

1915, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints assumed ownership of the Dee Hospital, and under the leadership of David O. McKay expanded services for even more residents. In 1976, the LDS church relinquished control of the McKay-Dee Hospital network to the not-for-profit Intermountain Healthcare, leaving it with the charge to become a model of health care excellence.

Taking this charge of excellence to heart, tens of thousands of hard-working individuals have devoted their lives to healing patients at the three hospitals that have become the Intermountain McKay-Dee Hospital and Medical Center, and their efforts have been recognized as a national model for providing quality and affordable health care.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Intermountain McKay-Dee Hospital for its 100 years of dedicated service.

ISRAEL

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, 62 years ago, Israel declared its independence and established a nation founded on the principles of justice, freedom, and peace. These founding tenets are not unlike those on which the United States was built, and these mutual beliefs spurred a resilient relationship between Israel and the U.S., a friendship of six decades which remains strong today.

The United States was the first Nation to recognize Israel, and with that recognition came a promise, a promise to help ensure Israel's security, a promise to stand behind the only democracy in the Middle East, and a promise to always uphold Israel's right to exist. On this anniversary let us celebrate, as the Israeli folk song goes, *Am Yisrael Chai*—the people of Israel live—and may they have the land of Israel to call home today, tomorrow, and always.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, inscribed on the Jefferson Memorial is a quotation from Thomas Jefferson that reads, in part: "No man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship or ministry or shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief, but all men shall be free to profess and by argument to maintain their opinions in matter of religion."

There is nothing about the National Day of Prayer that compels anyone to support any religious worship or min-

istry. There are no "prayer police." In fact, we who support the National Day of Prayer wish it were more successful, but in no way do we seek to impose it. Yet all men are free to maintain their religion through prayer and other means.

What threatens some people about a still small moment of silence for contemplation or a prayer to a higher being in whatever form? Nothing about the National Day of Prayer requires any person to do anything. So I ask those who are threatened by this, Where is the harm to them? The Founding Fathers gave us freedom of religion, not freedom from religion. The court decision declaring the day unconstitutional cannot stand.

RECOGNIZING THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

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

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for official U.S. recognition of the Armenian genocide. Notable scholars and historians who recognize the Armenian genocide include the International Association of Genocide Scholars and the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity whose findings are supported by 53 Nobel Laureates. Yet, in the face of all the evidence, Turkey presses on, exporting a legacy of genocide denial, a legacy it continues to enforce within its own borders.

Many of my colleagues express sympathy for the genocide victims but are hesitant to vote for recognition. Turkey's relentless lobbying campaign, which threatens retaliation should the U.S. recognize this historical reality, has had its intended effect. Some Members of Congress worry that recognition will cause irreparable harm to U.S.-Turkish relations and therefore undermine the United States' strategic interests. "It's just not a good time" is a common refrain. That excuse is always available, but it is a wholly inadequate excuse.

For the sake of its core values and in true furtherance of its strategic interests, the United States must take a deep breath, look its ally, Turkey, in the eye and recognize this tragic episode of the modern era to be an unambiguous fact of history.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF TOASTMASTERS CLUB 767

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

Mr. BOCCIERI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the recent 60th anniversary of the Toastmasters Club 767 located in Alliance, Ohio, where I live.

The Toastmasters, now an international club with members in China

and India, has given some 250,000 Americans the opportunity to overcome their fear of public speaking, become better listeners, and gain confidence in community relations. Alliance Toastmasters has given that opportunity to people in my community for some 60 years now, having grown from just four members at its inception to now dozens.

In Alliance, Ohio, and elsewhere, there are politicians, administrators and teachers who have gained much of their confidence and ability to communicate from their experience in the Toastmasters Club; but more than anything Toastmasters presents an opportunity for people to engage with their neighbor, learn from one another, and to develop their thoughts about our world.

In an age of 24-hour news, Internet surfing and texting, Toastmasters is a reminder of just how important it is that we maintain face-to-face communication with one another. I commend Alliance Club 767 for helping people in my community gain confidence in doing just that for 60 memorable years, and I thank them for their service to our community.

HONORING JOSHUA McMACKLE

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on a number of occasions many Members have had to rise to speak of a very sad and tragic incident that has occurred in their congressional district. Today, sadly, I rise as well to speak to the terrible loss of Joshua McMackle, a young freshman student at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas.

Meeting his parents and sister, Tracy, Moriah, and Bruce McMackle, his grandmother and aunt, many of whom were in the service of this country being Federal employees and law enforcement employees, it was so sad to be able to speak about this senseless and untimely death.

I would say to you that this was a fine young man, a freshman who had come to Texas Southern University because of its special and exclusive music program. He was a high school graduate of the Randolph-Macon Military Academy, and he had traveled around the world with his mom and his parents.

His tragic death occurred as any student might have it happen to them. Unfortunately, when parents send their children away to learn, some person, some unfortunate tragic individual would take a life by gunfire. And so it was for Joshua a week ago Saturday when he was with his friends at an event that should have been joyous, a fun time, a party, which is perfectly all right for college students, and along came outsiders who attempted, if you will, to turn this into the devastating tragedy that it was.

In tribute to Joshua—we memorialize him this coming Saturday—but more importantly, in tribute to him we will say “Never on our watch again.” I join with his family and the memorial funding that they will have to say to young people across America, enough is enough, and to be able to enforce the laws that are necessary, along with the freedom that we have, that gets rid of those who think it is okay to take a senseless life, to beat up a fellow student, or to cause the death of someone they do not know.

May this fine young man rest in peace. Joshua McMackle, we honor you for your contributions to America.

□ 1630

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

GOING GREEN AND SAVING ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, Congresswoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and my fellow Members of Congress—MARIO DIAZ-BALART and TED DEUTCH—and I held a great press conference with DAN BEARD, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, on how to make our offices more energy efficient.

Representing such natural wonders like the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, I am extremely sensitive to the impact of our daily routine on the environment. I am a supporter of the green proposals, such as increasing the fuel efficiency of our cars and promoting the use of clean alternative energy.

However, as we all know, green living begins at home and in the workplace. Whether it’s by turning off the lights when exiting a room, carpooling to the office, or recycling on a regular basis, we can all work to improve our environments. The buildings of the Capitol complex, including my congressional office, are now utilizing the latest in energy- and water-saving technologies. For example, the simple action of installing energy-saving lighting throughout the U.S. House of Representatives has saved U.S. taxpayers more than \$175,000 annually. House offices have also increased their partici-

pation in the recycling of paper and of other raw materials. Last year, the House of Representatives recycled more than 1,800 tons of paper, 46 tons of bottles and cans, and 1 ton of leather.

In the days ahead, my district office in Miami will be implementing additional electricity- and resource-saving measures. At a time when our Nation is struggling with high unemployment and with an unsustainable deficit, we should be doing all that we can to eliminate government inefficiencies, waste, fraud, and abuse.

This week, in celebration of Earth Day, south Florida families can attend Miami’s Goin’ Green Celebration to learn more about how you can protect our environment, how you can support green technologies, and how you can save money on your energy and water bills. I encourage south Floridians to attend this important event, which is scheduled to take place on Saturday from 10 to 6 p.m. in Miami’s Bayfront Park. Individuals and families attending this event can participate in seminars on energy-efficient home improvements, on how to save on your water bills, and on several other informative exhibitions. In particular, I encourage you to register for many of the eco-friendly services provided by Miami-Dade County, such as recycling pickups and the Adopt-a-Tree program. By implementing individual changes, we can all make positive differences on our environment.

I will continue to work in Congress to support policies that encourage families and businesses to be more energy efficient and less reliant on expensive foreign fuel. At the same time, I will continue to be a staunch advocate for green initiatives that will not put a financial burden on working families and small businesses.

Once again, I urge all of my south Florida constituents to attend Miami’s Goin’ Green Celebration this Saturday in Bayfront Park, which is in my congressional district, to learn more about living more environmentally friendly lives. We all have roles to play as we endeavor to preserve south Florida’s natural beauty and to improve our communities’ environments for ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HOYER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

COMMENDING AND THANKING OUR BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and to thank our

brave men and women in uniform who risk their lives every single day to protect America and to keep our families safe.

We have the very best warfighters in the world who are led by the very best commanders, and under President Obama, our military servicemembers are experiencing even greater success in keeping our Nation safe from those who seek to do us harm.

Earlier this week, a joint raid by U.S. and Iraqi forces delivered what General Odierno, the top military commander in Iraq, identified as “potentially the most significant blow to al Qaeda in Iraq since the beginning of the insurgency.” During this raid, two of al Qaeda’s top leaders were killed, including al Qaeda in Iraq’s top leader. This news was not only a sign of our continued progress against al Qaeda in Iraq and its affiliates but of our progress overall in our fight to quell terrorism and to keep America and our allies safe.

Our increased success in killing and capturing terrorists isn’t limited just to Iraq. Under President Obama, we have stepped up the fight against terrorists, and we have strengthened strategic partnerships in places like Pakistan and Yemen. With the help of these partners, we are finally making significant progress in the war against al Qaeda terrorists and their allies.

We are capturing terrorist leaders every week, and we are seeing much greater success in getting our allies and other countries in the region to root out terrorists and to send a loud message that those who seek to do us harm will not be able to operate freely. This increased progress is markedly noticeable in Afghanistan, which for many years under the Bush administration was, frankly, the forgotten war.

Mr. Speaker, Afghanistan is an epicenter of terrorism. We cannot afford to forget that it was the genesis of multiple attacks that have killed thousands of Americans: our children, our parents, our spouses, our friends, and our neighbors. After nearly a decade with no real plan in Afghanistan, we now have a strategy for success under this President.

While we build an Afghan Government capable of keeping al Qaeda from using Afghanistan as a safe haven, we are striking ever harder at al Qaeda and at their allies as they hide in the mountains of Pakistan. Using special operations forces and Predator planes and in cooperating with the governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan, we have captured or killed hundreds of al Qaeda’s fighters and affiliates since 2009, far more than in 2008. In fact, during this administration, more than 600 terrorists have been killed by drone strikes. That is more than triple the amount from 2004–2008 combined.

The President’s new strategy in Afghanistan and in Pakistan, in cooperation with Pakistani forces, also helped lead to the capture of the Taliban’s