

neighbors, but he would appear to be ignorant of the fact that it is not a shared history. Our neighbor's history is our American history.

OPIOID CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the opioid crisis. Opioid addiction is sweeping the Nation. It is an epidemic that knows no race, gender, income, or marital status, and certainly no political party.

As we continue to work together here in Washington to combat that crisis, I met with the physicians in Hutchinson, Kansas, who have taken responsibility and ownership of this issue. They have developed their own scientific and compassionate approach to curb addiction in their community.

The Hutchinson Clinic has created an office-wide task force, working with nurses, pharmacists, physicians, and social workers, that outlines steps and procedures to reduce the number of narcotics prescribed in their medical practice.

When I met with the staff and physicians yesterday, they explained that these new steps will not only reduce the number of people unnecessarily exposed to narcotics, but identify patients at risk for addiction. They will use clinical-wide protocols and best practices, which will eliminate doctors shopping for narcotics and manage chronic pain and acute pain more uniformly.

I was heartened to hear the success stories of many of their patients being fully removed from narcotic prescriptions after years of narcotic use. They have carefully tried to sit down with all of their patients on chronic narcotics, and, in many cases, they uncovered some type of an underlying depression or psychosomatic issue that could be resolved with counseling and other medications. In some instances, they found out that the patient was not taking the narcotics but, rather, a family member was selling them.

In either case, they are trying to use a compassionate approach to deal with this growing problem. This is a great prevention and awareness approach. As a physician of 30 years, we must make sure that prescribers understand the risks involved with these highly addictive drugs and minimize addiction.

While we continue to look at solutions here in Washington, I am proud that physicians, nurses, and pharmacists in Kansas are also finding solutions by looking in the mirror and recognizing there are steps that communities, physicians, nurses, social workers, and pharmacists working together can take to prevent addiction before it ever starts.

This month, as the House continues approaching dozens of bills that work on this epidemic from every angle, I want to take time to applaud the

Hutchinson Clinic—the physicians, the nurses, the pharmacists, the social workers, and their staff—for the action that they are taking in implementing solutions that are working, for those closest to the problem will have the best solutions.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

Dr. Ron Bracy, Geneva Classical Christian School, Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Almighty, sovereign, creator and eternal holy God, You have shown great kindness and mercy to all Your people. Let Your ears be attentive and Your eyes open to this prayer for Your servants, these men and women of Congress, who are Your representatives of the people of this Nation.

May we remember that in the beginning You gave us this Nation and the freedoms and abundant blessings we enjoy.

But O, Lord God, we confess our sins toward You. We have not obeyed the simplest of Your commandments: "To love the Lord God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, with all your mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself."

We ask that You grant us forgiveness and give us wisdom, understanding, and compassion to these Your servants.

In the name of God, our heavenly father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the holy spirit.

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.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the

ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. MCCOLLUM 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 DR. RON BRACY

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Dr. Ron Bracy as our guest chaplain.

Dr. Bracy has served our Nation in uniform and through his faith. He entered the Air Force Academy after high school and served in the U.S. Air Force for 42 years.

Dr. Bracy is a veteran of the Vietnam war, where he flew 183 combat missions and was on duty in the Pentagon during the 9/11 terrorist attack.

He is a retired minister and author of "Walk On: From the Valley of Despair to the Mountaintop of Praise."

He has taught at all levels of education, and currently teaches at the Geneva Classical Christian School in Texas.

Dr. Bracy was my family pastor for many years. He and his wife, Judith, are truly loved.

We are incredibly blessed to have Dr. Bracy here with us today.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT-ELECT IVAN DUQUE OF COLOMBIA

(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, congratulations to President-elect Ivan Duque on being elected the new president of Colombia on Sunday, achieving 10 million votes, with one of the largest voter turnouts in the history of Colombia.

At 41, President-elect Duque will be one of the youngest presidents in the country's history. The father of three is married to Maria Juliana Ruiz.

I know firsthand of the talented people of Colombia, as former co-chairman of the Partners of Americas program, hosting students from Colombia with two of my sons as exchange students to Colombia.