obama was right when he said, "We are out of money." Our policies here in the Congress should reflect that sober assessment.

CARBON OFFSETS WILL BENEFIT
POLLUTERS

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Science tells us we must begin to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions in the next 5 to 10 years. But according to an analysis by offsets expert and Stanford law professor Michael Wara, it is possible that we could see no reduction of CO₂ emissions until the year 2040 because of offsets and unlimited banking of allowances in the new energy and environment bill.

The bill allows 2 billion tons of carbon dioxide a year, roughly equivalent to 30 percent of all U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. Supporters of the bill point out that coal use will increase by 2020 because electric utilities will continue to use dirty coal, the prime source of pollution.

With 2 billion tons of offsets per year, we are told that electric utilities will reduce carbon emissions at places other than their generating plants so they really don't have to actually decrease their emissions, and coal-fired CO₂ emissions will increase through 2025. No wonder there are 26 active coal plant applications. Increased CO₂ emissions will be our gift to the next generation? Apparently the planet is not melting. With this bill, it is just getting better—for polluters.

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REFORM HEALTH CARE THE
RIGHT WAY

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

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, from today, the ABC network will be known as the "All Barack Channel" due to unprecedented propaganda for the President's health plan.

Democrats and Republicans agree that our health care system needs reforming, and we essentially agree on how, with one very important exception: a government-run plan is not the solution.

Our current Medicare system is a microcosm of what the proposed public plan would look like. Medicare is propped up by the privately insured as it is, and is still on a course for bankruptcy within 10 years.

Our President says he can make a government-run system lower cost. Then why hasn't anybody been able to do that with Medicare in 50 years? Creating a public option like Medicare will progressively increase private insurance costs due to cost shifting and eventually drive private insurers out of business. Besides the damage it would do to the private sector, the government does not have the money to pay the \$1.6 trillion price tag.

As a physician, I say we need to reform, bring down costs, and increase access to private insurance. We do not

need the government in the exam room.

ENERGY: WALL STREET'S NEXT BUBBLE

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, Europeans have had a market-based cap-and-trade system on greenhouse gas emissions for 4 years, and it has failed. The last recorded year, \$60 billion in trades, that is added costs, and higher greenhouse gas emissions.

Now the House of Representatives wants to bring that European system here to the United States of America, despite its failures. Why? Well, the market-based approach is only a failure if your objective is meaningful and predictable real reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Perhaps something else is afoot.

Europe already has a carbon offset futures derivatives market, complete with credit default swap insurance. Is it AIG and mortgages all over again but now with carbon? We are going to bring that here to the United States. Wall Street is tingling with excitement. A trillion dollars speculative market.

Listen to this: Carbon will be the world's biggest commodity market, and it could become the biggest market overall. Louis Redshaw at Barclays. Oh, Wall Street loves this so much. A brand new Wall Street bubble on something as essential as energy. Deja vu all over again.

CONGRATULATING CAROLINE COUNTY

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

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations to Caroline County, Virginia, recipient of the 2009 All-American City Award for its outstanding civic accomplishments. This recognition is well deserved, and rightly honors Caroline County, which has long been dedicated to meeting the needs of its community.

Established by the National Civic League in 1949, the All-American City Award recognizes localities for community projects involving grassroots civic engagement and cooperation between public, private, and nonprofit sectors that best illustrate community-based problem solving. Each year, the National Civic League honors 10 communities throughout the country for effectively addressing the most critical challenges facing America's communities.

Caroline County submitted three community-based projects, including the Dawn Rehabilitation Project, the Caroline Library, and the Caroline

Dental Program. These projects blend public, private, and civic resources to address specific challenges of the community.

I am proud to see our citizens and local government work in concert to meet community needs. Caroline County was the only city or county from Virginia in a field of 32 finalists from across the country. The Caroline County delegation traveled to Tampa, Florida, to present the challenges and solutions for its community to a panel of national experts, and I am proud to recognize Caroline County as a wonderful and unique community of Virginia's First Congressional District for receiving the 2009 All-American City Award.

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT

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

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the American Clean Energy and Security Act. We are on the verge of an historic step that we have a responsibility and an opportunity to take for the health of our environment, our economy, and our Nation.

Opponents simply don't comprehend the magnitude of the problem of global warming or the opportunities that come with the solution. The U.S. is currently losing clean energy jobs and market share to Germany, China, and Korea. U.S. consumers continue to send \$400 billion a year to places like the Middle East and Venezuela every time we fill up our gas tanks.

Madam Speaker, we have a responsibility to enact swift and strong climate change legislation. It is absolutely false to suggest that this legislation will cost Americans. It will cost us more if we don't act.

With the consumer protections and increases in efficiencies that this bill puts in place, American families will save hundreds of dollars each over the next decade. Saving consumers money is hardly a tax. Saving businesses money is hardly a tax. Allowing American technology to stagnate while we pollute and pay to address that pollution, that is a tax that the American people are tired of paying and have paid for far too long.

The Democratic plan declares energy independence and puts America on a path to economic recovery.

TAXING AMERICAN FAMILIES IS NOT THE ANSWER

(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, House Democrats plan to vote on their national energy tax legislation this week. It defies common sense when the American people are

faced with losing jobs and families are making hard decisions about how to weather this tough economy. The Democrats' priority is to impose a new tax. This cap-and-tax proposal will lead to job losses, higher gas prices, and increased electricity rates on American families with \$3,128 of new taxes for each family each year. Moreover, it is also unnecessary when there are positive alternatives to promote clean energy technology.

An all-of-the-above energy policy would achieve the goals of a cleaner environment while promoting oil and natural gas exploration in America, invest in innovative new technologies and encouraging conservation and smarter energy use. Above all, it would be no new tax on American families nor would it punish small businesses. Taxing American families is not the answer to our energy needs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES

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

Mr. WALZ. Madam Speaker, reforming Medicare formulas so that they reward quality and value is one of the changes that must be part of any discussion on health care reform.

The Congressional Budget Office recognizes the problem of a simple fee-for-service payment system regardless of the quality of care our patients receive. That means we pay doctors for doing more tests and ineffective treatments.

In my home district of southern Minnesota, the Mayo Clinic is a model of providing high quality care at low prices. But because of the way Medicare payments are figured today, the Mayo Clinic is penalized for that. We must reward those that save money and at the same time provide the highest quality of care. This can be done by creating an index within the Medicare physician fee formula to simply measure quality.

I urge my colleagues to support the inclusion of this sort of provision in the final health care reform package.

AVOID EUROPEAN ENERGY MODEL

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, this administration and the Democrat Congress are pushing us towards European socialism through more government control. This week it is the energy economy. We are scheduled to consider the Waxman-Markey cap-and-tax scheme that will cap our growth and tax all of us.

In 2005, the Europeans implemented the emissions trading scheme, or ETS. ETS has increased household energy