

in Washington and, therefore, unable to vote on that day. My wife Kasey and I became the proud parents of a baby girl, 7 pound, 2 ounce, 21-inch baby girl. This is our second child.

Had I been here, I would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted no on rollcall vote 541, yes on rollcall vote 542, and yes on rollcall vote 543.

Also, Mr. Speaker, if I may, on Thursday, October 26 of this year, yesterday, I again was not able to be in Washington and, therefore, unable to vote because I was picking up my wife Kasey and our newborn baby and taking them both back home from the hospital.

Had I been present, I would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted no on rollcall vote 553, yes on rollcall vote 554, no on rollcall vote 555, no on rollcall vote 556, no on rollcall vote 557, no on rollcall vote 558, no on rollcall vote 559, no on rollcall vote 560, yes on rollcall vote 561, and no on rollcall vote 562.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CROWLEY. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the gentleman, I want to congratulate Kasey, I want to congratulate the new arrival, Kenzie; is that correct?

Mr. CROWLEY. Kenzie, yes.

Mr. HOYER. Seven pounds, two ounces, I understand, of beautiful baby girl. As the father of three young women myself, I know the joy of having a daughter. And, of course, I know the gentleman's son well, and he is going to be blessed with his sister.

I want to say that I am sure there is not a person in this Chamber or an American anywhere who does not think the gentleman made the right judgment. Congratulations to you.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I want to just say that she will be eligible for dating when she is 40 years of age. So I thank all my colleagues very, very much.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman will continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, I would advise him that that is a good theory, but it does not work out in practice.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO BUFFY WICKS

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

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a valued member of my staff here in Washington, Ms. Buffy Wicks, on her completion of the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C. just last Sunday, a marathon which raised millions of dollars for AIDS research.

Although almost 18,000 people took part in this marathon, my wife and I

were watching very carefully Buffy's accomplishment. She committed to raising at least \$1,600, and did not surprise me one bit that she exceeded that goal. She is an intelligent and principled young lady who is an asset to my office and our community. Her dedication to raising money for AIDS follows her commitment to the causes of peace as a graduate student in Peace Research at the University of Oslo, to the American Civil Liberties Union, and to progressive congressional candidates.

I join each and every member of my own staff in saying congratulations on a job well done. Buffy, we are proud of you.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW YORK YANKEES AND NEW YORK METS

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as a Bronx boy born and bred, and as someone who represents Bronx, New York, I want to congratulate the New York Yankees, the World Champions of 2000, for their wonderful season and, therefore, their victory in the World Series yesterday.

When I was growing up, I lived within walking distance from Yankee Stadium. I remember the old teams with Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris, and these Yankees certainly winning the World Series three years in a row shows they are truly champions.

I also want to congratulate the New York Mets for a wonderful, wonderful season and for being the winners of the National League. The subway series, and I went to as many World Series games as I could go to, really has made all of us as New Yorkers proud. In fact, my cap, which says "Subway Series" and has the number 4 train and the number 7 train on it, is something, again, that makes New York very, very, very proud. Not since the 1950s, when I was just a little boy, have we had a subway series in New York, and I have never seen such electricity coming from the city.

So we are all really winners; the New York Mets, the New York Yankees, two great phenomenal teams. I am proud to be a New Yorker, and I say again congratulations to the World Champion New York Yankees and to the National League Champions, the New York Mets.

#### FOND FAREWELL

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

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the privilege of having the floor to address my colleagues, and I stand here out of respect and great admira-

tion and affection for Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle.

Six years ago, when I came first upon the floor of this hallowed institution, I was eyewitness to a moment rare in the history of our Republic. After 40 years of one-party rule, the opposing party came to power. In 50 congressional elections over as many years the House of Representatives had changed hands only eight times and, yes, as a result of each time, the fabric of our democracy was indeed strengthened, strengthened not by mere change of political party alone but by the collective act of ordinary citizens who cared enough to let their will be exercised at the ballot box.

It was a change of power made ever more amazing when cast against a world where such occurrences even in this most sophisticated of ages are too often marked by bloody violence. No blood was shed, thankfully, for ours is a freedom made whole by the sacrifices of generations of Americans who at a tender age put their Nation ahead of themselves.

Our fellow citizens cherish this vibrant and living democracy that manifests itself each day in the august halls of this Congress. It is they who witness a collection in this body of individuals who give hope to the powerless, promise to the forgotten, and justice to the ignored.

With recorded history dating back some 5,000 years, two centuries of the House of Representatives seems somewhat like a relatively new experience and a somewhat new endeavor. However, relatively few have been honored to come to this place to give their vote and their voice for their communities. Since first convened in 1789, fewer than 10,000 people have had the privilege of representing their fellow Americans. It is in that context alone that I stand here humbled and privileged to have been a Member of this august house.

While the focus too often is on the partisan battles that many Americans mistakenly believe consume all our time and energy, the good news is this: that it is truly a deliberative body. As Speaker O'Neill said, when he first took the gavel, "The House is greater than any of us. Its greatness is the product of 435 human beings contending with extraordinary problems." He was right then and he would be right today.

As an institution, we have much for which to be proud. Members of the House really do spend most of their time, I believe, engaged in a quest for solutions to some of the most vexing questions of our day: health care for the uninsured, drugs on our streets, children left behind because of failing schools or the absence of a strong guiding hand, families overwhelmed as they balance their home life and their jobs in search of adequate safe, affordable day care for their children, these and