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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Reverend Henry Holley, Director of Asian Affairs, Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Marietta, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

O Lord, You have said that first of all prayers, supplications, and intercessions be made for those in authority.

I pray for this Chamber of Representatives, that they may have wisdom, integrity, courage, faithfulness in their performance. I pray for the Speaker of this House and our President. Bless each one with Your presence, enfold them with Your love and strengthen them by Your spirit.

May all remember that government is an institution ordained by Almighty God, for Thou does not desire that mankind should live in anarchy in which everyone does that which seems right in his own eyes.

I pray for all citizens of our land. Cause us to know that righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach. May we do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with Thee. God bless America.

I pray this with all respect for persons of other faiths. I pray this in the name of my savior, Jesus Christ. 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.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BALDWIN 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.

INTRODUCTION OF REVEREND HENRY HOLLEY, GUEST CHAPLAIN

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, what a distinct privilege and honor to come before you today to introduce our guest Chaplain, the Reverend Henry Holley. As Members of Congress we are truly blessed with the opportunity to meet and get to know many wonderful Americans from all walks of life, many of whom have dedicated their lives to the betterment of the human race. Henry Holley is one of Georgia's and America's greatest treasures and a man who has given all and then some in his work on behalf of a grateful nation followed by his glorious affiliation with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

Following service in World War II in the Pacific, Reverend Holley continued on active duty in the United States Marine Corps until 1966. He then joined the Reverend Billy Graham, ultimately becoming ordained into the gospel ministry by the Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in my district in Marietta, Georgia.

He has literally given his life to further outreach and evangelism. Reverend Holley has organized 10s of crusades worldwide, many attended by literally millions. The Hong Kong crusade in 1990, for example, extended its message of hope and faith to over 100 million people with the gospel, an effort directed by Reverend Holley.

He has served as a special assistant to Dr. Billy Graham on projects and missions too numerous to count, and has recently lent his talent to Reverend Franklin Graham. Reverend Holley is the embodiment of love and compassion and humility. He has been supported in his life work by Betty, his dear wife of 56 years, who joins us today. For the past 33 years they have made Georgia their home. They have three children and four grandchildren. Reverend Holley has brightened and made more meaningful so many lives, and I am privileged to have been able to add my name to that list. I appreciate the opportunity to share him with the House today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize five 1-minutes on each side.

CAREFUL ADHERENCE TO MEDICATION THERAPIES SAVES LIVES

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

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, failure to take prescription medications properly accounts for approximately 125,000 deaths, and an additional $100 billion per year in preventable hospitalizations, emergency department and repeat physician visits. Twenty-three percent of nursing home admissions and 10 percent of all hospital admissions result from patients failing to take medications properly.

Why do they skip their medications? Some forget, some want to save money,

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some did not believe that drugs were effective. Some doubted they needed to take them, or experienced unwanted side effects. Much of this can be solved by improving communication between doctor and pharmacist and patient.

Under the new Medicare bill, pharmacists will manage and monitor medications for patients with chronic illness. These programs have the potential to save billions of dollars and thousands of lives each year. It is a welcome addition to the Medicare bill and one that will help many seniors.

To learn more about the careful adherence to medication therapies and how they can save lives and money, I would encourage my colleagues to visit my Web site at murphy.house.gov.

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

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

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of National Coming Out Day. Next Tuesday, October 11th, will be the 18th annual National Coming Out Day.

As public officeholders, we know the power of telling real life stories and putting a human face on the policy issues that we deal with to convey the ideas that a dry public policy speech could not convey.

In the movement towards full equality for gay, lesbian, bisexuals and transgender Americans, no actions have been more important than the steps that millions of Americans have taken in being open, truthful, forthright, with their friends, families, coworkers and neighbors about who they are.

For much of history, gays and lesbians were invisible, so people knew us through stereotypes and myths. Visibility serves to shatter those stereotypes. Truth telling not only chips away at the myths, but serves to open minds and hearts.

National Coming Out Day is a time for us to celebrate that freedom and rededicate ourselves to the freedoms yet to be won.

OUTSTANDING SCHOOLS IN OHIO

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, we all know the key to America's future is providing an excellent education for children. As a former school teacher myself, it gives me great pleasure to recognize two school districts located in my congressional district that truly live up to this commitment.

Wyoming City School District was recently named the State's most outstanding school district, receiving the highest performance index score in Ohio's State report card. 100 percent of students tested were at or above the proficient level, and their high school graduation rate has reached 100 percent.

The Oak Hills Local School District was also rated excellent, continuing in its long-standing tradition of academic excellence. Superintendent Patricia Brenneman has a lot to be proud of. With a graduation rate of 98.4 percent, Oak Hills boasts the highest rate of any high school its size in the entire State of Ohio.

These numbers are a testament to the hard work and dedication of the teachers, administrators, parents, and last but not least, the students of Wyoming City Schools and the Oak Hill School District. I would like to congratulate both communities on this outstanding achievement.

HOUSE OF SHAME

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, Republican cronyism here in Washington is something that has become quite evident to people outside the Beltway in recent weeks. I just wanted to reference today an article in the last issue of Newsweek magazine by Jonathan Alter called ''Tom DeLay's House of Shame.'' It talks about how Mr. Alter a decade ago called on TOM DELAY in his ornate office in the Capitol and what he found there.

Alter goes on to say, and I quote, ''Thus began what historians will regard as the single most corrupt decade in the long and colorful history of the House of Representatives. Never before has the leadership of the House been hijacked by a small band of extremists bent on building a ruthless shakedown machine, lining the pockets of their richest constituents and rolling back popular protections for ordinary people.''

He goes on to say that ''the 21st century radical Republican agenda, that is today, repeals health and safety regulations and spends billions on shameless pork-barrel projects to keep the GOP at the trough.''

The bottom line is that Republican cronyism is now evident to everyone.

COOSA MIDDLE SCHOOL

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coosa Middle School in Rome, Georgia, for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education. This award recognizes schools that dramatically improve student performance on State tests and whose students excel at the educational standards set by our States. I am extremely proud Coosa Middle School has attained these goals. Coosa Middle School was one of only 12 middle schools across the Nation to win this prestigious award and the only middle school in the State of Georgia to do so.

Floyd County Superintendent Kelly Henson, Coosa Principal Lisa Landrum, the Floyd County Board of Education and all the teachers at Coosa Middle School deserve our praise and admiration for the fine work they do educating Rome's schoolchildren.

Their efforts show how much our students can achieve when we give them a solid educational foundation based on high expectations and the resources needed to help students meet these expectations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Coosa Middle School.

IRAQ AND THE WAR ON TERROR

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, the President's speech yesterday proved one thing, that this administration is intent on war and nothing else. They are intent on sending more troops to die for a shifting tale of pure fiction, about WMDs, about trying to establish a democracy, about a war on terror.

Come home, America. Deal with the terror of joblessness in the United States. Deal with the terror of lack of adequate health care, of people losing their homes and their hope. Deal with things here at home. Give people a chance to make things work for their families. Create a new WPA program to put millions back to work. Give health care for all. Stop taking this Nation to the edge of total war with the world.

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

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

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, this weekend I had the privilege to lead an armed services congressional delegation to Iraq. We had the great opportunity to visit with our brave fighting men and women, attend briefings by their commanders, and see firsthand the progress that is being made. We visited Camp Victory, Baghdad, Ballad, and Qatar. Our brave men and women are working very hard, they are making incredible progress, they are proud of what they are doing, they are determined to prevent another attack on our Nation, and they know a free and democratic Iraq means the spread of freedom throughout the Middle East and a safer world for all of us.

As these courageous American heroes stand side by side with our allies and with Iraqi soldiers, they want to be assured that the American people support them, that the American people understand the mission, and that the American people understand the threat to the entire world. Today New Yorkers are on alert because of their efforts. What happens in Iraq matters to Americans. I thank them for their service.