

Mr. DAVIDSON 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 REVEREND STEVEN E. BOES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and recognize Father Steven E. Boes, who joined us today to deliver the opening prayer.

Father Boes is the fifth executive director of Boys Town, which is in Nebraska's Second Congressional District and is celebrating its 100th birthday this month.

Father Boes was ordained as a priest in 1985 for the Archdiocese of Omaha and assumed his post at Boys Town in July 2005. He regularly attends sporting and school events at Boys Town High School and dines with kids in their family homes, and I have joined them.

Under his leadership, the number of children served through Boys Town's on-campus, family-style care and programs serving children in their homes and communities has doubled. The Family Home Program, started in 1974, has served 36,000 children to date.

Boys Town Foster Family Services program has cared for nearly 9,000 youth to date, and the In-Home Family Services program has helped approximately 102,600 youth without having to remove them from their homes. Boys Town also has emergency services that have served over 45,000 youth.

The man who started this all 100 years ago, Father Edward Flanagan, was truly a visionary for changing how America cared for families and children. He worked to close reformatories and juvenile facilities where children were abused, eventually opening Father Flanagan's Boys' Home, which became Boys Town. He has made a life-long impact on thousands upon thousands who were given a rough start in life.

Boys Town now has nine locations across the country including Nevada; Louisiana; north Florida; central Florida; south Florida; Washington, D.C.; New England; Iowa; and Nebraska.

From Father Flanagan to Father Boes, many lives have been impacted.

I recognize Boys Town for 100 years of service to the community and America.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

RECOGNIZING EDDY ACEVEDO

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today is a bittersweet day for our office because we bid farewell to my senior foreign policy adviser and subcommittee staff director, Eddy Acevedo—a native Miami boy and a proud Nicaraguan American.

For over a decade, Eddy and I have worked side by side to advance the issues critical to U.S. interests at home and around the globe. Eddy's depth of knowledge and his political acumen are only eclipsed by his passion and his kindness.

But don't let that fool you, Mr. Speaker. He is a bulldog when it comes to advancing our core ideals, like the respect for human rights and the promotion of democratic principles. That is why he is an ideal fit for his next role as deputy assistant administrator and chief legislative strategist with the USAID. I have no doubt that we will hear many great things from Eddy in the future.

Mr. Speaker, Eddy is more than just my most trusted adviser. He is my dear friend, and he will be very much missed. So our staff and our family wish him and his wife, Luly, all the best as they enter this next new, exciting chapter of their life together.

GOP TAX SCAM

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this holiday season the Republican majority has been working overtime on a tax plan that gives permanent tax cuts to wealthy families and corporations funded by raising taxes on middle class families.

As the Republican majority tries to disguise its tax plan as a beautifully wrapped gift, the American people need to know that there are negative healthcare effects hidden inside the plan.

By passing this tax plan, there would be automatic cuts to Medicare to the tune of \$25 billion a year. In addition, this plan could cause an extra 13 million people to become uninsured. The tax bill will explode our debt or will cut Medicare and Medicaid.

It has been more than 2 months since Congress should have reauthorized the Children's Health Insurance Program and federally qualified health centers. This is the first time in history that these programs have been held hostage to the legislative process.

Instead of racing to reauthorize these popular bipartisan programs, the Republican majority instead has neglected children across the country solely to provide tax cuts to corporations and wealthy individuals.

Mr. Speaker, this plan is not for the many, but it is only for the few.

RECOGNIZING JERUSALEM AS THE CAPITAL OF ISRAEL

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to President Donald Trump and Ambassador Nikki Haley—South Carolina's former Governor—for the announcement that the United States will recognize Jerusalem as the capital city of Israel and relocate the American Embassy to the holy city which protects all religions.

As President Trump said at the White House: "This long overdue recognition of reality is in the best interests of both the United States and the pursuit of peace between Israel and the Palestinians."

America's bond with Israel is unique, and its strength is the foundation for peace through stability for all of the Middle East providing for prosperity for all countries.

The President's announcement strengthens that alliance, and I appreciate his honoring another of his campaign commitments. Friends of Israel know they have a true friend in the White House, which was heartfelt when I met last month with Sheldon and Miriam Adelson at the Washington Convention Center.

President Trump's team is leading boldly. The President is clear: peace is never beyond the grasp of those willing to reach for it.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism, just as America had resolved December the 7th, 1941.

END HUNGER NOW: FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, my dear friend and colleague from Maine, Representative PINGREE, hosted a panel discussion on the Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program.

Experts from Wholesome Wave, the American Heart Association, and War on Poverty—Florida briefed congressional staff on how we can improve health outcomes for people living in poverty by increasing access to healthy, fresh produce. It is a simple concept with incredible results.

Currently, healthcare providers at 34 clinics across 10 States provide individuals and family members with prescriptions for fruits and vegetables and \$1 per day per family member to purchase these nutritious foods.

The program has significantly increased food security among its participants and has enabled these families to increase their vegetable consumption by an astounding 206 percent.