

“The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

Mr. GOODLATTE. I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Amendment XXVII:

“No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.”

Mr. GOODLATTE. That concludes the reading of the United States Constitution.

I want to thank the gentlemen who arrived and were available, but we ran out of Constitution before we ran out of readers.

I want to thank the Speaker and all the Members who participated in this important reading.

I yield back the balance of my time.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 10 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. YODER) at noon.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COACH CAREY McVICKERS

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach Carey McVickers for achieving his 500th victory.

Coach McVickers is the head coach for the Taylorville High School boys basketball team and, on December 26, led my Tornadoes to defeat Rantoul, 76-35, to secure his 500th win. He has been coaching for 31 years, leading teams from all across central Illinois, in areas like Palmyra, Divernon, Williamsville, Nokomis, Pana, and my hometown of Taylorville.

In his career, his teams have combined to win 12 conference championships, 9 regional championships, and 19 tournament championships. And to our knowledge, he is the only coach to have brought home a trophy from the State tournament for boys and girls teams.

He has been named the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Coach of the Year four times and was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2012.

Carey McVickers is more than just a head coach; he is a dedicated husband,

father, and grandfather, and is a rock within the Taylorville community.

Congratulations, Coach.
Go Tornadoes.

REGULAR ORDER

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I come here to the floor today to speak on behalf of the regular order. I hope that this Congress can be one in which it's not First World War trench warfare, where we retreat into our bunkers and lob grenades at each other, but where we can come together and deal with the problems that face this Nation.

The first opportunity will be raising the debt limit. The President doesn't create the debt limit; we do. We authorize the President to spend that money. We put him out there and say, Spend it; and we must give him the ability to pay the bills that we have incurred by our actions. So it shouldn't be a trench warfare issue.

There are some bigger issues, those issues of the debt and how we deal with the major crises before us in health care costs. Those issues can be debated in the regular order. Committees can come up with bills about how we should reduce the costs, whether it be in defense or it be in health care. But that should be developed and worked out in a regular order in the House. That's my sincere hope for this Congress.

RESTORING TAX-FREE COMMUTER BENEFITS

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, my district includes the north and west suburbs of Chicago. Our area has the second highest percentage of commuters in the country.

Many of my constituents currently receive employer-sponsored transit benefits for commuting costs like parking and train tickets. Last year this benefit was cut in half for public transit commuters, and I fought hard throughout 2012 for that benefit to be restored.

I am thankful that it is now law that employers may provide up to \$245 a month for their employees as a transit or van pool benefit tax-free. This is good for both employees and employers. Now neither of them will be taxed on that money, and employees will be encouraged to use the public transportation options. I'm glad that Congress has restored this important benefit.

AMANDA'S LAW

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago this Thursday, western New York teenager Amanda Hansen tragically passed away from carbon monoxide poisoning as a result of a defective boiler at a friend's home where she was spending the night.

In response to this tragedy, the New York State Legislature designated January as Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month and passed Amanda's Law. Amanda's Law requires carbon monoxide alarms to be installed in all new single and multifamily homes and any rentals with a fuel-burning appliance system or attached garage.

Mr. Speaker, carbon monoxide is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in this country. There's a simple way to lower that number: installation of carbon monoxide detectors in homes and residences.

I commend the work of the Amanda Hansen Foundation and join them in encouraging all Americans to prevent carbon monoxide-related tragedies by installing detectors in their homes.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAN CURTIS

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

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, today I'm here to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend of mine who has been valiantly battling cancer for the past year, Dan Curtis. Dan is a long-time resident of Dayton and a pillar of the community, and he has committed his talents to improving the lives of countless Ohioans.

A dedicated volunteer and philanthropist, Dan has given generously of his time, expertise, and financial resources to make a difference in the lives of individuals and the quality of life in his community.

He joined the Dayton Development Coalition soon after its inception and dedicated his efforts to stimulating the region's economy, while embracing the Air Force as a member of the community, and improving the lives of airmen.

Dan helped shepherd our community through good times and bad by selflessly giving of himself and his resources. He has always enjoyed working with people and assisting them in reaching their goals, and in no place is that more evident than in his home. Dan is a devoted husband and father who enjoys the loving support of his wife, Amy, and children, Kevin, Chelsea, and Matthew.

His relationships are characterized by selfless devotion, a caring nature, and altruism. These traits carried over into his professional life, where Dan demonstrated an incredible work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community and his love of the country. His many achievements and qualities are a testament to Dan.

As a community, Dayton, Ohio, and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base are forever indebted to him.