

liberalism and the agenda of this administration and this Congress. The American people said in deafening terms that they are tired of the borrowing and the spending and the bailouts and the takeovers and the tax increases of the recent past. They voted for change.

That's why it's so remarkable, Mr. Speaker, that this Congress is poised to allow one of the largest tax increases in American history to take effect in January of this year. A historic \$3.9 trillion tax increase could take effect, impacting every American, if Congress fails to act. The average tax increase will be more than \$1,500 per household. American families will see the marriage penalty reinstated, the child tax credit cut in half, and tax rates on investments and savings and inheritance will all increase.

It is absolutely imperative, if Congress accomplishes nothing else in this lame duck, that we take immediate action to make permanent all of the current tax rates. And let's be clear, this is not a debate over tax cuts. If the tax rates are not preserved permanently, it will result in one of the largest tax increases in history.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting legislation that we will introduce today to make those rates permanent.

□ 1410

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would ask all Members to heed to the gavel, please.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF LANCE CORPORAL IRVIN CENICEROS

(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 honor one of America's bravest, Lance Corporal Irvin Cenicerros of Clarksville, Arkansas, who was taken from us while supporting combat missions in Afghanistan.

After graduating high school in 2007, Lance Corporal Cenicerros enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. Family members say it was the strength and character of the Marines that drew him to serve with the Corps, and his friends and comrades say he was a great machine gunner.

Lance Corporal Cenicerros served with the Marines all across the globe, and less than 2 weeks after arriving in Afghanistan, at the age of 21, he made the ultimate sacrifice for our great Nation.

My prayers and the prayers of the people of Arkansas are with the Cenicerros family. I humbly offer my thanks to Lance Corporal Irvin Cenicerros, a true American hero, for his selfless service to the security and well-being of all Americans.

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 incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

CONGRATULATING THE TOWN OF TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA, ON ITS 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1475) congratulates the town of Tarboro, North Carolina, on the occasion of its 250th anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1475

Whereas, in 1759, Joseph Howell deeded 150 acres of land along the Tar River to establish a town;

Whereas the first town commissioners Reverend James Moir, Aquila Suggs, Lawrence Toole, Elisha Battle, and Benjamin Hart laid out a town that included 121 half-acre lots surrounded by 50 acres of town common;

Whereas the North Carolina General Assembly on November 30, 1760, approved the charter of a town called Tarboro along the banks of the Tar River;

Whereas Tarboro is the 11th oldest colonial town in North Carolina;

Whereas Tarboro has the only town common outside of Boston originally chartered with the town;

Whereas President George Washington slept in Tarboro during a visit on his southern tour in 1791;

Whereas Tarboro was home to former United States Congressman George Henry White who was elected to the Congress in 1896 and 1898, and was the last African-American to serve in Congress until World War II;

Whereas Tarboro was home to Henry Lawson Wyatt, the first North Carolina soldier to die in the Civil War;

Whereas Tarboro was home to former Congressman Lawrence H. (L.H.) Fountain who served North Carolina's Second Congressional District from 1953 to 1983;

Whereas Tarboro was home to General Henry "Hugh" Shelton who served in the United States Army and served as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1997 to 2001;

Whereas Tarboro is home to a 45-block historic district which was created in 1977 by the National Park Service;

Whereas the historic district boasts over 300 structures, from the residential dwellings to historic churches to original 19th century storefronts along Tarboro's Main Street;

Whereas the vibrant downtown is listed on the National Register of Historic Places;

Whereas Tarboro is known for its rich history, low crime rate, and high quality of life;

Whereas Tarboro offers extensive recreation opportunities for youth, adults, and seniors;

Whereas Tarboro is home to the Edgecombe County Veterans' Military Museum, the Tar River Paddle Trail, and the North Carolina Civil War Trail, and is a part of the Historic Albemarle Trail;

Whereas, in 1999, Tarboro was devastated by the flooding from Hurricane Floyd;

Whereas through hard work and unity, Tarboro was able to fully recover from the event to become an even stronger community; and

Whereas Tarboro today is home to approximately 11,000 residents and is known for its diversity and viable industrial base: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates the town of Tarboro, North Carolina, on the occasion of its 250th anniversary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia?

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to present H. Res. 1475 for consideration. This measure congratulates the town of Tarboro, North Carolina, on its 250th anniversary.

H. Res. 1475 was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina, Representative G.K. BUTTERFIELD, on June 24, 2010. The measure was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered it reported favorably by unanimous consent on July 15, 2010. The measure enjoys the support of over 50 Members of the House.

Mr. Speaker, the North Carolina General Assembly approved the Tarboro town charter 250 years ago this month, November 30, 1760. It is one of the oldest colonial towns in the State. Its downtown is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and it has the only town common outside of Boston to be originally chartered with the town.

It was home to such notable figures as former United States Congressman George Henry White, who was elected to the Congress in 1896 and 1898. He was the last African American to serve in Congress until World War II.

Tarboro is also the home of General Hugh Shelton, who served in the United States Army and served as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1997 to 2001.

Mr. Speaker, let us join together in congratulating the town of Tarboro on reaching this historic milestone. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1475.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1475.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1475.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECOGNIZING BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1428) recognizing Brooklyn Botanic Garden on its 100th anniversary as the preeminent horticultural attraction in the borough of Brooklyn and its longstanding commitment to environmental stewardship and education for the City of New York.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1428

Whereas Brooklyn Botanic Garden opened to the public in 1910;

Whereas the Brooklyn Botanic Garden is a 52-acre urban oasis in the heart of Brooklyn, New York, and features more than 11,000 different kinds of plants from around the world;

Whereas the Brooklyn Botanic Garden is made up of many exquisite and historic specialty gardens, including the Japanese-Hill-and-Pond-Garden, the Children's Garden, the Native Flora Garden, the Cranford Rose Garden, the Alice Recknagel Ireys Fragrance Garden, and the Steinhardt Conservatory;

Whereas more than 730,000 visitors a year enjoy the Brooklyn Botanic Garden;

Whereas the Brooklyn Botanic Garden is host to a world renown Cherry Blossom Festival;

Whereas the Brooklyn Botanic Garden provides premier environmental education for children and adults;

Whereas the Brooklyn Botanic Garden improves public education in Brooklyn through a partnership with the Brooklyn Academy of Science and the Environment High School and has provided valuable training, curriculum development, and field study opportunities that would otherwise not be available;

Whereas the people of Brooklyn enjoy spending time in the beautiful gardens, making it a center for socializing, recreation, and education; and

Whereas the Brooklyn Botanic Garden has become an integral part of the cultural life and economic development of Brooklyn and provides an invaluable service to residents: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens on its 100th anniversary as the preeminent horticultural attraction in the borough of Brooklyn and for its longstanding commitment to environmental stewardship and education for the City of New York.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia?

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I now yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H. Res. 1428, a resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

H. Res. 1428 was introduced by our colleague, the gentlewoman from New York, Representative YVETTE CLARKE, on June 9 of 2010. It was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered it reported favorably by unanimous consent on July 28, 2010. The measure enjoys the support of 50 Members of the House.

Mr. Speaker, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden is a top cultural and environmental attraction in New York City, attracting over 730,000 visitors each year. It is a superb example of urban gardening and horticultural display, serving local residents and international visitors alike, and also features a number of educational programs through a partnership with the Brooklyn Academy of Science and the Environment High School.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden features a number of specialty gardens and collections on its 52 acres, including a collection of cherry trees that allows it to host a world-renowned Cherry Blossom Festival each spring. Its other collections hold over 11,000 different varieties of plants from all over the world, representing an invaluable cultural and scientific resource.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Brooklyn Botanic Garden on its 100th anniversary and for its commitment to education, community service, and environmental stewardship.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1428, recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Brooklyn Botanical Garden.

□ 1420

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield time to the sponsor of the bill, our colleague, Representative YVETTE CLARKE, for such time as she may consume.

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Ms. NORTON, for giving me this opportunity to share with everyone how proud I am to rise in support of H. Res. 1428, which recognizes and salutes the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens on the occasion of its 100th anniversary as the preeminent horticultural attraction in the borough of Brooklyn and its longstanding commitment to the environmental stewardship and education for the City of New York.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden opened its doors to the public in 1910. Today, this 52-acre urban oasis features more than 11,000 different kinds of plants from around the world and specialty gardens, including the Japanese Hill and Pond Garden, the Children's Garden, the Native Flora Garden, the Cranford Rose Garden, the Alice Recknagel Ireys Fragrance Garden, and the Steinhardt Conservatory.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden is an important part of the Brooklyn community, reaching over 150,000 children every year through various programs on site, in schools, and throughout the community. This garden contributes to the environmental and public education in Brooklyn and throughout the city of New York through partnerships with the Brooklyn Academy of Science and the Environment High School. The Brooklyn Botanic Garden hosts an annual Cherry Blossom Festival and has become an integral part of the cultural life and economic development of the city of New York and provides an invaluable service to its residents.

Today, under the leadership of President Scot Medbury and Board Chairman Frederick Bland, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden thrives in a dense urban setting in the heart of New York's 11th Congressional District and welcomes more than 725,000 visitors annually.

The garden serves more than 150,000 youth annually through a wide range of on-site, in-school, and community-based initiatives. It is a leader in building stronger, healthier communities through programs such as GreenBridge, which involves over 60,000 residents annually in neighborhood greening projects. Through its scientific research, plant conservation projects, and award-winning publications, the garden is a vital source of public awareness and understanding of the essential role plants play in our lives.

While the Brooklyn Botanic Garden has had 100 wonderful years of establishment, I am excited to see what the future holds for this great institution. I am happy to see that it is revitalizing its 52 acres by developing more than 4 acres of new and enhanced gardens for the enjoyment and education of the public, improving facilities to orient and serve visitors, and expanding its community horticulture programs.