

There would be no better way to honor the Fourth of July, our Founders and our heritage, than to celebrate this glorious day by opening our embassies not to the Iranian Government, but to these students who desire freedom and liberty.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING COACH ED THOMAS OF PARKERSBURG, IOWA

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

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, a year ago, I stood in this well with a heavy heart and asked for a moment of silence for the Town of Parkersburg that was destroyed by an F5 tornado. The high school was destroyed, and the most visible face of the recovery in Parkersburg was legendary football coach Ed Thomas, whose home was destroyed in that tornado. Coach Thomas emerged from the rubble with tears in his eyes, pledged to rebuild the school, rebuild the community and help heal the sorrow.

Ed and his wife, Jan, moved into an apartment above the True Value Hardware store in downtown Parkersburg. Ed went back to what he did best, working with young people and inspiring them to become better people.

Yesterday morning, as Coach Thomas was at the school he loved working with young people, a lone gunman entered the school and shot and killed Ed Thomas in front of 20 to 30 high school students.

Ed Thomas coached for 37 years. He had a career record of 292-84, including two State championships, 19 State playoff appearances, and, get this, in a town of 280 students in high school, four of his students played in the National Football League.

Coach Thomas said, "We don't talk about winning and losing. We talk about the little things. If we take care of the little things, the rest will take care of itself."

Mr. Speaker, I will be asking for everyone to give their thoughts and prayers to Ed's wife, Jan, their extended family and the community of Parkersburg as they struggle with this senseless loss.

SMOKING IN THE MOVIES

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, at a time when policy makers are doing everything they can to reduce smoking in our society, one area of smoking prevention remains unchallenged: Smoking in the movies.

Studies have shown that viewing smoking in the movies normalizes smoking among youth. It glamorizes smoking through the attractiveness of the actors and characters who smoke. These attitude changes lead to smok-

ing experimentation, which in turn leads to harmful and addictive habits.

Tobacco is still depicted in three-quarters of youth-rated movies and 90 percent of R-rated movies. Movies targeting impressionable youth should be the last place for gratuitous smoking images.

Dartmouth Medical School found that up to one-half of the youth smoking initiation is explained by exposure to smoking in the movies in their studies.

Parents should know they are exposing their kids to glamorized depictions of smoking when they allow them to see youth-related movies by the rating system.

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HONORING TUN JUAN AGUON SANCHEZ

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

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands. Tun Juan Aguon Sanchez has made many exceptional contributions to the history, art and culture of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

But Tun Juan's greatest legacy is his poetry, written in vernacular Chamorro. Tun Juan's poems touch on life in the islands, the value of respecting other people, and the essential ingredients to making a life worth living. Tun Juan's poems are lyrical reminders of the love we feel for our island home.

Tun Juan also wrote about the world beyond our islands. At a time when our sole access to the outside world was a government radio station and a weekly newspaper, Tun Juan captured our admiration for leaders like President John F. Kennedy and his Holiness Pope John Paul, II.

Tun Juan's work has recently been collected so that for generations to come, his words will continue to convey the perspective, the faith and the love that he had for the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Tan Iku, Godspeed and Si Yu'us Ma'a'se for all that you have done for your people and islands.

ALL-OF-THE-ABOVE ENERGY STRATEGY

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the Old Book contains an admonition to lawmakers with these words: Woe to you because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift a finger to help them.

In the midst of the worst economy in a generation, remarkably, House

Democrats are poised this week to load the American people down with a national energy tax, and the American people deserve to know it.

Now there is lots of debate about what this bill will cost the average American, but there is no dispute the Democrat cap-and-trade bill will raise the cost of energy to every household in America, every small business, every family farm; and it will cost millions of American jobs. And the vote is tomorrow.

If you oppose a national energy tax, I say call your Congressman. If you think the Democrat cap-and-trade bill will cap growth and trade jobs, call your Congressman. And if you believe the American people deserve an all-of-the-above energy strategy that will create jobs, achieve energy independence and a cleaner environment, endorse the Republican alternative and call your Congressman.

A minority in Congress plus the American people equals a majority. We can reject cap-and-trade this week, and so we must.

INALIENABLE RIGHTS

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

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to say how thankful I am to live in such a great country, a country where we have inalienable rights guaranteed to us by our Nation's founding documents, and the knowledge that our government is set up to protect those rights.

We know that we are guaranteed the right to peaceful, public protest, and we see many great Americans utilizing that right here in Washington, D.C., on a daily basis. It is not until haunting and disturbing images of blatant violence and oppression run across the front pages of our newspapers and TV screens that we realize how important these rights are.

The people of Iran are expressing themselves peacefully in the streets, and are being viciously attacked by armed guards and police. The violence needs to end now, and the people of Iran should be heard.

I want to commend President Obama for his leadership and his judgment in such a difficult and intense foreign policy crisis, and I agree with his resistance to instigate a foreign nation through demagoguery, a distinct difference from the carelessness that sometimes was used by administrations in the past.

Let me be clear, I know the world understands that the United States will always vehemently oppose oppression and violence against a nation's people and we will do everything we can to ensure this type of behavior is not tolerated. I thank President Obama for his thoughtful leadership on this matter and offer my support in the future.

NATIONAL MEDIA GIVES FREE PASS

(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, as this replica of a check demonstrates, the national media are giving the Obama administration a free pass worth who-knows-how-much on any number of major national issues such as the economy, energy, and health care.

The national media seldom mentions that the President's budget would double the national debt in 5 years and triple it in 10. The national media don't tell the American people that the President's cap-and-trade energy plan will cost every family \$1,600. The national media don't report that the 46 million uninsured that is used to justify the President's health care plan is really only 10 million people after you deduct those who are eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, who can afford health insurance, and who are without health insurance for just a couple of months between jobs.

Americans don't want the media to give the Obama administration a free pass. They want the facts.

HEALTH CARE FOR ALL

(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, there was much media speculation as to where Mr. Steve Jobs had a liver transplant. It came out yesterday that he had his liver transplant in Memphis, Tennessee, my home town, at the Methodist Hospital, a hospital known for its liver transplant center which has the lowest morbidity rate of any transplant center in the United States.

Memphis has been a medical center for years, with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the finest research hospital for children's illnesses, catastrophic illnesses, and cancer; for Southern College of Optometry; for LeBonheur Children's Hospital; for Campbell's Clinic for orthopedics and other particular medical specialties. We are proud of our medical community.

We are sorry Mr. Jobs had to have a liver transplant, but we are happy he came to Memphis and chose the best. But it shouldn't be that only the wealthy can come to Memphis and have the best medical care available. We need to pass a health care plan that is affordable and quality with a public plan to let every American have the opportunity to get the best medical attention that is available, and come to Memphis and receive it.

COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLAN NEEDED

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, Democrats are the ones with no new ideas. They always turn to their worn-out idea of tax, tax, tax. The American people don't want a national energy tax; they want energy independence. The House Republican plan is the comprehensive energy solution this country desperately needs. House Republicans recognize that as gas prices and home utility bills rise, American families are dealt a greater economic hardship.

The Democrats' answer to the worst recession in decades is a national energy tax that will lead to higher energy prices and further job losses. Thousands of dollars in extra energy costs and millions of jobs lost is a high price to pay for an energy plan that will do little to clean up our environment. The American people deserve better. The American Energy Act introduced by Republicans is an all-of-the-above plan that will provide independence, more jobs here at home, and a cleaner environment.

The American people don't want a national energy tax. They want energy independence. The House Republican plan is the comprehensive energy solution this country desperately needs.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, the United States has the most expensive health care in the world, which is a tremendous burden on the American family and businesses and threatens our economic future. The status quo is unsustainable and unacceptable, and I applaud all of the committees for their hard work on the draft proposal released last week. It is an important step forward to ensure that every American has access to quality, affordable health care.

But I believe if we are to meet the stated goals of reform, it is also critical that a robust public plan option be linked with the strengths of Medicare. It is a system that we know and, in particular, has an existing health provider network so that a public plan can truly compete in the private market and lower costs for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, health care must be accessible. And in order to be accessible to Americans living in both rural and urban areas, it has to be accepted by providers. It has to have doctors. I am concerned that the initial version does not provide the provider infrastructure already in place for Medicare. We know it and we can use it, and this is a serious oversight that needs to be revisited.

Mr. Speaker, I know we can meet the challenges for health care for all Amer-

icans, a uniquely American plan unparalleled in quality, low cost and real choice. Let's do it.

PRESERVING CAPITALISM IN AMERICA AMENDMENT

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

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, a growing number of Americans are concerned about the future of capitalism in this country. The current economic recession has opened the door to government intervention in private enterprise on a scale many have never seen. A majority of Americans oppose the government takeover of the auto manufacturers and want the government out as soon as possible.

Just as troubling as the government's rapid control over private industry is the failure to present an exit strategy. With no apparent limit on the government's ability to expand its ownership of business, the only solution is a constitutional amendment.

Yesterday I introduced H.J. Res. 57, the Preserving Capitalism in America Amendment. The constitutional amendment would prohibit the acquisition of any stock or equity interest in private corporations by the Federal Government. This amendment was introduced with 102 cosponsors, nearly a quarter of the membership of the House. Eight States currently have constitutional prohibitions against government investment in private corporations, and I believe similar action is necessary on the Federal level to limit government intrusion.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.J. Res. 57, the Preserving Capitalism in America amendment.

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, Americans are the most innovative and the most entrepreneurial people on the face of the Earth. That is the reason that the people want us to pass the American Clean Energy and Security bill this week. This bill will give Americans what they want: More energy independence; less pollution; and most importantly, millions of new jobs of Americans building the new businesses, putting up solar panels, putting up wind towers, and stringing new electrical wire that we need.

Now, what is this going to cost Americans? According to the Congressional Budget Office, approximately the cost of one postage stamp a day: 47 cents. Do Americans want to rid ourselves of the scourge of addiction to Saudi oil for a postage stamp a day? You bet.

Do Americans want us to limit pollution and make polluters pay so Americans can have cleaner air for the cost of a postage stamp a day? You bet.