

his van coasted with its electrical systems failing on Indiana State Road 67. Todd Buchanan is a 39-year-old quadriplegic. The electrical system in his van not only failed, but the sparks ignited a flame; and he sat helpless, unable to extricate himself from his vehicle with no one in sight.

At that moment with smoke and flames beginning to emit from the hood of the car, Allen Webster passing by pulled his car over and immediately began to reach into the flames and into the smoke to extricate him. Muncie police officer Kyle Temple joined as well as nearly a dozen passersby, and one police officer fought through the flames to their own injury to extricate Todd Buchanan safely.

The Bible says "No greater love has a man than this, that he should lay down his life for his friends." Todd Buchanan is alive this morning and grateful to Allen Webster, Officer Kyle Temple, and many others because they brought this proverb to life and showed no greater love on Highway 67 yesterday, and they are rightly remembered on this floor of this Congress today.

#### CONGRATULATIONS KERRY-EDWARDS

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

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Senator JOHN KERRY for naming North Carolina's JOHN EDWARDS to the Democratic ticket. As our State's favorite son, Senator JOHN EDWARDS has done North Carolina proud time and again throughout his career as a people's lawyer, in the Senate, and on the Presidential campaign trail. He will do great things for our Nation.

My friend JOHN EDWARDS is in touch with the heartbeat of America because he has lived the American Dream. Growing up in the small rural town of Robbins, North Carolina, JOHN EDWARDS learned the values of hard work, a quality education, and helping lift up those around him who suffered hardship. He is a living example of what we call North Carolina values.

Mr. Speaker, America needs new leadership at the national level to make our country stronger at home and more respected around the world. America needs new leadership that represents the values, dreams, and aspirations of the middle-class families, those families struggling to make it into the middle class and those families struggling to stay in the middle class.

Mr. Speaker, Senator KERRY's choice of JOHN EDWARDS for a running mate is good news for North Carolina and good news for America.

#### CLINTON DEMOCRATS ARE WRONG ON TAX RELIEF

(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 recent fundraiser, a group of well heeled Democratic contributors were told: "Many of you are well enough off that . . . the tax cuts may have helped you. We are saying that for America to get back on track, we are probably going to cut that short and not give it to you. We are going to take things away from you on behalf of the common good."

If these campaign contributors believe the tax relief affected only a few rich people, they are wrong. If none of this tax relief had become law in 2004, 11 million Americans would pay on an average of over \$1,500 more in taxes, 49 million married couples would pay over \$2,600 more in taxes, 11 million single women with children would pay over \$900 more in taxes, 14 million elderly individuals would pay over \$1,800 more in taxes, nearly 5 million individuals and families who currently have no income tax liability would have to pay the income tax.

The fact is middle-class families, small business owners, who have created most of our 1½ million new jobs this year, are not rich as some of our friends would have us believe.

#### HALLIBURTON AND VICE PRESIDENT CHENEY

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

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, a recent editorial in the Columbus Ohio Dispatch reads thusly: "The steady stream of revelations of colossal waste, mismanagement, and possible corruption by Halliburton and other U.S. contractors in Iraq demands an immediate and thorough investigation. At the same time, Vice President DICK CHENEY should be forthcoming with the House Committee on Government Reform."

Among the accusations, a former logistics specialist said that Halliburton housed employees at \$10,000 per day, a five-star hotel in Kuwait. A woman who handled subcontracts said the company paid \$100 per bag for laundry service. A former employee said that Halliburton ordered that spare parts be removed from \$85,000 trucks; if they got a flat tire, just burn the vehicle. These reports come on top of the fact that when one contract for Halliburton to provide meals was cancelled, the cost of food service decreased by 40 percent.

Halliburton and CHENEY owe the American people answers about how our tax dollars are being spent.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair must remind all Members that remarks in debate may not engage in personalities towards the President or

the Vice President. Policies may be addressed in critical terms, but personal references of an offensive or accusatory nature are not proper.

#### ENDING THE VISA LOTTERY

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

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, we enjoy our current prosperity because of the American work ethic, that hard work, sacrifice, perseverance, and doing the right thing really pay off in the end.

Unfortunately, the visa lottery teaches the exact opposite to those who would immigrate to the United States. It condones crime by allowing illegal immigrants to apply. It promotes fraud by allowing these illegal immigrants to enter the lottery under multiple different names. It lets those who did not work, who did not sacrifice or persevere to step in front of those who did by giving all an equal chance at a visa regardless of skills, education, or even humanitarian needs.

To allow the lottery system to continue to bring 50,000 people a year into our country while completely circumventing our legal and moral code is a crime against every American.

I urge my colleagues to join me and cosponsor the SAFE Act, H.R. 775, and repeal this visa lottery scam.

#### THREATENED POLLINATORS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, on the floor of the House, we are often involved with contentious, hard political choices. Many of the sharpest disagreements deal with the environment. We look forward in the fall to a spirited debate between President Bush and Senator KERRY about their rhetoric and their actions in protecting our environment.

But one critical area that actually brings us together is on exhibit a short 10 minutes away from this House Chamber, down the hill at the National Botanical Gardens. This exhibit deals with the tens of thousands of threatened pollinators who make possible our quality of life, our agricultural bounty, things that range from fresh fruits and chocolate, flowers, even Tequila and other exotic items. These key species, from honey bees, fruit bats, butterflies, are, in fact, at risk. We in Congress, we as the American public, need to be aware of this. This is one of the environmental issues that is not that contentious, it is not that expensive, and, in fact, brings us together. I urge my colleagues to take advantage of the pollinator exhibit at the Botanical Gardens.

#### HONORING SERGEANT MAJOR ALFORD McMICHAEL

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Major Alford McMichael who will be inducted in the Arkansas Walk of Fame in his hometown of Hot Springs this Friday.

Alford McMichael became the first African American sergeant major of the United States Marine Corps on July 1, 1999. He left that post last year to become the senior enlisted adviser to NATO, the first person to fill this newly created position.

During his 30-plus years in the Marine Corps, Sergeant Major McMichael has earned numerous personal decorations including the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, and the Meritorious Service Medal with gold star.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of meeting Sergeant Major McMichael during a NATO parliamentary assembly trip and can attest to how very worthy he is of this tribute. It is my hope that by being honored on the Arkansas Walk of Fame, future generations will learn the inspirational story of Alford McMichael.

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#### HHS IG REPORT

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, Inspector General's report released yesterday determined that the Medicare actuary provided accurate cost information about the Medicare bill to a select group of Members of Congress but not to all Members of Congress. This was because the Medicare administrator at the time threatened the actuary, Richard Foster, with the loss of his job if he disclosed the accurate information to all Members of Congress. These Members, the select group, chose to keep this information to themselves from other Members of Congress and, more importantly, from all the American taxpayers who are footing the bill for the \$550 billion Medicare bill.

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When we debated the Medicare bill on this floor, leaders in this Congress told us it would cost \$400 billion, and we believed that this was true to the best of their knowledge. It is unfortunate that Members of this House were disrespectful to the taxpayers who are now going to pay an additional \$150 billion, and with their colleagues, they withheld essential information about the true cost of the prescription drug bill. Even before a single senior citizen has received the benefit, taxpayers will be hit with another \$150 billion bill.

This unwelcome surprise could have been avoided if this administration, Members of Congress and the leadership had shared the information they had about this bill.

#### UNFAIR URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE ALLOCATIONS

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

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise in protest once again in regard to the unfair allocation of Urban Area Security Initiative grants from the Department of Homeland Security by the city of Miami. Broward County in my district has not received nearly enough, not nearly enough, for the funding it needs to keep our critical infrastructure safe from terrorist attacks.

On Sunday, a man crashed his SUV into a crowded terminal building at the Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport in Broward County. He drove it all the way through two walls to the ticket counter. Airport officials were very quick to say, and correctly so, that the crash was not a terrorist act. But it could have been.

Let us not forget that this area was home to the al Qaeda operatives prior to 9/11. Airport security was tight for the holiday weekend, but there were no security measures in place and no physical structures that could have stopped this man from killing or injuring hundreds of travelers in the terminal. Having metal posts along the sidewalks would have made it impossible for this man to drive his SUV into the terminal. Instead, the crash caused \$100,000 worth of damage and threatened the safety of hundreds of holiday travelers.

Mr. Speaker, both Broward and Palm Beach Counties are vulnerable targets. This is just one more reason why my district should be designated as its own urban area so that we can improve security measures that will protect our communities.

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#### DELAYED SECURITY MEASURES

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today the Transportation Safety Administration finally announced that they are going to plug a huge, gaping loophole in aviation security, 15 months after I first brought this issue to their attention.

While Americans nationwide stand patiently in line and the pilots and flight attendants are standing in line, sometimes unnecessarily long lines because of an arbitrary cap on the number of screeners by the Republican majority, unbeknownst to them, hundreds of thousands of people on a daily basis have been filing around security carrying whatever they wanted, just flashing an ID at a guard. That is, all the vendors who work in the airport, the people who have access to the terminal and to the airplanes.

Finally today, today, after being beat over the head for months, the Trans-

portation Security Administration is going to require that those people also go through security so that they will not be able to carry contraband, weapons, drugs or whatever through, to be smuggled aboard airplanes. This will improve security for Americans. It took an awfully long time to get action from the Bush administration to fill this loophole.

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#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th anniversary of my district's largest employer, the Pennsylvania State University, which consists of 11 academic schools, 20 campuses throughout Pennsylvania, the College of Medicine, the Dickinson School of Law, and the Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Penn State was founded in 1855 as America's first land grant college and was the first institution in the Nation to offer a degree in agriculture. One in every eight Pennsylvanians with a college degree, one in every 50 engineers in America, and one in every four meteorologists in America are alumni of Penn State, which has the largest dues-paying alumni association in the Nation.

Penn State consistently ranks in the top three universities to receive SAT scores by high school seniors. Penn State hosts the largest student-run philanthropic event in the world benefiting the Four Diamonds Fund for families with children being treated for cancer.

Penn State has excelled at academic and athletic achievements by doing things honorably and exceptionally, by doing things the Penn State way.

Happy 150th birthday, Penn State. I am proud to represent you in Congress and add my voice to those exclaiming, "We are Penn State."

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#### HONORING MARLON BRANDO

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

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, every week we recognize all kinds of people and, though deserving, most of us have never heard of them. Today I would like to give some recognition to the passing of a man we have heard of.

I think the movie "On The Waterfront" was one of the finest American movies ever made because of the ability of Marlon Brando to depict that heroic struggle of a working class guy to achieve his own individual integrity. Then there was Stanley Kowalski, Don Corleone, and so many other iconic roles throughout Mr. Brando's career.