

One, of course, is one of the most beloved former pages, Donn Anderson, who served this House as the Clerk of the House for many years and has been the staunchest supporter of the page program. Also in that same class was Mr. Ron Lasch who serves as a floor assistant for the Republican majority here and has been a stalwart person for a number of years on behalf of our party in the House of Representatives. Both of them believe so strongly in this institution, and I hope that is part of what you will take away from here.

There is no doubt, as I had that reunion, while I know what you are thinking; you are thinking, certainly I could never look that old some day, but maybe some of you will, although most of you will probably be in much better shape 40 years from now. But what I remember, what I think was evident at that reunion for all of us is this was a very life-changing experience. Several people have talked about the friendships that you will make and that you will have for a lifetime, and you will. It is incredible how bonded our class has become over the years. For all of us, this was very much a life-changing experience. It has brought us closer to each other through the trials and tribulations; and yes, I am sad to say we have lost 4 members of our class now. But it has brought us closer together. And as we watched our families grow, we have shared those experiences with each other. That is very much the human part of what this program is all about.

I am often asked as a member of the page board, why do we need a page program? Why do we not just hire messengers? It would be so much easier to do that than to maintain a staff and a place for the pages to live and a school and all of that. There is no question there are easier ways to handle the invaluable services that you provide for us. But I do not think there are very many Members of this House of Representatives that have ever wanted to give up this program, because we all understand that it is an opportunity every year to give a handful, a small handful, but a wonderful handful of young people an opportunity to understand their government in a way that their friends and classmates and others across this country will never, ever be able to have.

But you can share that experience with them. That is really the message that I want to leave with you today as you go forward from this experience. You go forward as ambassadors, really, for our government, for the institutions of democracy that make this country such a great place. Your responsibility, having completed this year as pages, is not to be elected to office, though there will be some of you that will be elected. I will guarantee somebody in this class that will be serving some day in the House of Rep-

resentatives or the United States Senate, and others of you will serve in State legislatures and city councils and school boards, other kinds of equally important tasks in life. Your job is not to be elected and your job is not to make as much money as Bill Gates; very few of us could ever hope to accomplish that. But your job is to serve, to serve your community, your country, your family in the best way possible. You have been given a great opportunity, and I know that each and every one of you will make the very most of this opportunity.

So I hope that you will go out from here and help others understand what our government is about, and how wonderful it is, because these institutions of democracy, for all of their failings, is still the very best that we have been able to devise. You have done us a great service during this last year. Sometimes we do not even realize how the work of the House of Representatives depends on what you are doing every day, and it becomes a part of us, and yet you are so important to the operation of this House. So we will miss you. On Monday there will be a new batch of pages in here, and we will all be busy trying to orient them and get to know them. But we will miss you, and we hope that you will stay in touch with us and with others that you have gotten to know back here; and we look forward to the great service that you will be providing for your country in whatever capacity that might be, and there will be very many different kinds of things.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I will enter into the RECORD a list of all of the pages.

Max Abbott, Dominic Adams, Sarah Baca, Thomas Bazan, Christopher Bower, Geoffrey Brown, Diane Bruner, Michael Buck, Eric Cercone, Adam Cheatham, Christopher Clark, David Cook, Andrew D'Anna, Ashley Daugherty, Ashley Foster, Katherine Fortune, Kara Frank, Amy Gaddis, Adam Gellman, Dana Hall, Kristopher Hart, Laura Heaton, Androni Henry, Rebecca Hoffman, William Hooper, Jay Kanterman, James Kelley Stevens, Kelly, Susanna Khalil, Jule Kolbe, Julia Koplewski, David Kroontje and Adam Kwasman.

Ray LaHoud, Andrew Lerch, Yun Hsin (Amy) Leung, Brad Lyman, Alison Lowery, Renee Mack, Megan Marshburn, Jeffrey Mannion, Marcella Martinez, Lindsay Moon, Clinton Morris, Nancy Nicolas, Casey Osterkamp, Parker Payne, Ashley Percy, Christopher Perr, Jessica Porras, Tessa Powell, Lindsey Ransdell, Jennifer Reed, Moriah Reed, A.J. Rosenfeld, Chase Rowan, Danielle Ruse, David Schweinfurth, Samuel Sinkin, Megan Smith, Nouvelle Stubbs, Erin Sweeney, Christine Tancinco, Anika Tank, Margaret Theobald, Lindsay Thomson, Amber Walker, Lauren Weeth, Julie Wise and Jessica Wood.

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I would, in conclusion, also just like to mention my own page, as others have done, Adam Kwasman from Tucson. He has been a great page this last year and has become a great friend of mine, but each

and every one of you have become great friends of mine. Some I have gotten to know, obviously, better than others. But I admire what you have done, we appreciate the service, we thank you for that, and we wish you Godspeed. Thank you.

□ 1415

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2000

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

REAPPOINTMENT AS MEMBER TO FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER FOUNDATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 629(b) and upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader, the Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment of the following member on the part of the House to the Federal Judicial Center Foundation for a 5-year term:

Mr. Benjamin Zelenko of Maryland.

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF FIRST FLIGHT CENTENNIAL FEDERAL ADVISORY BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, pursuant to section 12(b)(1) of the Centennial of Flight Commemoration Act (36 U.S.C. 143) and upon the recommendation of the minority leader, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following citizen on the part of the House to the First Flight Centennial Federal Advisory Board:

Ms. Mary Mathews of Ohio.

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order