

Mr. GOODE. Madam Speaker, high energy prices are a top concern of farmers, small businesses, and citizens across the Fifth District of Virginia. I wish the House would consider a comprehensive measure like the American Energy Act to increase the supply of American-made energy, improve conservation, and promote renewable and alternative energy technologies such as Red Birch Energy's Canola Biodiesel Project in Bassett Forks, Virginia.

Red Birch Energy converts the oil from crushed canola seeds grown by local farmers into a clean-burning, efficient biodiesel fuel that is less efficient than ordinary diesel fuel. Canola provides a great seed for biodiesel production, since the seed's 44 percent oil content is higher than that of soybeans and corn, yet not affecting food prices. The grand opening of their impressive new facility is scheduled for August 25.

I commend Red Birch Energy for their efforts to develop a clean alternative fuel that reduces America's dependence.

WELCOMING MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FROM INDONESIA, KENYA, MACEDONIA, AND UKRAINE

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

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Here in the gallery today are 23 members of Parliament from Indonesia, Kenya, Macedonia, and Ukraine. They are visiting the House of Representatives this week as guests of the House Democracy Assistance Commission. HDAC, chaired by Representative DAVID PRICE, partners with legislative bodies in 12 countries. They are each moving steadily towards democratic governance. The four countries represented here today are among the most promising participants in this important congressional initiative.

The MPs, many of whom are committee chairs, will work directly with Members of Congress to learn how we conduct committee business in the U.S. House. They will take this information back to their respective legislatures and use these concepts and procedures to strengthen their legislative process and, as a result, strengthen their democracy.

I ask that the House give these distinguished guests a warm welcome and offer our strong encouragement for the work that we are doing together. By building relationships with our fellow parliamentarians in emerging democracies and sharing their aspirations for their future, we can promote the safety and security of our own Nation and encourage stability around the world.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER). Members are reminded to refrain from referring to people in the gallery.

GUILELESS MAN—A COMMITTED DEFENDER OF TRUTH

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

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Archbishop Raymond Burke who, for the last 4 years, has served as the head of the archdiocese in St. Louis. Recently, Archbishop Burke was appointed to the position of the Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura in Rome.

During his short tenure in St. Louis, Archbishop Burke helped to revitalize the Catholic community. Under his leadership, the seminary has continued to flourish with respect to the enrollment of the archdiocesan seminarians. I have no doubt that any man with Archbishop Burke's firm convictions and leadership capabilities will flourish wherever he goes.

I congratulate Archbishop Burke on his recent appointment to the position of the Prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura. It's my hope that St. Louis will always be a place he can call home.

Those of us who know him personally know him as a guileless man and a committed defender of truth. Very best wishes, Archbishop Burke, in your new position.

HOUSE DEMOCRATS PROTECT CHILDREN AND CONSUMERS WITH NEW LEGISLATION SCHEDULED FOR TODAY

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

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, the Consumers Union dubbed 2007 the Year of the Recall. This year, product recalls are happening at an even swifter rate. After dangerous toys led to injuries and deaths, the Democratic Congress worked hard to protect our children and families.

This week, will be bringing a final bill to the floor that will strengthen the Consumer Product Safety Commission and ensure that families are protected from dangerous toys. The legislation bans lead beyond small amounts in products intended for children under the age of 12 and prohibits the use of dangerous materials in children's toys.

The bill bans industry-sponsored travel by the Consumer Safety Commissioners and staff in order to eliminate any conflicts of interest. It also provides a significant budget increase for the CPSC so that it has the resources to test more toys. No longer will there only be one tester per toy.

Madam Speaker, let's protect our children today by once again passing legislation with strong bipartisan support.

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY TO COE HAMLING

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor a dear friend and a special American on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Worthy Coe Hamling was born on August 5, 1918, on the plains of South Dakota. Armed with nothing more than the dogged determination, rugged individualism, and an unbending family loyalty, forged by a birth attended only by his mother and God, Coe embodies the greatest qualities of America.

It was at Hamlin University in Minnesota where he met his loving wife of 66 years, Betty. His embrace of freedom, family, and the sanctity of every human being is balanced by his unyielding sense of responsibility and self-reliance.

Living in Roswell, Georgia, Coe proudly anchors a family of five children, ten grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I know the entire House of Representatives joins me in extending a hearty, happy 90th birthday to Coe Hamling, an American treasure.

DEMOCRATS CONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOWER PRICES AT THE PUMP

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

Mr. PALLONE. While Americans suffer pain at the pump, Republicans and President Bush insist on the same old energy policies that put us on this dangerous path to record high gas prices. Instead of looking towards the past, Democrats have been exploring both immediate and long-term solutions to America's energy crisis.

To help consumers suffering right now, this House has passed legislation cracking down on price fixing and price gouging by retailers. We also forced the President to suspend sending oil to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. This week, House Democrats will bring a bill to the floor that will end rampant speculation that is driving up gas prices by closing the Enron loophole. These are all solutions that should help lower prices today.

But we have also passed landmark legislation that will lead to more efficient vehicles when we enacted the first new vehicle fuel efficiency standards in 32 years. These new standards will help drivers with up to \$1,000 a year in gas when it's fully enacted.

Madam Speaker, House Democrats are proposing both short- and long-term solutions to high gas prices, and it's time for congressional Republicans to join us in our efforts.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair