

These students' commitment to science is impressive, and I am confident that their generation will propel us to new heights of discovery that will improve the quality of life for all humanity.

Congratulations again to Lubbock High School and to all the schools competing in the tournament.

Go Westerners.

Mr. Speaker, as I conclude, I thank Chairman CONAWAY and the leadership of the Ag Committee for providing the safety net so that we can feed and clothe the American people, so that we can make important investments in rural infrastructure for sustainable small towns, the heartbeat of this country, so that we can continue to be the leader in agriculture innovation and technology development, and so we can make the compassionate reforms to food stamps.

God bless America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from references to occupants of the gallery.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FACE A CLEAR CHOICE

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

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, the American people face a clear choice about the way forward: the Republican raw deal or the Democratic better deal.

House Republicans want to take away healthcare from more than 23 million Americans—raw deal; Democrats want to strengthen the Affordable Care Act and dramatically lower the cost of prescription drugs—better deal.

House Republicans have a fake infrastructure plan that will do nothing to repair our Nation's crumbling bridges, roads, and tunnels—raw deal; Democrats have a real infrastructure plan that would invest \$1 trillion and create 16 million good-paying jobs—better deal.

House Republicans passed a tax scam where 83 percent of the benefits went to the wealthiest 1 percent in America simply to subsidize the lifestyles of the rich and shameless—raw deal; Democrats want a permanent tax cut for working families so we can put more money into the pockets of everyday Americans—better deal.

House Republicans want to cut more than \$2 trillion from Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid—raw deal; Democrats want to strengthen Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid so that senior citizens from throughout the land can live out their golden years with grace and dignity. That is A Better Deal.

House Republicans are all about chaos, crisis, and confusion; Democrats are working to deliver better jobs, better wages, and a better future.

The American people deserve A Better Deal.

□ 1115

RECOGNIZING HIGHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize outstanding students in my district from Highlands High School in Fort Thomas. These exceptional students competed in the "We the People" State-level competition, and they will represent our State at the national competition here in D.C. this weekend. This is their 15th State championship win.

The "We the People" program is directed by the Center for Civic Education, and its goal is to increase students' knowledge of constitutional history and government—I think some of my colleagues could stand to participate in this program—and to provide a foundation in civics education that will prepare them for future leadership roles.

The program sponsors student debates and hearings. This year, some of the national hearing questions for discussion include: What are classical republicanism and natural rights philosophy, and how did they influence the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights? How has the relationship among the three branches of government changed in the course of the history of our country? It has changed quite a bit.

I am proud of my constituent students' hard work and dedication. I wish them the very best of luck in this competition this weekend and congratulate them for their outstanding work representing the State of Kentucky.

PRESIDENT MACRON'S BRAND OF SOCIALISM

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I let the statements and the speech of our guest yesterday go unanswered. The President of France was here, right at this microphone, delivering his own brand of socialism. It is new and improved.

We have all seen the inefficiencies of socialism play out in Europe over the decades and the horrors of national socialism. But the French President has a new brand of socialism that we are all supposed to be enamored with. I would call it global socialism, maybe even global corporate socialism.

I hope none of my colleagues were seduced by his ideas. Ironically, they are motivated by fear, an irrational fear of the carbon dioxide molecule. Carbon dioxide is a necessary ingredient for all life on this planet.

For instance, let me give you the equation for photosynthesis. Basically, plants take six CO₂ molecules and react them with six water molecules, in the presence of sunlight, to create one sugar molecule and six oxygen molecules.

Take CO₂ off this planet, and what happens? Nearly everything dies and we die.

So I think it is very interesting that this new socialism has a twist to it,

this global socialism, and that is, it is motivated by an irrational fear of one of the two chemical compounds that form the basis of our food chain. Very ironic.

It is also motivated by something else that the Europeans have had a penchant for for centuries, that has bankrupted nearly every country over there, and that is a penchant for war, for interventionism. Nearly all of them, at one point or time, have sought to build an empire.

So the President of France was over here saying that we should also be interventionists; that we need to get involved in the Middle East more; that we need to be involved in all of the countries.

I reject this. I would urge my colleagues to stick with the plan we have got. Stick with the policy that we have had since the beginning of this country. Stick with the Constitution. Stick with capitalism. Stick with the idea that if you build something you own it, and reject European socialism.

BRITISH OFFICIALS ARE HOLDING ALFIE EVANS CAPTIVE

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, as someone who went to grade and high school in the 1970s, I learned about countries, particularly the Soviet Union and its Eastern European satellites, that severely limited the right of their people to travel. In effect, they were prisoners in their own country.

Indeed, in postwar Germany, the Communists even built a wall through Berlin. They did so not to keep people from West Berlin from traveling to East Berlin; they did it to prevent the captives of East Berlin from running to freedom in the West.

There is a tragic story unfolding in Britain this week of a new, virtual Berlin Wall that British and European authorities have erected around little 2-year-old Alfie Evans, who lives in Britain. They have eliminated this child's right to travel, and they are holding him prisoner.

Alfie is severely handicapped. British officials have made the decision, over the objection of Alfie's young parents, that Alfie would be better off dead. As such, they are prohibiting Alfie's parents from taking him to Bambino Gesù hospital in Rome, which has offered to care for the boy.

Alfie is not suffering, but British officials appear to be projecting their own subjective views on Alfie's quality of life and are deeming his life not worthy of living.

Among my most heartwarming experiences in my work in my district are visits to residences of the severely handicapped. I have visited with individuals who will never walk and who will never communicate verbally. But they can and do love, and they are loved.

For some folks in life, their calling is that simple, to love and be loved; and their presence makes us better persons. Perhaps that is Alfie's calling, to love and be loved. Maybe those in Britain responsible for Alfie's faith should consider that.

To be clear, Alfie's right to life does not come from Parliament; it doesn't come from the crown; it doesn't come from any British court. It comes from God.

Mr. Speaker, the British authorities should back down. They should allow Alfie's parents to take him to Bambino Gesù hospital in Rome. The British authorities should tear down the virtual wall they have put up around him and let him be free so he can continue to love and be loved.

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 21 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

Chaplain Phil Crenshaw, Lubbock, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Dear Holy Father, it is with grateful hearts we begin this day with Thee, the author and finisher of our faith. We come praying for Thy blessing for every man and woman in this assembly representing all the people of our great Nation.

We recognize our inability to exist at our best without Thy supreme wisdom, for Thou hast said: "A contrite heart, O God, Thou will not despise." And because of this, we seek supreme direction in the deliberation and our need for divine petition.

We further recognize our imperfection and beseech Thy forgiveness when unintentional errors in judgment are forthcoming. Grant, dear Father, Thy unhindered blessing to all those assembled at this moment, remembering Thy words: "Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord."

Thank You for loving us and praying that we may in turn love You with grateful, overflowing hearts.

In Jesus' name, we pray.
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 Hawaii (Ms. GABBARD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. GABBARD 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 CHAPLAIN PHIL CRENSHAW

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, the Good Book says, "a righteous man's prayers availeth much."

What a prayer, Mr. Crenshaw; what a man; what a great American.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our guest chaplain and my dear friend, Mr. Phil Crenshaw.

Mr. Crenshaw's life has taken him across the globe, from serving our country in World War II to spreading the Gospel of Jesus in places like Norway, Israel, Russia, and India. At every stop on his journey, Mr. Crenshaw's mission has always been the same: simply to love God and serve others.

While stationed in Okinawa, he ministered to marines, soldiers, and airmen, as well as over 4,000 Japanese POWs, living out God's commandment not just to love our neighbors, but to love our enemies as well.

Over the years, following his return from war, Mr. Crenshaw, along with his late wife, Ruth, to whom he was married for 66 years, opened up their home and their hearts to more than 50 young people who were in need of a place to stay, some of them orphans.

At 95, Mr. Crenshaw is the last living chaplain's assistant from World War II, and he still lives every day to the fullest, serving our community and serving the Lord with all his body, soul, and strength.

Mr. Crenshaw, your life of personal sacrifice and faithful service to our country and to the Kingdom of God is an inspiration to all of us. We are all honored to have you here this day.

God bless you, Mr. Crenshaw; God bless the country you fought for and served; and, go, West Texas.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

CUBAN EXILES

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2018 honorees of an organization named FACE, or Facts About Cuban Exiles. The awardees are: Gus Machado, Jorge Santos, and Cesar Pizarro.

These three men embody the drive and spirit of Cuban exiles and have made outstanding contributions to our south Florida community. Since its foundation, FACE has been working to highlight the achievements of the Cuban diaspora in Miami.

FACE has given a voice to refugees like me who had no other choice but to leave our native homeland in search of freedom and human rights here in the U.S. It disseminates the truth about what is occurring in Cuba and ensures that the victims of the communist regime are not forgotten.

Through FACE, and many other organizations that share the same goals, we will finally see a free and democratic Cuba, where citizens are given the opportunity to build up their country, instead of being forced to flee it.

I would like to thank FACE for its work over these 36 years. Again, I congratulate Gus, Jorge, and Cesar on this wonderful, well-deserved honor.

REAUTHORIZING THE FAA

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the House will vote tomorrow to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration.

In 2010, Congress approved landmark flight safety legislation after flight 3407 crashed outside of Buffalo, New York, in 2009. The National Transportation Safety Board concluded that pilot error was the cause of that tragedy.

The bill the House will vote on tomorrow must uphold and reaffirm our commitment to those safety standards. The Southwest Airlines emergency landing 2 weeks ago is an urgent and inspiring reminder of the importance of pilot training to keep the flying public safe.

The Southwest pilot, Tammie Jo Shults, piloted that plane to a safe landing in a calm, controlled, and competent manner borne out of one thing: excellent pilot training.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to stand before you today to celebrate National Small Business Week.

With 30 million small businesses in the country, and nearly 280,000 of those in Utah, I was proud to join with my colleagues on the Small Business Committee to coauthor H. Res. 840 to recognize the vital role of small businesses.