

Hughes. I called CBS and requested a transcript because I want to read that transcript now.

The opening shot, for those who did not see it, was a door opening and a woman by the name of Etta and her family walking out, and a narrator says: "Just after dawn, just east of Charleston, the daily struggle begins for Etta Williams." And Etta sees her kids off to school, and a narrator says: "Even though she was working up to 60 hours a week as a cook at the local Pizza Hut, Etta says she had to go on food stamps to feed her family because her manager was not paying her for all the hours she worked."

Etta says: "They go in, they take your hours, they delete it from your pay."

The narrator says: "This minimum wage mom has joined a dozen other employees suing Pizza Hut saying the company deleted countless hours from their weekly paychecks."

Etta Williams continues: "It is stealing from the poor, stealing, and they are getting rich off of it."

The narrator says that we tried to talk to her manager at Mount Pleasant, SC, Pizza Hut, and the employees called the police.

Then there is a segue to Gregg Dedrick who is a senior vice president eloquently situated in a nice plush office, and he says: "I would say it is unfortunate she feels that way. I think we are a fair employer, we want to pay people a fair day's pay for the work they do, and we have processes in place to resolve those discrepancies."

The narrator then says: "But a former manager at a Pizza Hut in Walterboro, SC, told us a far different story. "Pam Chapman is that former manager who says: I have to live with this. The thought of going and taking hours actually stealing from the employees."

Pam Chapman admitted that every week she entered the computer and deleted hours from workers' payroll. Pam Chapman says: "I have been through 3 previous managers and every last one of them did the same thing."

Then CBS concludes the story by saying all of this comes on the heels of a CBS news investigation into similar allegations at Albertson's grocery stores. In that report which was played as a recent Senate hearing on overtime workers in four States who are suing the grocery store chain claimed they were cheated out of millions of dollars in back pay.

□ 1815

Jenni Perry was a bookkeeper. Jenni says, "I was told by my store director to change, falsify, whatever you want to call it, time cards."

Then CBS goes on to say, "We wondered just how common these kinds of wage complaints are, so we asked the United States Department of Labor. They sent us this, and it was a great big, huge book, a printout, really, about this thick. Last year alone, more

than 12,000 companies were fined a total of \$100 million for not paying employees for all the hours they worked."

Etta Williams ends by saying, "It is not only stealing from me, they are taking away from my children too," which is why Etta Williams decided, in order to protect her family, she was going to have to stand up for herself.

Now, the bill that we passed today has very real implications for the millions of Etta Williamses that are out there across this country, and for the benefit of my constituents, I want to make it clear to them what this is about.

This bill is not family legislation and it needs to be vetoed by the President.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Missouri [Mrs. EMERSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. EMERSON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

BIPARTISAN RETREAT IN HERSHEY A SUCCESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida [Mrs. MEEK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am one of the fortunate Members of the House of Representatives who got the unique opportunity of attending the bipartisan retreat. I must admit, Mr. Speaker, when I was initially invited, I felt, well, this will be just another feel-good session, or it will just be another one of these innocent, well-designed things that would lead to failure.

I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that it was not. It was tremendously successful. I am an experienced educator and an experienced civic-minded person. I have been on many retreats. In my opinion, this was one of the better ones that I have been fortunate enough to attend.

First of all, I think that it is time the House of Representatives realized that it does take getting away from the 435 seats that we sit on the floor of this House, many times. It takes that because the institution itself has divided us geographically from the way we sit on this floor. This retreat did a lot.

I want to commend my colleagues, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SKAGGS], the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. LAHOOD], the gentleman from New York, [Mr. HOUGHTON], the Speaker of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH], the minority leader, the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. SAWYER]. Because of the efforts they put forth in planning this and making it happen, we owe them a debt of gratitude.

I welcomed the opportunity to meet outside of work with many of my col-

leagues, many of whom I had never met before, even though I had seen them passing in the hall. The event was well planned and well organized. Discussion group leaders were extremely helpful, and the sessions were productive. It was wonderful to see so many of my colleagues together with their families.

The presentation by Dr. McCullough, a great scholar, a great writer, was extremely revealing and very provocative, because I have been here 4 years and that was the first time I heard a scholarly approach to the historical perspective of this House.

He gave us a reason to feel that we should be proud of all of the merits that perhaps the American public does not realize as to what this House has done. He did it in such a way, he did not pander to us, he dealt with facts and said we should be very proud. I think that proudness, Mr. Speaker, coming from each one of us, would certainly inhibit some of the incivility we have seen on the floor.

Will it increase civility on the floor? I think it will. I think it improved the respect that we have for each other. I think it gave us a strong perspective of why the House is so important and why our decisions that we make here every day are very important and how they benefit the people of this country.

The design of the workshop was superlative. It was not thrown together. It had goals, it had objectives, it had ways to reach the goals that we sought so well. It had an evaluation so that we could say to the committee, that is what we saw this year; when you have this again, maybe these are some improvements that we would like to see.

I think it was a very, very good use of the money of the people who sponsored it. It was a team-building kind of device. Industry and business, they know how to do these kinds of things, that is, to take you away from the workplace and have you face your colleagues, to have you dialog and to have you meet each other's families. I think this Congress as an institution could take a lesson from business and industry, and this retreat did that. It created that kind of team-building.

There were many good readings which I liked very much. They sent each one of us some pre-readings, and if we read it, it set the tone of what we were there for, and they had research studies that showed. So it was not just a fun thing, even though we did have fun, but it was based on very sound research, and we had very good scholars and good speakers behind it.

It was issue-oriented, family-friendly. It just did me proud as a grandmother to see the families there with their children and the children enjoyed it so much. Was the retreat good? Yes. Was the retreat successful? Yes. The retreat gave us an objective or an outcome that it would take us years to reach if we had not moved out of these 435 seats.

So I want to say to the people who sponsored it, we want it repeated again next year. It was the best.