

Greater Cleveland has over 75,000 people out of work, Toledo over 27,000, and Sandusky over 3,000. Our economy is still struggling forward. We can see how many jobs have been stamped out in not just the auto industry, but in manufacturing across our country due to unfair trade regimes. We need Congress and the executive branch to stand up and demand fairness for our companies, our workers, and our communities that are working so hard to build forward this country as our economy—our fragile economy—keeps rebounding. While it's rebounding forward, it could do a lot better with some help from the President and this Congress.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE EDGAR LANIER JENKINS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEVIN. I want to join my colleagues in remembering Ed Jenkins—and Mr. RANGEL, who served with him for all of Ed's service, as chairman, I will yield time to him after I say just a few words on behalf of Ed Jenkins.

The Ways and Means Committee is indeed a key committee, and Ed Jenkins was a key person. I was reading some of the tributes, and one of them noted what was said in the Almanac of American Politics about Ed Jenkins: "He was a man who must be consulted on many key legislative issues." How true that was.

Ed Jenkins showed you could be both gentle and strong. He did not seek the limelight, but he shed light on so many issues. One example is the textile industry. He comes from an area that once reined close to supremely in terms of textile.

Ed never gave up. He introduced legislation. It passed, but because of a veto, it did not become law. But talking about shining light, he did expose the importance of the textile industry as part of the manufacturing base of this country, and in that sense, he was very successful. He also showed his grit when it came to the Iran-contra dispute, and he took on Oliver North in his strong though gentle way.

I close my remarks with memories of Ed Jenkins when he would come right up to where I now stand, and almost invariably he would say, well, I'm just a poor country lawyer. Well, that's about the only thing that he said about himself that wasn't true. He was more than a poor country lawyer. He had been an Assistant U.S. Attorney. But he had a lot of quiet dynamism.

And so, as we talk about Ed, we remember the many times he came forth to speak in his soft but often strong way. He was an important part of this institution. He served his district, he served his State, and he served the Nation with dignity, with pride, and with civility that is too short available today in this Hall.

So I join all of you from Georgia who represent that State and everyone who

has spoken in sending our warmest regards to Ed's family, and say to all of you, you should remember your husband and dad not only as a wonderful family member, but someone who came here, often at sacrifice, and he did so in a way that indeed served this country.

I would now like to yield the balance of my time to someone who knew Ed so well who has served as chairman of our committee and who remembers Ed Jenkins with such affection, the senior member for the State of New York, CHARLES RANGEL.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. RANGEL. I would like unanimous consent that we extend it to 2 minutes additional. This is the end of it for Ed Jenkins, and I did not know.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair cannot entertain the gentleman's request.

Mr. RANGEL. I would like to request the Chair recognize me for 5 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair cannot entertain the gentleman's request at this time.

Mr. RANGEL. Could the Chair tell me what request you might entertain so I can share my views for the late Ed Jenkins?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. RANGEL. Well, rules are rules, and they have to be followed. I had really hoped that given my long acquaintance with Ed Jenkins that I would have the opportunity to share with his family and those that knew him.

Unfortunately, those of us that were raised in the village of Harlem have very few opportunities to meet white Southern gentlemen, and it took a long while when he came on the committee for me to even understand what Ed Jenkins was talking about. But it didn't take long for me to understand that people are people no matter where they come from; they love, they get angry, they work out things. Now is the time I think more than ever that we just need somebody like Ed Jenkins to cross that barrier that we seem to have in a partisan way, in such a deep, hurting, partisan way in this Congress.

SANDY LEVIN can tell you, whenever our chairman Dan Rostenkowski had a problem, there was no problem that Ed Jenkins would not take a look at and recognize that it was not a Democratic problem, it was not a majority problem, but it was a problem that the United States of America really faced.

Since the Chair cannot entertain, I will then go to Reverend JOHN LEWIS and find out how we can work out something in a faith tradition so that all of us will get a chance to know, enjoy, and love the memory of a great American, the former Congressman, Edgar Jenkins.

BYRON NASH LIVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, I, along with my colleague Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE attended an event in Houston, Texas. It was styled "Byron Nash Live." This event was well attended. As I approached the venue, there were literally hundreds of people outside. Most of them were young people, and it was raining as I approached the venue. I did ask one of the young people if he was going to be able to go in, and I was told that there was an overflow crowd, that it was standing room only, and that as a result, he would have to stand outside. But he assured me that he would be there for the duration of the event. He was there for "Byron Nash Live."

Byron Nash, a 24-year-old comedian, was giving a performance, if you will. This performance was attended by his mother, Gwen Nash; his father, Michael Nash; his grandfather and grandmother, Reverend James and Mrs. Nash as well. This event was a lively event. Byron received several standing ovations, and his life was spoken of throughout the entirety of the event.

This, in a sense, may have been his last performance in the physical world, for you see, Byron Nash made his transition, and this was his home-going celebration. It was truly a celebration. There were many who did mourn his death, but we all were there to celebrate the life that he lived. His life, while it was short, was a meaningful life because the true measure of one's life is not how long one lives, but rather, what does one do with the time that God gives.

□ 1130

In his short lifetime, Byron Nash made a very positive impression on a lot of young people—a lot of older people as well. But I was proud to see so many young people in attendance, so many young people who were there to pay their last respects to a young man who lived a life that we were, of course, eager to celebrate.

While his life is no longer in the physical world, we believe that his spiritual existence is one that we should celebrate continually, and we will remember him.

There is good reason for his life to symbolize something, because he passed because of a rare type of cancer styled renal medullary carcinoma. As of 2009, there were 120 cases—I'm sure more since then, obviously more, but 120 cases. Victims of this type of cancer live 1 to 7 months, thereabout. Not a lot of empirical evidence has been acquired. This type of cancer seems to attack those who suffer from sickle cell. If his life can mean something to those who still live and symbolize something as we go forward, it should be that we must do more to fight this type of cancer.

His grandfather has dedicated his life to a continuing effort to get the word out, get the message out that this type of cancer does claim the lives of young people. We can do more here in the Congress of the United States of America to help fight cancer in general and this specific type of cancer that is known to few. It is my hope that we will continue to allocate resources to fighting cancer such that this type of cancer can move to the front burner.

We've got to do more to prevent, to educate, and to make sure that cancer becomes a disease of the past in our lifetimes. It is my hope that Byron Nash's life would become the genesis for us to do more to fight not only cancer in general but for this specific type of cancer known as renal medullary carcinoma.

I will leave these words with all of those who are within the sound of my voice here and those who may be viewing at home, and especially to his family: I want you to know that we will do all that we can to make sure that he not only lived a decent life—as he did, and that is as recognized—but also that we will do all that we can to fight this dreadful disease and bring it to an end.

HONORING SERGEANT JOHN BAKER, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHILLING) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHILLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the distinguished life of Sergeant John Baker, Jr.

Born in Davenport, Iowa, but raised within the 17th District of Illinois, in Moline, Sergeant Baker served in Vietnam as a proud member of the United States Army. His selflessness and heroism earned him the Medal of Honor, Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart as he bravely fought for God and country. Sergeant Baker would humbly say that this Medal of Honor was not actually for him, that he had done what anyone would have, that the medal belonged to all servicemen, to all veterans.

Though he surely never would have said so himself, Sergeant Baker—the Quad Cities only Medal of Honor recipient—represented all that is good about our great Nation. Although he is no longer with us, the I-280 bridge named after John Baker, Vietnam veteran, and the monument will also serve as a constant reminder of who Sergeant Baker was and what he did for us all.

Godspeed, Sergeant Baker. God bless you for your outstanding service, your remarkable courage, and your modest heroism.

WISHING SENATOR MARK KIRK WELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, tonight, when we listen to the President give

his State of the Union speech, one of our colleagues, unfortunately, will not be here, and that is Senator MARK KIRK, who served in this body as a Member of Congress for many years and, before that, was a staffer on the Foreign Affairs Committee.

MARK, Senator KIRK, as we all know, is fighting against a terrible stroke that he had just yesterday. I want him and his family to know that all of our thoughts and prayers are with him as he battles this stroke, and hopefully he will make a full recovery.

I just was devastated when I heard about it because anyone who knows MARK knows what a terrific Senator he is, what a great colleague he is, someone who has always reached across the aisle in a bipartisan way and someone that I have just tremendous respect for. When he was sworn in as a Senator, I was very pleased that he invited me to stand with him on the Senate floor when he was sworn in.

So, again, I just want MARK and his family and friends, of which I am one, to know that our thoughts and prayers are with him as he battles this stroke. We have confidence that he is in good hands with the doctors and will make a full recovery.

MARK, again, is the kind of person who epitomizes what bipartisanship is all about, what Americanism is all about. MARK was a cochair, when he was in this body, of the Albanian Issues Caucus with me, has been a strong supporter of the State of Israel, and we've worked together on a number of these issues.

So, MARK, we're with you. We're going to be watching, and we have confidence that you will recover fully and come back to this body. America needs you, and we're thinking of you.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 36 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Kate Braestrup, Maine Warden Service, Lincolnville, Maine, offered the following prayer:

St. Francis of Assisi advises us to pray constantly. If necessary, he says, use words.

God, our prayer today arises from a house of words, from a Nation rooted in words. We do not derive our identity as Americans from our color or our creed, from our wealth or power, nor even

from the land itself, though we do love the land.

Rather, by Your grace, America is America through its words: That all men are created equal, that all are endowed with inalienable rights—life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness—these beautiful, necessary words.

God, may every word spoken and written from this Chamber contain an echo of those words. May our words, too, be necessary and true. May our words remember and inspire the brave, compassionate action that is and always has been America's finest prayer.

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 gentlewoman from New York (Ms. HAYWORTH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. HAYWORTH 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3237. An act to amend the SOAR Act by clarifying the scope of coverage of the Act.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 96. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1134. An act to authorize the St. Croix River Crossing Project with appropriate mitigation measures to promote river values.

The message also announced that pursuant to the unanimous consent agreement of December 17, 2011, by the President pro tempore and the Majority Leader during the adjournment of the Senate and pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, and in consultation with the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the Chair on behalf of the