

board survived. The survivors recounted the story of the heroic actions of the four chaplains of different faiths: Lieutenant Goode; Lieutenant John Washington, a Catholic priest; and Lieutenants George Fox and Clark Poling, two protestant ministers.

These four servants of God spent their last 18 minutes in this life helping their fellow passengers to safety. When there were no more life jackets to hand out, the chaplains removed their own and gave them to shipmates. They were last seen on the hull of the ship, arm-in-arm in prayer as the ship sank into the icy waters.

Chaplains Hill at Arlington National Cemetery is home to several memorials to chaplains. Last year, the United States House of Representatives adopted legislation to include a memorial to the 14 Jewish chaplains who gave their lives in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. Today, we honor not just the four chaplains of the *Dorchester*, but the sacrifices and selflessness made by military chaplains of all faiths.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 7, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 7, 2012 at 10:40 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 347.

That the Senate passed S. 1794.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

NLRB APPOINTMENTS ARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL

(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, on January 4, the President abused executive authority and appointed three new members to the National Labor Relations Board claiming a recess appointment, but the Senate was not in recess. By making this decision, the President ignored the Sen-

ate's confirmation and vetting practice which is outlined in article I, section 5 of the United States Constitution. Earlier today, the House Education and Workforce Committee, ably led by Chairman JOHN KLINE, held a hearing on this unconstitutional conduct.

The President has used the National Labor Relations Board as a big labor bully to advance his political agenda and threaten the jobs of America's small businesses. Due to the legal uncertainty of the President's appointments, each decision reached by the board could allow for legal challenges, costing job creators and taxpayers more money. House Republicans will work to protect hardworking taxpayers from the administration's failed policies which are destroying jobs.

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

THE CLOCK IS TICKING ON THE PAYROLL TAX CUT AND EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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

Ms. BASS of California. Mr. Speaker, the clock is ticking on extending the payroll tax cut and unemployment benefits for millions of Americans. In just three short weeks, people barely surviving on unemployment benefits will be out on the streets. In three short weeks, 160 million people who get paychecks would have to pay the government nearly \$1,000 more.

Unfortunately, House Republican leadership insists on unrelated ideological legislation freezing the pay of middle class public servants for a third time in 3 years, slashing unemployment benefits by 40 weeks, and drug testing Americans who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own.

I don't think my Republican colleagues understand the plight of Americans who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own. So I'm asking my constituents and people from around the country to go to my Web site, karenbass.house.gov, and send in stories about their efforts to look for work. I will share these stories with my Republican colleagues to help them understand in hopes they will do the right thing.

PAYING OUR RESPECTS TO CHAPLAINS FOX, POLING, WASHINGTON, AND RABBI GOODE

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

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this year's tribute to our lost four chaplains, last seen on the decks of the USAT *Dorchester* offering comfort and their only chance for survival to others, is particularly poignant. For it was

this past year that these men were reunited at this country's most hallowed grounds, Arlington National Cemetery.

With the recognition long overdue of Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, and all the Jewish war chaplains who have served this Nation in faith, the four chaplains stand watch once again over their flock from Chaplains Hill. Providence most definitely brought them together after history attempted to break their bond.

And so 69 years later, we reinforce the bonds of faith that no man can break and pay our respects to Chaplains Fox, Poling, Washington, and Rabbi Goode and honor their sacrifice to our great Nation.

□ 1210

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF CRASH OF FLIGHT 3407

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

Ms. HOCHUL. Three years ago this week, an unspeakable tragedy occurred when a plane full of people, those who were dearly loved by their families, crashed through a home in Clarence Center, in my district. The cause was pilot fatigue and inexperience, and the cruel irony that it occurred over Valentine's Day weekend was lost on no one.

Yet, out of those ashes arose an indomitable spirit among these families that united them in their grief and brought their quest right here to the Halls in Washington. They wanted to ensure that no other family had to endure having their hearts ripped out the way they all had. They never took "no" for an answer. They never gave up, and they inspired Congress to work in a bipartisan way to pass historic flight safety reform rules.

That's why I am joined by my colleagues from western New York to introduce a resolution to honor them, the victims of the crash, to thank the surviving families of Flight 3407, and to call on the administration to finish the work they started to implement these necessary FAA rules.

Until the will of Congress and of the families we serve is translated into new rules, we will not give up the fight, because the families are counting on us, and they've never given up the fight.

THE CLOSING OF THE SOUTH TEMPLE POST OFFICE

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

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, over the past month, I've heard from many of my constituents about the closing of the contract post office in my district, the South Temple Post Office.

My constituents enjoy going to the South Temple Post Office because it is fast, efficient and the service is outstanding. However, the United States

Postal Service recently announced it would be closing this office, along with 19 other contract postal units.

Why?

Because these contract post offices are not hiring enough union workers or are, allegedly, taking union jobs away from the main branches. In other words, even though the United States Postal Service was \$8.5 billion in the hole in 2010 and even though the owner of the South Temple Post Office sends a check of \$1 million every year to the postal service under their contract, they have decided to close it because of union dispute.

This is just plain wrong. My constituents should have a choice of what post office they want to use and to use the one that serves them the best. If the privately owned contract office is performing better, they should be able to use that privately owned contract office.

Rest assured, I will fight this nonsense and try to get this post office kept open.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF CRASH OF FLIGHT 3407

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague Congresswoman KATHY HOCHUL, to recognize the upcoming third anniversary of the tragic crash of Continental Connection Flight 3407 in my western New York community.

This tragedy, unfortunately, was preventable. The National Transportation Safety Board found that the chief cause of the crash was pilot error. In August of 2010, President Obama signed into law aviation safety legislation, which, among other things, required the Federal Aviation Administration to update flight and duty time rules and to set minimum rest requirements for pilots.

As the families know too well, the passage of time never really heals the tragic memory of that day, but they persevered. They became a true citizen army for aviation safety and achieved the most comprehensive aviation reform in 50 years. In their efforts, they were guided by their faith and by the light of those they loved and lost.

We recognize their extraordinary efforts on behalf of the western New York community, of the flying public, and of a grateful Nation.

CONGRATULATING THE WORLD CHAMPION NEW YORK GIANTS

(Mr. TURNER of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TURNER of New York. Mr. Speaker and my fellow colleagues, it is a distinct pleasure to stand before you right now, not only as a Representative but as a fan. I would like to take a few moments and acknowledge the New

York Giants for defeating the New England Patriots on Sunday night, 21-17, in Super Bowl XLVI.

Some believed them to be underdogs, but our beloved G-Men didn't let people's lack of faith or doubt distract them from their end goal. Instead, they showed New York's resilience by fighting back to regain the lead in the fourth quarter, earning their second Super Bowl title in the last 5 years and their fourth Super Bowl title overall. The Giants have won eight world championships and rank as one of the most successful football franchises of all time.

As Giants' head coach Tom Coughlin said after the game: All things are possible for those who believe, and these guys believed, and they came together and trusted each other and believed in one another.

I think this is a terrific message for everyone to think about, especially those of us holding the distinct honor of being Members of the House of Representatives. There is still a great deal of work to be done on behalf of the American people. We must come together for a joint purpose. We must give our constituents a reason to believe we can work together on their behalf. Just as the members of the Giants team played hard for the people of New York, we must work hard for our constituents.

Again, I would like to congratulate the New York Giants, Head Coach Tom Coughlin, Super Bowl XLVI MVP Eli Manning, and all the great fans in New York.

FOUR-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE IMPERIAL SUGAR PLANT EXPLOSION

(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, this day marks a sad anniversary for many of the folks I represent. Four years ago today, a combustible dust explosion destroyed the Imperial Sugar plant in Port Wentworth, Georgia, killing 14 people and injuring more than 40 others.

The sad truth is that this explosion didn't have to happen. Experts have known about the dangers of combustible dust for decades, and experts have developed industry standards that can prevent combustible dust explosions and fires. Unfortunately, these commonsense practices have not become the national standard despite preventable explosions and fires in Georgia and throughout America before and since.

Today, on the fourth anniversary of this tragedy, I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 522, the Worker Protection Against Combustible Dust Explosions and Fires Act of 2011, introduced by Mr. MILLER of California. This law would require the Secretary of Labor to promulgate standards for regulating combustible dust.

We shouldn't wait until another disaster strikes. We owe it to the dead and the wounded to take action today so that disasters like the Imperial Sugar Plant explosion will never happen again.

OBAMACARE STRIKES AT THE CORE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

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

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about an issue that's deeply important to me, not as a Republican or Democrat, but as a Catholic American.

President Obama's Department of Health and Human Services announced it will require religious institutions like Catholic schools, Catholic hospitals, and Catholic charities to cover services that violate their core beliefs, like contraception, sterilization, and the morning-after pill. Catholic schools like Notre Dame will be forced to pay millions in penalties if they don't comply with the Federal Government mandate.

Now, this is about much more than just contraception. This is about Catholic schools and Catholic hospitals having to sacrifice conscience to comply with ObamaCare.

I believe that this is a clear violation of the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment of the Constitution. What's worse, I believe that this is a move by the Obama administration to establish secularism over religion. That would strike at the core of religious liberty of the Constitution and who we are as Americans. It's just one more reason why ObamaCare is bad law and needs to be repealed.

AN ILLUSORY PLAN TO FUND TRANSIT AT CURRENT LEVELS

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Ronald Reagan signed legislation that funded transit out of the highway trust fund. The new Republican majority is going to end transit's eligibility for highway trust fund dollars—but they've created an alternative transportation account that will be paid for out of the general fund. The only problem is that paying for transit at current levels under an alternative scenario would blow another \$40 billion hole in the budget.

But they have a plan.

They're going to require Federal employees to pay 6 percent of their salaries into a trust fund. That's about \$40 billion over 5 years. But they're not taxing Federal employees to pay for transit—don't worry about that—because that money can't be spent on transit. It will make it look like they're not spending more money. In reality, they will borrow \$40 billion to