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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, November 7, 2011, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2011

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Compassionate and merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As this House comes together at the end of the week, bless the work of its Members. Give them strength, fortitude, and patience. Fill their hearts with charity, their minds with understanding, their wills with courage to do the right thing for all of America.

The work that they have is difficult work. May they rise together to accomplish what is best for our great Nation, and, indeed, for all the world, for You have blessed us with many riches and a great history of building a participative government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Mr. BARROW led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches.

THANK YOU, NEAL PATEL

(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. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Neal Patel, a committed staff member in the office of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina. After little more than a year, Neal is departing the office to join Congressman CHARLES BOUSTANY's staff and serve as his communications director to further the Republican plans to create jobs.

A native of Nichols, South Carolina, Neal is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and Charleston School of Law. I have worked with his parents, Ashvin and Suwarna Patel in the motel industry for over 30 years, and I know they are proud of their son's achievements.

Neal has been a tremendous asset for the people of the Second Congressional

District. From his early days as an intern to now communications director, Neal has represented our office with enthusiasm and professionalism. It is with sincere gratitude that I would like to thank Neal for his dedication.

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

VETERANS' COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT

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

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight this week's passage of S. 894, the Veterans Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2011. During this difficult economic time, it's more important than ever that we keep our promises to our veterans.

This bill provides a cost of living adjustment to the disability pay of our wounded veterans. This well-earned increase will go a long way to help veterans make ends meet. This could not have been done at a more appropriate time as we're one week away from Veterans Day.

I'm happy to see that my colleagues joined together in a bipartisan fashion to pass this legislation. Again, I commend my colleagues for standing together for veterans by passing the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act, and I encourage my colleagues to continue to work together in a bipartisan fashion to keep

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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the promises our country made to veterans when they first signed up.

JOBS FOR OUR VETERANS

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

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the impending Veterans Day next week, I think it's important that we pause for a moment as a country and reflect on the contributions that these veterans have done, veterans who served us since the early part of last century, all the way up to those who are waiting to come home with open arms, just a month away, this Christmas.

But importantly, we have to give them jobs when they come home. And Mr. Speaker that's why I support the sections of the President's jobs bill that will create small business incentives to hire our veterans, and an even greater incentive to hire our wounded veterans. This is so important because the last thing I want to see in this country is to give thanks to these people on one day and then to find them under a bridge because they're homeless and couldn't get a job.

These people deserve better than that, Mr. Speaker, and I call on my Members of Congress, in a bipartisan way, to support incentives to give our veterans what they need when they come home—a warm welcome and the dignity of a job.

VETERANS DAY

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. I, too, rise to honor, celebrate, and remember our courageous men and women in uniform who've served in the United States Armed Forces.

Next Friday, our Nation as a whole will observe Veterans Day, a day which should serve as a reminder to every American that our Armed Forces, both past and present, are made up of individuals of great courage, character, and honor.

As a 29-year Air Force veteran and a former prisoner of war for nearly 7 years, I know firsthand that freedom is not free. We owe a debt of gratitude to all who have worn the uniform and their families.

I urge all Americans to use this Veterans Day as an opportunity to personally thank a veteran. It's because of their sacrifices that we remain the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I think an inscription on the wall at the POW camp when we left says it all: Freedom has a taste to those who fight and almost die that the protected will never know.

I salute our veterans. God bless America.

BIPARTISANSHIP IS NOT DEAD

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

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, bipartisanship is not dead. There are policies grounded in common sense that lawmakers on both sides of the aisle can agree upon.

I'm proud to be part of a group of lawmakers, Democrat and Republican, who are fighting to complete the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System in Minnesota, Iowa, and South Dakota. This infrastructure project alone will bring drinking water to an area of the United States the size of Connecticut. It will sustain hundreds of jobs and create an estimated 10,000 jobs in the long run.

The funds for this project were promised during the Clinton Presidency, the Bush Presidency, and the Obama Presidency. Locals not only paid their share, they paid in advance. And yet today, the earth movers, the forklifts, and the dump trucks sit idle, and no water runs to thirsty communities.

A bipartisan coalition in this Congress is ready to act to push this project forward. With only 14 legislative days left in our congressional calendar, the time is now to work together, create jobs in a commonsense approach, bring Lewis and Clark to a reality.

HONORING PAUL EASON

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

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor one of the members of the Greatest Generation, Mr. Paul Eason. Mr. Paul came home after World War II and became a success in his community by any measure of the word: a manufacturing leader, three terms on our city council, chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Citizen of the Year.

But his most significant contribution was giving his time and energy as scoutmaster for three generations of boys in Tupelo, Mississippi. He was the scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 12 for over 59 years.

When he began, his scouts thought it would be interesting to see if they could go for a year without missing a monthly campout. And Troop 12 recently completed its 729th consecutive monthly campout, not missing a month since Harry Truman was president.

They thought they were learning how to tie knots and pitch tents; Mr. Paul was teaching them the meaning of the scout oath: "On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country."

America needs more young men that understand the meaning of duty, excellence, and honor.

As a father of two of Troop 12's eagle scouts, Mr. Paul, I want to say thank

you for the contribution you've made to your community, your State, and to your Nation. And on this, your 90th birthday, may God bless you, and may God bless the United States of America.

□ 0910

INTERNATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday the Earth's 7 billionth person was born. Our population has doubled in the last 50 years, and it could double again by the end of the century if we let it.

This rapid growth is straining water and food supplies, reducing access to health care and education, and even creating instability and violence.

Most importantly, this growth is denying women in nations like Yemen and Afghanistan, who still average more than five children, their basic human right to decide if, when, and how many children to have; 215 million women around the world say they want access to contraception but can't get it. We can fulfill that need and save lives, improve lives, and save tax dollars while we do it.

According to the Guttmacher Institute, meeting this unmet need for family planning could save the lives of 251,000 women and 1.7 million newborns, improve rates of education and health, and save a net total of \$1.5 billion.

America can lead the world in family planning as it once did, but we have to increase our investment in international family planning.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my strong support and gratitude to America's heroes, our veterans. While our servicemembers and veterans deserve our gratitude and thanks every day, Veterans Day, which we will celebrate next Friday, serves as an important reminder of the sacrifices that our brave men in uniform make every day to defend our freedoms.

As a veteran myself, I am also aware of the extraordinary sacrifices that families at home endure while their loved ones are deployed. I would like to extend my thanks to those families for their patience and support which play an integral role in the success of our troops serving abroad.

As a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am committed to ensuring that our Nation's veterans, their families, and survivors receive the care, benefits, and services they've earned.