

whose pride is low, and whose love for You and this wonderful Nation is wide and deep.

Grant that these leaders be ribbed with the steel of Your spirit so that their strength will be equal to the task, that they won't fade under the light of scrutiny, that they will be calm amidst the storms of criticism, that they won't bend amidst the storms of criticism, that they won't bend under the heavy load of responsibility, and that they will courageously hold high the torch of Your truth to guide them.

We ask these blessings in Your holy name.

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. HOCHUL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. HOCHUL 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND JOSEPH SHEA

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I have known Father Joseph Shea since he was appointed pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in my home city of Simi Valley, California. He's been there now for approximately 4 years, and we've worked together on several projects that have benefited our community.

It is befitting that we continue the tradition of having pastors from across our country open the people's House with a prayer for our Nation and its people.

I want to thank the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, for giving Father Shea the opportunity to open today's session of the House. Having guest chaplains from across the country participate in this historical undertaking truly does manifest the freedom of worship enjoyed across the United States.

I also want to thank Father Shea for traveling all the way across this great Nation to be here with us this morning to offer the spiritual opening for the day.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks announced that the Senate has passed a bill and agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2061. An act to provide for an exchange of land between the Department of Homeland Security and the South Carolina State Ports Authority.

S. Con. Res. 5. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Montford Point Marines.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROSLEHTINEN). The Chair will entertain 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING DONALD KACZYNSKI'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO ARKANSAS' DISABLED VETERANS

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Donald Kaczynski from my home State of Arkansas. Donald is a Marine veteran with a passion for serving other veterans who are living with a disability.

After receiving an honorable discharge from the Marines, Donald was faced with the challenge of finding a new career. He saw firsthand the obstacles disabled veterans face and knew he wanted to help other veterans have a higher quality of life.

After moving to Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, he started a mobile concession stand business. With his business, Donald drives to events throughout Arkansas, providing concessions for veterans' gatherings.

In addition to his business, Donald serves Arkansas' veterans as commander and adjutant of the Hot Springs Village VFW. Most recently, Donald was elected to serve as the 2011–2012 State commander of the Disabled American Veterans Department of Arkansas. In 2004, Donald was recognized as the VFW Man of the Year for Arkansas, and in 2008 as the Disabled American Veterans Man of the Year.

Madam Speaker, we honor Donald Kaczynski and his service to Arkansas' veterans.

PAKISTAN IS A SAFE HAVEN FOR THE TALIBAN AND AL QAEDA

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

Ms. HOCHUL. Madam Speaker, as we recall the brave heroes of the D-day invasion 68 years ago today, I thought of the new American heroes who are fighting for us on the front lines of Af-

ghanistan, a place I left a few weeks ago, and the 36 hours I spent in the war zone speaking to them.

Conversations with generals, diplomats, and the troops on the ground confirm that Pakistan remains a safe haven for the Taliban and al Qaeda. First it was proved to the world when Osama Bin Laden was found to be hiding there for a lengthy amount of time.

But on Monday, a drone strike just over the Pakistani border killed al Qaeda's number 2 in command, further proving beyond all doubt that Pakistan continues to harbor terrorists. If Pakistan is unwilling to condemn these international terrorists and work with the United States to find them, they should not be eligible for foreign aid. Period. End.

I pledge to continue to work in a bipartisan way with my colleagues to restrict funds as long as Pakistan sits by and provides refuge to terrorists who put our troops, which I just left, and our Nation, in harm's way.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BILL STEWART, FORMER FOOTBALL HEAD COACH OF WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

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

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, the State of West Virginia lost one of its greatest residents, greatest citizens last week, and I lost a very close friend. Former head coach of West Virginia University's football team and New Martinsville native Bill Stewart unexpectedly passed away on May 28.

Stewart was a man of integrity and high moral character who practiced truly what he preached, both on and off the field.

As the head coach of the Mountaineers, he represented our State and the university in the best possible way. His signature win over Oklahoma in the 2008 Fiesta Bowl launched him into the national spotlight. His legacy will be the type of life he led.

Coach Stew never met a stranger, and he never lost sight of his home. He lived each day to its fullest and had a contagious enthusiasm that inspired everyone around him.

Leave no doubt: Bill Stewart will be missed for years to come because he was a man of his word, a man who openly followed his faith, and a dedicated father, husband, and friend.

Bill Stewart took that final, dusty, windy country road home to his place in Heaven.

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THE NEED TO PASS THE TRANSPORTATION BILL

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I rise today to speak out about the need to pass a transportation bill.

I am very frustrated by the inaction of the House Republican conferees and how their obstructionism is negatively affecting job creation in this country. The current transportation extension expires at the end of this month. We are in the height of the summer construction season, and we are losing the opportunity to get these jobs going and the construction and the manufacturing industries back to work.

One surefire way to create jobs is to invest in our country's infrastructure, but House Republicans are obstructing it at every turn. Last month, we were forced to pass a 10th temporary extension of highway funding because of the GOP's inaction. This is my 20th year here, and this is the first time that this bill has been held up because of partisanship.

This inaction only increases the instability for the construction industry, and it makes it impossible for State and local governments to plan long term.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, according to the Social Security trustees, the Social Security Disability program is expected to exhaust its trust fund in just 4 years. If the fund is exhausted and if nothing is done, only around 80 percent of the benefits will be paid out. Over 11 million Americans could be impacted.

Again, we have another government entitlement program headed towards bankruptcy. This is a program that costs as much as the annual budgets of the Departments of Agriculture, Homeland Security, Commerce, Labor, Interior, and Justice combined. I know how important this program is to many of my own constituents. With regard to Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and the disability program, tens of millions of people rely on these programs, but they are not structurally sound.

Doing nothing is not the answer, and taking funds from the general revenue does nothing to provide the long-term stability that we need. We need real innovative reform that fixes our problems, that saves and strengthens these programs without piling up debt. If we don't act to save and strengthen these programs, our creditors will make the decisions for us down the road. We need to address these problems in a bipartisan manner. One party can't do it alone.

ANTHONY ANDERSON, A RISING JUNIOR AT LA SALLE ACADEMY

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

Mr. CICILLINE. I rise today to honor Anthony Anderson, a rising junior at LaSalle Academy in my home State of Rhode Island.

Earlier this year, Anthony was awarded a Gold Medal from the National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for a self-portrait he submitted focused on the issue of bullying. Anthony has been recognized each year by the National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards since he was in the seventh grade, and this month, Anthony's painting is on display at an art gallery in New York City.

His family and his art teacher at LaSalle were invited to Carnegie Hall last week for a ceremony honoring his work and the work of other Gold Medal winners from across our Nation.

I congratulate Anthony on his impressive accomplishments and join Rhode Islanders all across our State in wishing him continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING RECIPIENTS OF THE SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AWARDS

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

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, too often people in Washington forget that it's our small businesses that create jobs, not government. These men and women are doing the most important work to bring about economic recovery and growth. In fact, over the past 17 years, small businesses have created an impressive 65 percent of all new American jobs.

So today, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the successes of our local job creators, including two individuals from my district who are being recognized by the U.S. Small Business Administration, SCORE and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

Congratulations to Kathy Xuan, the CEO of PARC Corporation, which is a plastics recycling company in Romeoville, Illinois, on being named Exporter of the Year. I also offer a hearty salute to Mike Rohan, the President of All Trust Home Care, Incorporated, which is in Hinsdale, Illinois, who has earned the Entrepreneurial Success of the Year Award.

These achievements are an important reminder to Congress that we must put politics aside and work together to create an environment where leaders like Mike and Kathy can do what they do best—create jobs.

STOPPING THE STUDENT LOAN INTEREST RATE HIKE

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

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. American innovators contribute to an economy second to none and provide a strategic advantage in national security. But from where will the advancements of tomorrow come?

The U.S. ranks 27th in the world in graduates with science and engineering

degrees, so the last thing Congress should do is make education less affordable. Yet that's exactly what will happen on June 30 if Congress fails to act. Interest rates on student loans will double, hiking the yearly payments by \$1,000 for more than 7 million students in this country.

April's Republican ruse of tying student loan interest rates to the evisceration of preventative health care for women and children was an unconscionable partisan ploy. No parent should be forced to choose between his child's health and education. No woman should have to choose between breast cancer screening and a student loan.

Lowered interest rates were the result of bipartisan cooperation between a Democratic Congress and a Republican President. We must stop the interest rate hike in a responsible and bipartisan manner, and I urge speedy action.

IN HONOR OF GAYLEN BYKER

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

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. I wish you could meet my friend, Dr. Gaylen Byker, a truly renaissance man who was born in Iowa but raised in Hudsonville, Michigan, which is in my district, where he grew up in a family that was very entrepreneurial and very politically involved. His father actually served as a State senator, Gary Byker.

Gaylen attended Calvin College, where he is now President, and earned a BA with concentrations in philosophy, English, political science, and speech, with a minor in Russian. He also entered the Army in 1967 and served in Vietnam, and he was discharged with the rank of captain. He went on to earn a law degree at the University of Michigan and then his master's degree in world politics at Michigan as well. After that, he decided he needed to get his Ph.D. in international relations from Pennsylvania.

He then served and worked at an energy exploration company out of Houston. He worked on Wall Street, both on energy as well as in derivatives and futures. He then served as a lawyer in Philadelphia. He has been involved in numerous organizations and volunteer opportunities, including the Ruffed Grouse Society of the United States.

He is an avid hunter—and a pretty good shot as well, I might add. He became president of Calvin College in 1995, where he has served it since then for the last 17 years. Gaylen is truly a person who has left a place better than when he found it.

Dr. Byker, we just want to say thank you for your service to Calvin College in the greater community in west Michigan.