

There would be no better way to honor the Fourth of July, our Founders and our heritage, than to celebrate this glorious day by opening our embassies not to the Iranian Government, but to these students who desire freedom and liberty.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING COACH ED THOMAS OF PARKERSBURG, IOWA

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

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, a year ago, I stood in this well with a heavy heart and asked for a moment of silence for the Town of Parkersburg that was destroyed by an F5 tornado. The high school was destroyed, and the most visible face of the recovery in Parkersburg was legendary football coach Ed Thomas, whose home was destroyed in that tornado. Coach Thomas emerged from the rubble with tears in his eyes, pledged to rebuild the school, rebuild the community and help heal the sorrow.

Ed and his wife, Jan, moved into an apartment above the True Value Hardware store in downtown Parkersburg. Ed went back to what he did best, working with young people and inspiring them to become better people.

Yesterday morning, as Coach Thomas was at the school he loved working with young people, a lone gunman entered the school and shot and killed Ed Thomas in front of 20 to 30 high school students.

Ed Thomas coached for 37 years. He had a career record of 292-84, including two State championships, 19 State playoff appearances, and, get this, in a town of 280 students in high school, four of his students played in the National Football League.

Coach Thomas said, "We don't talk about winning and losing. We talk about the little things. If we take care of the little things, the rest will take care of itself."

Mr. Speaker, I will be asking for everyone to give their thoughts and prayers to Ed's wife, Jan, their extended family and the community of Parkersburg as they struggle with this senseless loss.

SMOKING IN THE MOVIES

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, at a time when policy makers are doing everything they can to reduce smoking in our society, one area of smoking prevention remains unchallenged: Smoking in the movies.

Studies have shown that viewing smoking in the movies normalizes smoking among youth. It glamorizes smoking through the attractiveness of the actors and characters who smoke. These attitude changes lead to smok-

ing experimentation, which in turn leads to harmful and addictive habits.

Tobacco is still depicted in three-quarters of youth-rated movies and 90 percent of R-rated movies. Movies targeting impressionable youth should be the last place for gratuitous smoking images.

Dartmouth Medical School found that up to one-half of the youth smoking initiation is explained by exposure to smoking in the movies in their studies.

Parents should know they are exposing their kids to glamorized depictions of smoking when they allow them to see youth-related movies by the rating system.

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HONORING TUN JUAN AGUON SANCHEZ

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

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands. Tun Juan Aguon Sanchez has made many exceptional contributions to the history, art and culture of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

But Tun Juan's greatest legacy is his poetry, written in vernacular Chamorro. Tun Juan's poems touch on life in the islands, the value of respecting other people, and the essential ingredients to making a life worth living. Tun Juan's poems are lyrical reminders of the love we feel for our island home.

Tun Juan also wrote about the world beyond our islands. At a time when our sole access to the outside world was a government radio station and a weekly newspaper, Tun Juan captured our admiration for leaders like President John F. Kennedy and his Holiness Pope John Paul, II.

Tun Juan's work has recently been collected so that for generations to come, his words will continue to convey the perspective, the faith and the love that he had for the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Tan Iku, Godspeed and Si Yu'us Ma'a'se for all that you have done for your people and islands.

ALL-OF-THE-ABOVE ENERGY STRATEGY

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the Old Book contains an admonition to lawmakers with these words: Woe to you because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift a finger to help them.

In the midst of the worst economy in a generation, remarkably, House

Democrats are poised this week to load the American people down with a national energy tax, and the American people deserve to know it.

Now there is lots of debate about what this bill will cost the average American, but there is no dispute the Democrat cap-and-trade bill will raise the cost of energy to every household in America, every small business, every family farm; and it will cost millions of American jobs. And the vote is tomorrow.

If you oppose a national energy tax, I say call your Congressman. If you think the Democrat cap-and-trade bill will cap growth and trade jobs, call your Congressman. And if you believe the American people deserve an all-of-the-above energy strategy that will create jobs, achieve energy independence and a cleaner environment, endorse the Republican alternative and call your Congressman.

A minority in Congress plus the American people equals a majority. We can reject cap-and-trade this week, and so we must.

INALIENABLE RIGHTS

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

Mr. ARCURI. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to say how thankful I am to live in such a great country, a country where we have inalienable rights guaranteed to us by our Nation's founding documents, and the knowledge that our government is set up to protect those rights.

We know that we are guaranteed the right to peaceful, public protest, and we see many great Americans utilizing that right here in Washington, D.C., on a daily basis. It is not until haunting and disturbing images of blatant violence and oppression run across the front pages of our newspapers and TV screens that we realize how important these rights are.

The people of Iran are expressing themselves peacefully in the streets, and are being viciously attacked by armed guards and police. The violence needs to end now, and the people of Iran should be heard.

I want to commend President Obama for his leadership and his judgment in such a difficult and intense foreign policy crisis, and I agree with his resistance to instigate a foreign nation through demagoguery, a distinct difference from the carelessness that sometimes was used by administrations in the past.

Let me be clear, I know the world understands that the United States will always vehemently oppose oppression and violence against a nation's people and we will do everything we can to ensure this type of behavior is not tolerated. I thank President Obama for his thoughtful leadership on this matter and offer my support in the future.