

aware of NASA's attempts to track down the remaining national treasures.

Today, Potter County's Moon tree is alive and well, and members of the Coudersport Area Lions Club have agreed to partner with the local government for a dedication ceremony that will bring long-overdue attention to our Moon tree.

We collectively should recognize the importance of NASA's Apollo program, and I want to thank my constituents in Coudersport for working to ensure the Moon trees continue to serve as a living monument to our Nation's first visit to the Moon.

□ 1900

JUSTICE BROUGHT TO OSAMA BIN LADEN

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we, as a Nation, commemorate this historic day that Osama bin Laden was brought to justice or, more appropriately, justice was brought to him. I want to take this occasion to congratulate President Obama and his team, CIA Director Leon Panetta and the members of the CIA and our intelligence community as well as our Nation's military who have worked diligently and tirelessly over the last nearly 10 years to hunt down and eliminate Osama bin Laden. I know that countless man hours and millions of dollars—an incredible effort was put together to make sure that Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda were held accountable for the horrific attacks on the United States of America on 9/11.

Let me say that my heart and my thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families of that horrific day on 9/11. We hope that this, in some way, brings closure to them, as we hope also that it now closes a painful chapter in U.S. history with the elimination of Osama bin Laden. I thank, again, all of those that had a hand in this, particularly the members of our military and intelligence community who worked so hard and carried out this mission flawlessly.

WE WILL PREVAIL IN THE WAR ON TERROR

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

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Like all Americans, I was relieved to hear the news that the world's most notorious terrorist would no longer be able to pose a threat to those who seek peace and freedom. We owe a great deal of gratitude to our brave men and women serving in uniform, as well as our intelligence officers, for successfully bringing down Osama bin Laden and scoring a major victory in the fight against terrorism. These individuals truly deserve our Nation's deepest appreciation

for the selfless work they do in order to keep us safe.

Unfortunately, this occasion is bittersweet. As we reflect on those that laid down their lives in defending our freedom, these individuals made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure that we enjoy the precious blessings of liberty. While there is nothing that can replace the lives that have been lost, I hope that their loved ones can take some solace in the fact that the man responsible for September 11 has been brought to justice. Yesterday should send a clear message to those that engage in terrorist activities that we will find you and you will pay for your crimes. We are America, a Nation built by and defended by heroes, and we will prevail in the war on terror.

ENDING OUR MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, my first thought when watching the news last night was about the people who have a hole in their hearts and in their homes because of the senseless brutal violence perpetrated by Osama bin Laden. There was 9/11, of course, but also the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, the embassy bombings in east Africa, and the attack on the USS Cole. Osama bin Laden is responsible for so much evil, and I hope that the families of his victims can now find some measure of peace and closure.

Bin Laden is dead, but the terrorism threat that he represents remains alive and well. The network he created continues to thrive. And I believe, Mr. Speaker, that al Qaeda will remain strong as long as we continue our policy of aggressive militarism in the Middle East. I would like to see what happened on Sunday be the beginning of bringing our troops home and removing the very need for military action in the Middle East.

MEDICARE REFORM AND THE DEBT

(Mrs. BLACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BLACK. Last week I held three town hall meetings back in my community, throughout my district; and the number one topic was the staggering national debt. People in my district are angry at Washington that they have allowed the debt to balloon so far out of control. Many understand that big changes have to be made to reduce spending and to address our debt. And while the problem includes billions that have been spent to grow agencies and bloat programs over the years, the big problem is the auto-pilot programs.

Medicare spending is growing at an unsustainable rate of 7.2 percent every year; and unless we start now, Medi-

care goes bankrupt in 9 years, according to the CBO, and in 7 to 19 years, according to the Medicare Trustees Report. Left unchecked, the explosive growth of these programs, especially Medicare, threatens not only the ability of government to keep its promises to the beneficiaries but also the solvency of the Federal Government and the health of the U.S. economy.

Our Republican plan addresses this unsustainable growth while ensuring that our current seniors, those 55 and older, are still taken care of. Our Republican plan attacks the growth. And when we hear the political fodder, I ask, Where is your plan to address Medicare and reduce our debt? The time for leadership on this issue is now, not in 5 to 10 years when Medicare is almost bankrupt. Let us seize this moment and do what is necessary to preserve this vital program and save America from our looming debt crisis.

ELIMINATING OSAMA BIN LADEN

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

Mr. PAYNE. Let me begin by commending our Commander in Chief, President Barack Obama, and his team of experts who debated and discussed the exercise that eliminated Osama bin Laden. On an issue like this, there are many different points of view, and it takes a person who has the ability to evaluate to take charge. And he made a decision.

We certainly would like to commend the Navy SEALs who did another extraordinary job, just as they did in Somalia when I was there. I was in Somalia the day after the Navy SEALs eliminated the pirates who had hijacked a ship. And I was at a press conference in Mogadishu where I said that when you tread on Americans, this is the result. In the middle of Mogadishu as I left, as you may recall, my plane was fired on by persons who are related to al Qaeda.

Well, let me once again comment that New Jersey, who lost so many people in 9/11 going to the World Trade Center where many of them work, we hope that they will have some peace.

NATIONAL PHYSICAL FITNESS MONTH AND WELLNESS CAUCUS

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to recognize the month of May as National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. Since 1983, various individuals and organizations have focused on May as a time to promote awareness of the value of physical activity and the pursuit of happier, healthier, and more productive lives. Chronic diseases, including preventable illnesses like heart disease and stroke,

cause 70 percent of U.S. deaths and are responsible for three-quarters of health care spending. The great majority of these conditions are linked to risky health behavior such as obesity and lack of exercise.

Congress should be drawing attention to the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and the good work being done by many employers to encourage healthy behaviors through workplace wellness programs.

Mr. Speaker, that's why I am partnering with my colleague, RON KIND from Wisconsin, to create a Congressional Wellness Caucus that I encourage my colleagues to join.

THE END OF OSAMA BIN LADEN'S REIGN OF TERROR

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for those of us who were here on 9/11 in this humble place and saw the building smoke, we know what today and the last 24 hours have meant. Thank you to the Navy SEALs for their bravery, for their strategic genius, for providing a safety net to bring them all out, to make sure that the women and children were protected.

Thank you to President Clinton, President Bush, President Obama, the continuing chain of those who experienced terrorism who worked together. Thank you, President Obama. And, again, to the families of the victims, no one knows the story, those who were victims whose family members died at the USS *Cole* or in Africa or on 9/11 or in 1993.

So I ask us not to move forward in this country as Democrats or Republicans but as Americans, not as conservative radio talk show listeners who seemingly cannot find a glistering of hope. But come together as Americans. Osama bin Laden is dead, and we have the opportunity to thank the Navy SEALs and the United States military. And we have the ability to move forward as Americans, to move forward for peace and democracy and to be able to thank those who have laid down their lives, who sacrifice so that our flag can fly and justice can prevail in our Nation and around the world.

□ 1910

THE KILLING OF OSAMA BIN LADEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TIP-TON). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This is a momentous occasion. The headlines all across the country say the same thing: Osama bin Laden has been killed and justice has been done. I

think everybody ought to celebrate the tenacity of the American military and this administration as well as the Bush administration for being dedicated to bringing this man to justice for the things that he has done not only to the United States but to the entire world.

I would like to start off this Special Order by giving a little bit of history of Osama bin Laden and what he has done. In 1990, he started criticizing the Saudi regime for allowing the Americans to establish a base of operations there. In 1991, he was expelled from Saudi Arabia and disenfranchised or disowned by his family. He immediately went out and started working to establish al Qaeda, to establish a terrorist network that would kill people who didn't agree with his views and to terrorize the world until they started acceding to his wishes.

Let me just read a few of these things, and these are widely attributed to al Qaeda, or al Qaeda-inspired groups, which was headed by Osama bin Laden.

In December of 1992, there was a bomb attack that killed two people at Gold Mihor Hotel in Aden, Yemen. One hundred U.S. military personnel were stationed in the hotel awaiting deployment into Somalia for Operation Restore Hope.

In February of 1993, a 500-kilogram bomb was detonated beneath the World Trade Center—we all remember that—in New York City. Six were killed and 1,000 were injured.

In March of 1993, 250 people were killed and 700 injured in a series of 13 bomb explosions that took place in Bombay, India.

In October of 1993, 18 U.S. servicemen were killed in the Black Hawk Down incident in Somalia. Al Qaeda claimed responsibility for arming the Somali factions who battled and killed those U.S. forces.

In November of 1995, five Americans were killed in the bombing of the U.S. military advisory facility in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

In June of 1996, 19 U.S. airmen were killed in the bombing of Khobar Towers near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

In November of 1997, 62 people were killed by gunmen in the massacre at Luxor in Egypt.

In August of 1998, 223 people were killed when the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania were attacked.

In October of 2000, 17 U.S. sailors aboard the USS *Cole* were killed in a ship-borne suicide bombing while the *Cole* was docked in Aden, Yemen.

On September 11, 2001, 2,974 Americans and others were killed when hijacked planes are flown into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. I don't think America will ever forget that day.

In December of 2001, attempted bombing of an American Airlines flight from Paris to Boston by al Qaeda operative Richard Reid, a/k/a the Shoe-Bomber.

In October of 2002, 200 people killed and 240 injured in a series of bombings

in the tourist district of Kuta, Bali, Indonesia.

In November of 2003, 57 people killed and 700 injured by four truck bombs in Istanbul, Turkey.

In February 2004, 116 people killed in the bombing and subsequent sinking of the ferry SuperFerry 14 in the Philippines.

In March 2004, 191 people were killed and 2,000 wounded in a bombing of the Madrid commuter train system.

In May of 2004, 22 people killed and 25 injured in attacks on two oil industry installations, the Arab Petroleum Investments Corporation building and the Petroleum Centre near Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia.

In July 2005, 56 killed and 700 injured in an attack on the London transportation sector. Three bombs were detonated on the London Underground and one on a double decker bus.

In July 2005, 88 killed and 200 injured in a series of bomb blasts in the Egyptian resort city of Sharm el-Sheikh, located on the southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula.

In November 2005, 60 were killed and hundreds wounded in a suicide bomber attack on three hotels in Amman, Jordan.

In July 2006, 209 killed and 700 injured in a series of seven bomb blasts on the Suburban Railway in Mumbai (Bombay) India.

In April 2007, 33 people killed in twin bombings in Algiers, Algeria.

In June of 2008, six people killed and several injured in a car bomb attack against the Danish Embassy in Pakistan. Al Qaeda issued a statement after the bombings claiming that the attack was a response to the 2005 publication of the Mohammed cartoons.

In December 2009, an attempted bombing of Northwest Airlines Flight 253 to Detroit by Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab.

In May 2010, an attempted car bomb in Times Square, New York. Faisal Shahzad, a 30-year-old Pakistan-born resident of Bridgeport, Connecticut, admitted attempting the car bombing and said he had trained at a Pakistani terrorist training camp.

In October 2010, an attempted bombing of a U.S.-bound cargo plane. Two packages, each containing a bomb consisting of 300 to 400 grams of plastic explosives and a detonating mechanism, were found on separate cargo planes. Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula took responsibility for that plot.

April 28, 2011, 16 killed in a bomb attack on a market in Marrakesh, Morocco.

April 29, 2011, an attempted attack in Germany. Police arrested three alleged members of al Qaeda who had been planning attacks in the country.

This is the legacy that Osama bin Laden leaves behind: blood, murder, maiming, all across the world because he had radical views that he did not believe the rest of the world should not encompass and enjoy. This is a terrible tragedy, a terrible thing that occurred