

will not be available when they cut \$1 billion from Medicaid and \$500 million from Medicare in their tax proposal, when they put 23 million people off of healthcare, the Affordable Care Act, which is what they tried to do but couldn't accomplish.

It is difficult to sit here and watch what is happening to our country. Having the Trump administration tell the middle class they are going to get a tax cut on the one hand, but on the other hand, they are creating over a trillion dollars in debt, where is that debt going to come from? It is going to come from programs that the middle class will have to give up, so they will be net losers.

One of the main thrusts of their tax proposal is to eliminate the State tax, originally to do it immediately. Now they are talking about maybe phasing it out over 5 or 6 years. That will cost the Federal budget \$290 billion. That will come from Pell grants that give people the opportunity to go to college and not have a terrible debt over their heads when they leave; from SNAP payments that give nutritional benefits to people that otherwise would go without, the families that would go without food and proper nutritional benefits; and even LIHEAP, which gives help with heating bills to people who can't afford it in difficult winter conditions.

What they are proposing is not a middle class tax cut. It is a cut for the wealthiest in our country, and that is who will get the benefits. That is who they are about.

Their whole program is KISS: Keep it simple, stupid. That is the only way they can try to sell their wealthy tax break, their aims to prevent women from getting proper healthcare, and their attacks on women in general.

It is unfortunate what we see, what we saw earlier this week in the indictments handed out to Mr. Manafort, Mr. Gates, and the guilty plea of Mr. Papadopoulos. Individuals involved with the campaign and the administration have not been the best, as they were supposed to be. In fact, they are suspected of criminal behavior, and one has admitted to it.

Our democracy is at risk, and I fear what could happen to it. That is why I introduced an amendment to the Constitution to limit the President's pardon power so he couldn't pardon himself, members of his family, members of his administration, or paid members of his campaign staff.

He has already pardoned Joe Arpaio, and he has threatened to use that power in furtherance as he discussed the possibility of pardoning himself. If he does so, any of these pardons, it will be a test of our democracy, and it will be a test of my colleagues on the other side.

We must protect democracy and protect America from unlawful activity.

God bless America.

NEW YORK CITY TERRORIST ATTACK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, earlier this week a driver whom law enforcement has identified as Sayfullo Saipov, violently rammed his pickup truck into a crowd in Manhattan, killing 8 people and injuring 11. Local officials called it the deadliest attack since September 11, 2001, in that city.

My heart breaks for those who have lost their lives—for their families, for their friends, and for their colleagues—due to this violent act. Two Americans and six of whom were tourists visiting our Nation and New York City to experience the wonders of America's largest metropolis met the crass act, the murderous act of a terrorist.

Our Nation's deep gratitude goes out to the first responders. Imagine these heroic Americans who intervened under very chaotic circumstances to bring down this criminal. Imagine yourself in that position.

This attack raises many questions about how this individual came to America and how he was allowed to stay. The President's tweets obliquely blame this person or that person, some in Congress, some not in Congress, but he misses the larger point: our Federal Government, the legislative branch—the first defined in our Constitution—the executive branch, and the judicial branch, need to work together to tackle our flawed immigration system.

□ 1030

How can we make it more secure while upholding our values as a nation of immigrants? The Bible reminds us: At one point, you and your predecessors and your family were aliens, too.

These are the questions to which we should be dedicating ourselves. We have security systems we must perfect, but it requires working together. We are supposed to be the adults in the Republic. A true leader would convene a working group of both parties, along with other experts, to tackle these security challenges brought to light again by this tragedy. Wouldn't that be constructive? Instead, there is more division. That is not a recipe for success.

Let's not forget a comprehensive bill passed in the Senate in 2013, on a vote of 68-32 and a bipartisan House companion bill that had 201 cosponsors, but the Republican-controlled House here refused to bring that bill to the floor for a vote. That bipartisan reform bill on immigration eliminated the diversity visa lottery by which the murderer got into this country. Imagine if that bill had been passed. We would be in a different position.

We can work together, but we must move past the fear-mongering, the talking points, the cheap political stunts to appeal to a media that runs 24/7 and just looks for more fodder. Our job in Congress is to defend our Con-

stitution and, in so doing, defend liberty. This includes our primary responsibility to work together to assure that our people feel safe and secure. We defend the Constitution by defending and protecting them.

The goal must not be division. The goal cannot be shallow attention and tweets on social media and cable news. Our people have a higher calling that our Constitution defines. The recent terrible tragedy in New York City reminds us that unity is always powerful, and it surmounts division.

It is time for that unity in this Capitol, and I look for the leadership in the Presidency, in this Chamber, and in the judicial branch to achieve it.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 32 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS) at noon.

PRAYER

Pastor Kenneth Codner, Grace Baptist Church, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, I am humbled to be able to stand before You on behalf of this assembly here today.

Lord, we are sinners, deserving none of Your favor. But, Father, I come to You on the merit of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who washed me from my sins in His shed blood.

Father, we are aware, more than any, of the bitter divisiveness throughout this room and across this Nation of ours. I know that this grieves Your heart, Father. I pray that we would repent of our sins, that You might forgive them and heal this land of ours.

Father, I pray that You will work in the hearts of the Members of Congress, that they be willing to put aside their political expedience and partisan politics and personal agendas, that they would strive to do what is best for our Nation as a whole and uphold the Constitution which they avowed to uphold, that they would seek to do what is pleasing in Your sight, that they would seek Your will and wisdom for the decisions of this day and each and every day.

I ask these things in the precious name of Jesus Christ, my Savior.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas 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.

WELCOMING PASTOR KENNETH CODNER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Pastor Kenneth Codner to the House of Representatives as today's guest chaplain.

Pastor Codner is a native of Owego, New York, and he graduated from Alfred Agricultural and Technical College in 1973.

A couple of years later, through the help of a coworker, he trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal savior. And he had a desire to make his life count for God.

In 1976, he enrolled in the Bible program at Tennessee Temple University. Two years later, he transferred to North Star Bible Institute in Rochester, New York, graduating in 1983, with a degree in theology.

In June 1983, he moved to Kansas to be the pastor of the Gove Bible Baptist Church, serving there for 17 years.

He is married to Eileen Garrison, and God blessed their union with five wonderful children.

In September of 2000, they moved to Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. In 2002, he founded the Grace Baptist Church, where he has served as pastor ever since.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to have Pastor Codner and his family here today.

PROVIDING FOR A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF S. 782

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 28) providing for a correction in the enrollment of S. 782, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 28

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That in the enrollment of the bill S. 782, the Secretary of the Senate shall make the following corrections:

(1) In section 2, strike "42 U.S.C. 17601 et seq." and insert "34 U.S.C. 21101 et seq.".

(2) In section 2, strike "42 U.S.C. 17617(a)(10)" and insert "34 U.S.C. 21117(a)(10)".

The concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

AND THE FANS GO WILD

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is game seven of the World Series. Best hitting team in baseball, the Houston Astros Orange, vs. the best pitching team in baseball, the LA Dodgers Blue. The series is tied up three games apiece.

Top of the second inning, Springer is at the plate. It is the third pitch. Springer loads up and belts it. Home run. Springer smacks his fifth round tripper of the World Series. The Astros are up 5-0.

Next inning—next several innings—all the bats are silent, except LA, the best record team in baseball, gets a run.

It is the bottom of the ninth. The Astros take the field. Score: 5-1. One out. Two outs. Houston pitcher Morton sends a sinker straight across the plate. It is a ground ball. Three outs.

It is all over but the shouting. Astros win! Astros win! Astros win! World Series Champions of 2017.

The championship predicted in 2014 by "Sports Illustrated" with Springer on the cover finally happens after 55 years.

And the city of Houston goes ASTRONOMICAL.

And that is just the way it is.

TAX PLAN

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the Tax Policy Center, the Wharton School, and virtually every rational economist have reviewed the House Republican tax cut plan and the results are clear: no new good economic growth, big debt and deficit, and big tax cuts for corporations and very rich Americans.

Three million wealthy Americans will get a tax cut next year of \$220,000; 250 million not-so-rich Americans will

get a tax cut of \$221. If you make \$730,000, your income next year will increase by 8.5 percent. If you make \$150,000, it will increase by 1 percent.

Where are all of the deficit hawks? Where are any of the deficit hawks?

This tax plan is nothing more than fraud being perpetrated against middle America.

I ask my colleagues to reject this plan.

CHAMPIONING HEALTHY KIDS

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

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support the CHAMPIONING HEALTHY KIDS Act. This critical healthcare legislation provides a 5-year extension to the CHIP program that so many children and low-income families rely on.

In my district alone, over 21,000 children use CHIP for access to low-cost healthcare services.

I am also proud that this legislation includes a needed 2-year extension of funding for community health centers. This is an issue I have worked hard on, as almost 95,000 people in my district receive critical healthcare and preventative services from these centers.

There is still much more work to do to improve our healthcare system for families in the north country.

In Congress, I will keep fighting to protect the programs our district depends on, and I will continue working toward the affordable, high-quality healthcare system that my district deserves.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank the Houston Astros for winning the World Series and giving some folks in Houston and southeast Texas something to cheer about. We have had a tough few months, but you could see from last night that there is a lot of cheering in Houston.

But I am here to talk about a major issue that is really important: the Children's Health Insurance Program—the CHIP program—and the federally qualified health centers. Both programs are bedrocks of our health system, providing health insurance for over 9 million lower income children, and serving on the front lines of primary care, providing high-quality primary and preventative care for 25 million Americans.

Congress let funding for these programs expire more than a month ago, and we must act in a bipartisan manner to strengthen and sustain them. Both CHIP and community health centers have always had strong bipartisan