

on C-SPAN as he delivered this meaningful prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA

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

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. As we gather today in this House, we opened it with prayer—prayer to remember those families, those children, those runners, those spectators that were lost in Boston. As I watched that horrific incident, I paused for a moment. At the same time that I saw this tragic incident, I also saw the spirit of America. The spirit of America was with those individuals who rushed in to help, not knowing whether they would be injured or not, not knowing what would happen to them. But they rushed to help one another.

I want this body to instill that same American spirit—that we are bound together—so that we will remember those lost, but more importantly, we will bring to justice those that perpetrated this action and that we will be stronger in the end as a Nation and never forget those who were lost.

BOSTON MARATHON ATTACK

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

Ms. CHU. Imagine what the front page of The Boston Globe should have looked like yesterday: marathon winners jubilantly accepting medals; throngs of people triumphantly crossing the finish line; bystanders passing out Gatorade; families and friends cheering on loved ones. Instead, the front page depicted a war zone.

This vicious, senseless attack left nearly 200 people injured, some critically, and three dead. My heart breaks for everyone affected, and justice must be served.

But even this dark act couldn't blot out the examples of love, compassion, and selflessness on display. Volunteers and officers raced to aid blast victims. Marathon runners continued running—straight to the nearest hospital to donate blood. And thousands of people opened their homes to athletes who had nowhere else to go.

These are the stories that define us as a Nation. This is the spirit that no terrorist attack will break.

CHARLES C. GATES CENTER FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE AND STEM CELL BIOLOGY

(Mr. COFFMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw attention to cutting-edge research now underway at the Charles C. Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Biology at the University of Colorado in Aurora. As you know, our Nation faces major deficiencies in its ability to maintain an adequate blood supply for civilian and military demands. Traditional methods for obtaining blood or producing a new supply fall far short of current demand.

But a collaborative effort at the Gates Center at the University of Colorado is working to develop a new technology that enables the rapid growth of adult blood stem cells. This proprietary technology can generate large numbers of cells that can be frozen and thawed while retaining their stem cell characteristics. This also means that soon there will be an ability to culture adult blood stem cells in an almost indefinite manner.

This research is being funded with peer-reviewed grants from NIH, and they have joined a consortium funded by DARPA to further help develop the Red Blood Cell program. I'm very hopeful about the research at the Charles C. Gates Center, and I urge support for their efforts.

PASS GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Today, Mr. Speaker, the other body has an opportunity to do what 90 percent of the American people would like us to do—to be prayerful and to come together to respond to the horrific siege of gun violence in America.

It is important to note that, on average, 13 young people from ages 10 to 24 are victims of homicide every day, and 82.8 percent of these youth are killed by a gun. Every 30 minutes a child or teenager in America is injured by a gun. Every 3 hours and 15 minutes a child or a teenager loses their life from a firearm. In 2010, 82 children under the ages of 5 lost their lives due to guns. To put that number in perspective, 58 law enforcement lost their lives.

And so today, we don't have to violate the Second Amendment. As I said, we can be prayerful. We can pass universal background checks—the same thing we do with registering our cars, getting licenses. This is a time for America to rise to our higher angels and do what our children need them to do. I ask the Senate to challenge its conscience and to vote for universal background checks to stop the violence.

□ 1210

THE FINE LINE BETWEEN CHOICE AND MURDER

(Mr. LANKFORD asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, in a historic red brick building in Philadelphia, a man and his staff performed thousands of abortions under horrid conditions, which has led to a murder trial which is currently under way for seven children and one adult. Some children were torn apart with surgical instruments in the womb. Some mothers were given abortion-inducing drugs and were seated on a toilet until they delivered their baby into that toilet. Other women had their labor induced; and when they delivered, an assistant flipped the baby over and used the scissors to cut their spinal cord.

The horrific murder of innocent children was repeated over and over again in the clinic; but amazingly enough, only the children fully out of the womb are considered murder victims. Can someone explain to me how the children of the same age, size, and development, who were still in the womb when they were torn to pieces by surgical instruments, are not victims of murder, but those who were delivered and then their spinal cord was cut three feet from their mother are victims of murder?

I will never understand the strained logic that says if a child is killed where you cannot see them in the womb, it's choice; but if you kill that child in the daylight, it's murder.

CONGRATULATING MIROSLABA "LILI" VELO ON BEING NAMED 2013 OUTSTANDING SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Many students often remember that one engaging and empowering teacher who inspired them to change the course of their lives. I am proud to recognize one of those teachers, Ms. Mirosłaba "Lili" Velo, a social studies teacher from Hayward's Tennyson High School in my congressional district.

Ms. Velo was named the 2013 Outstanding Senior High School Teacher of the Year by the California Council for Social Studies. As the chair of the Social Studies Department at Tennyson High School, Ms. Velo is a true leader in advancing social studies education by teaching educators in her high school and across California how to engage students with new and innovative teaching methods. This is something we will need as we continue to lead our students to be competitive in a changing global economy.

Ms. Velo is a wonderful example of the most dedicated teachers from across the Nation, who strive every day to better the lives of their students and assist the teachers around them.

Once again, I congratulate Ms. Velo on receiving this well-deserved recognition.

DEFENDING OUR HOMELAND

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

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay respect and grief for those who suffered loss of life and harm in Boston. I had two of my own constituents who suffered grievous loss and one of them the loss of a leg. It reminds us once again that those who seek our destruction are fully committed to that objective.

While the terrorists and others work in a very open way, seeking public notoriety, they have also learned to work in a very quiet and sophisticated and tactical way in cyber warfare.

Mr. Speaker, we have a very important bill before us today, H.R. 624. We need to really look at it, and we need to pass it. We need to show the world that we are fully committed to defending our homeland.

300,000 cyber attacks occur on major industry every single day—on each industry. We must stop this. They are bent on our destruction. We can do what it takes today to show the world that we are fully committed to defending our homeland.

MEMPHIS SOUL

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

Mr. COHEN. Last night, PBS aired the “Memphis Soul” performance recorded last week at the White House. The performance featured many songs that were recorded at Stax Records located in Memphis.

In 1998, Memphis civic leaders raised more than \$10 million to build the Stax Museum on the original site of Stax Records. The museum honors all of the artists who recorded at Stax, including Isaac Hayes, Al Green, Otis Redding, Booker T and the MGs, and others.

From Eddie Floyd’s “Knock on Wood” to Booker T and the MGs’ classic “Green Onions,” Isaac Hayes’ “Shaft,” and Sam and Dave’s “Soul Man,” the recordings at Stax Records made significant contributions to the music of the era.

Beyond honoring its history, Stax is about education. In 2005, the Soulsville Charter School opened its doors to 60 sixth graders. Now expanded to grades 6–12, the 2013 class of Soulsville Charter School has a 100 percent college acceptance rate and scholarships.

I encourage everyone to come to Memphis to visit the Stax Museum and see the Soulsville Charter School to learn more about Memphis’ contribution to music. I also hope you will tune in to PBS this afternoon to watch another performance of “Memphis Soul” at 5 o’clock eastern, 4 o’clock central.

CONGRATULATING ASHLAND UNIVERSITY WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Ashland University women’s basketball team for winning the NCAA Division II Championship. The Ashland Eagles earned Ashland University’s first basketball national championship with a 71–56 victory over New York’s Dowling College on Friday, March 29, 2013.

I would like to congratulate the Eagles MVP, AU senior Kari Daugherty, for contributing 26 points to the win. Ms. Daugherty was also honored with the Player of the Year title for the division.

I would also like to congratulate Coach Sue Ramsey for leading her team to victory. This sportsmanship, determination, and hard work displayed by the Ashland Eagles throughout the season has been unparalleled. This momentous accomplishment deserves the most sincere congratulations, and we’re very proud of Ashland University and the Ashland Eagles.

Go Eagles.

IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Last week, right here in D.C., I hosted farm workers from all over this country that only ask for fair treatment and compensation as they do their work. As they chanted “Si, se puede”—yes, it is possible—with 20 of us congressional Members, I saw the look of hope on their faces—hope that they would soon have a pathway to citizenship, fair wages, and adequate worker protections. I saw the same hope in the eyes of my parents who came here as farm workers.

With the introduction of the Senate’s immigration bill, farm workers are one step closer to gaining legal status and the right to feed their families as they feed America. However, as any legislation moves forward, I will remain vigilant against any effort to legalize farm worker mistreatments.

I look forward to working with both sides of the aisle and both of our Houses to make sure that we fix this broken immigration system.

SENIORS’ TAX SIMPLIFICATION ACT

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, the American people have just finished the annual aggravation of tax preparation. Every year, individuals and businesses spend more than 6 billion hours and about \$168 billion just to meet the filing requirements of the IRS.

Among those hit hardest by our 4-million-word Tax Code are senior citizens. Many live on fixed incomes and have common forms of income, like dividends, Social Security benefits, and IRA distributions; yet they face the high cost of compliance. That’s why I introduced the Seniors’ Tax Simplification Act. This commonsense bill—and it is bipartisan—would create one simple form, much like the popular 1040EZ form. It would be used for the relatively simple tax filing situations that are common for seniors anyway. Creating a no-nonsense 1040SR form would reduce compliance costs for seniors and lessen the burden of the tax season for them.

The Seniors’ Tax Simplification Act is a straightforward, no-cost bill that has bipartisan support and has been endorsed by many senior citizen groups and deserves a vote in this House.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Ms. TITUS. After far too long, there is finally real bipartisan momentum in Washington towards implementing much-needed comprehensive immigration reform.

Our immigration system today is crowded and confusing. It divides families, it stifles the American Dream for high-skilled foreign students and entrepreneurs, and it does not address the exploitation of many immigrants in the workplace.

The proposals unveiled last night are not perfect. For example, they eliminate diversity visas and certain family visas. But we are making progress. I look forward to supporting a bill that secures our borders, makes our existing laws more efficient and timely, promotes entrepreneurship and innovation, provides a fair pathway to citizenship for the millions of immigrants already in the United States, and includes the DREAM Act. It must also include humane provisions to keep families of all kinds together. We can and must get this done.

□ 1220

IN MEMORY OF FORMER MEMBER CHARLIE WILSON

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, as dean of the Ohio Republican delegation in the House, I was greatly saddened to hear of the untimely passing early Sunday morning of our friend and former colleague, Representative Charlie Wilson. Although Charlie and I were on different sides of the aisle and often disagreed on policy, I always admired his dedication to our State and his tireless energy as he worked to serve his constituents to the best of his ability.

I am not alone when I say that a conversation with Charlie was always