

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS
MONTH

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, as we come to the close of October, I wanted to remind Members that October is designated as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Each year in the United States, breast cancer is diagnosed in more than 170,000 women. Several recent critical advances, sequencing of the human genome and the development of high throughput techniques for identifying DNA-sequence variants, have accelerated the pace of research aimed at preventing and curing breast cancer.

Drugs such as Tamoxifen have helped to successfully treat thousands of women with breast cancer. Even more advanced, third-generation aromatase inhibitors are challenging Tamoxifen, the current gold standard of care, and providing more satisfying results in this field.

Groundbreaking research is yielding important findings on reducing the recurrence of breast cancer in women who have previously been treated. This is all the more important, because with breast cancer, unlike other malignancies, the symptom-free intervals in some women may be decades.

With these great advances in science and medicine, the medical community is more able to accurately diagnose and treat women with breast cancer. But with over 40,000 women who will die of this disease this year, our work is clearly not done. This month we are reminded of how far we have come, but how far we have to go in fighting in this deadly disease.

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

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and I rise to address the issue of the early detection and prevention of breast cancer.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women in the United States, aside from cancers of the skin. Both its cause and cure remain undiscovered.

In my home State of Indiana, the American Cancer Society estimates that 5,000 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed and approximately 900 women will die of breast cancer in 2003.

With early detection, breast cancer can be treated effectively with surgery that preserves the breast, followed by radiation therapy. Local therapy is often accompanied by chemotherapy and/or hormonal therapy.

Raising awareness and promoting the continuation of breast cancer research

has contributed to more than 2 million breast cancer survivors in the United States today.

In Indianapolis, we have benefited by the 2003 Komen Indianapolis Race for the Cure that registered 37,000 individuals and the BMW Ultimate Drive to donate one dollar on each mile driven during BMW test-drives.

We must continue to raise awareness and support legislation that will aid in the prevention and eventual development of a cure for breast cancer.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is Halloween, which means tricks and treats for every American. Today, our economy received a treat of its own, thanks to President Bush's pro-jobs agenda and economic growth tax cuts. For instance, the economy grew at a staggering 7.2 percent in the third quarter, the fastest pace since 1984. In addition, consumer confidence is on the rise, thanks in large part to a more favorable job market and a belief that this trend will continue.

These are some pretty good treats for the American people and for our economy. But the Democratic candidates for President are offering some pretty frightening tricks. For example, every one of them wants to repeal some or all of the Bush tax cuts. That trick on our people will take the steam out of our robust recovery and kill new job growth.

To the American people I say, be very careful when you are examining who should lead our Nation, because the tricks being offered up are downright scary. Happy Halloween.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BILLS

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

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two pieces of important legislation that I would like to reintroduce today regarding Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I believe the two bills will help end violence against women.

In the United States, nearly 2 million women are victims of domestic violence. Every 30 seconds, a woman is beaten by her aggressor. This is why there is a continuing need to address this issue.

The Domestic Violence Court Assistance Act will provide grant money from the Violence Against Women Act to establish specific domestic violence courts and provide for important functions of a domestic violence court, such as translation and interpretation services for women whose first language may not be English.

The Domestic Violence Prevention, Education and Awareness Act would help bring much-needed attention to racial and ethnic minority and immigrant communities that are often overlooked and underserved by providing grants to develop informational media outreach campaigns to address specific communities that currently are underserved.

It is our responsibility to give a voice to those who cannot speak for themselves, and I urge my colleagues to support these two legislative efforts.

TRIBUTE TO POLK COUNTY
NATIVE

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

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man of honor and a dear friend, a man who touched so many lives and dedicated himself to making Polk County, Florida, a better place.

Charles Richardson rose from humble beginnings in Polk County and helped to integrate what is now Bartow High School. He began his political career on the Winter Haven City Commission, and rose to be, as a Republican, the first African American ever to serve on the Polk County commission.

He was described as a family man and a jovial leader, with a keen intellect and an extraordinary wit and wisdom. He was also known as a strong role model for young people, who encouraged them to get an education and to go to college and achieve the American Dream. He is survived by his wife, Karen; two daughters, Ericka and Janine; and two sons, Charles, Jr., and Elden.

Mr. Speaker, even after being diagnosed with pancreatic and liver cancer, Charles Richardson continued to perform his county commission duties right up to the night he passed. Charles Richardson blessed our community through his hard work and generous nature, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

VIETNAM CRACKS DOWN ON UNIFIED BUDDHIST CHURCH OF VIETNAM

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my outrage over the government of Vietnam's recent crackdown on the United Buddhist Church of Vietnam.

I just concluded a telephone conversation with the Venerable Thich Tue Sy, a senior monk in that church, who was just sentenced to 2 years of administrative detention for exercising the basic right of freedom of religion, as were six of his colleagues.

Earlier this month, the United Buddhist Church of Vietnam held a meeting to discuss church affairs, to elect

new leadership, and to verify the Vietnamese Prime Minister's promise of a new era of respect and understanding for religious freedom. In stark contrast to the promise of respect and understanding, Vietnamese authorities disrupted the meeting, intimidated and ultimately arrested the UBCV leadership.

The Venerable Thich Huyen Quang and Thich Quang Do, both of whom have been nominated for the Nobel Peace prize, are once again under house arrest. These actions are unconscionable.

Today, I will introduce a resolution regarding the courageous leadership of the UBCV and the urgent need for religious reform in Vietnam.

THE SUPREME COURT CONSIDERS THE PLEDGE

(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, this year, the Supreme Court will take up the case of whether children should be allowed to say the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. This cartoon captures an important point of this case: Does the first amendment allow porn but not God in public discourse?

The ACLU would like you to think so. Their challenge to our laws, which protect our kids from online porn predators, is ridiculous. They want to be this teacher in the cartoon holding up a computer in front of your child saying, "You cannot pledge allegiance 'under God' but, here, look at some pornography."

The fact that this case even made it so far as the courts is a travesty. Something is very wrong with our courts. They say child pornography on the computer is perfectly legal, but the pledge is so offensive that we have to get rid of the words "under God."

The ACLU is out to sacrifice religion on their own little altar of pornographic speech. This is wrong. The Court should do the right thing for this country, for our children: uphold the pledge and the freedom that is ours to pledge allegiance under God.

BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS AND THEIR FAMILIES

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

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with others in expressing my support for breast cancer survivors and their families as we recognize the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

As the husband of a breast cancer survivor, my courageous wife, Alfredia Scott, I join with countless others in honoring the courage of other breast cancer patients as they fight to overcome this devastating disease. We

honor their families, as they stand with them, hurting just as badly, as they watch over and support their loved ones through their treatment. We honor the doctors, the nurses, and the health care professionals who provide critical help for these patients.

Almost everyone in America has been touched by this disease, which strikes one in nine women; and it is the second leading cause of death for women. As many of my colleagues have already noted, our Nation will lose 40,000 people this year. Almost 212,000 new cases will be diagnosed.

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We, as legislators, have a responsibility. We must do whatever we can to stop this disease.

As a Georgia State senator, I fought for funding for breast cancer research, and I authored the law that gives breast cancer patients the right to determine their length of stay in the hospital and the medical treatment they receive rather than the insurance companies.

Our inspiration is great: breast cancer survivors who have won their fight, and the friends and families of those women who did not. I urge us to work harder and make sure that we bring a cure to this deadly disease.

IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my profound disappointment this morning with the news that House and Senate conferees developing the Iraq supplemental bill have apparently removed language which would have made a portion of the reconstruction dollars the American people are sending to Iraq take the form of a loan. I had unsuccessfully offered an amendment in the House which would have made one-half of the reconstruction dollars be repaid to the American taxpayers, and I believe the overwhelming majority of the people of this country believe this oil-rich nation should bear some of the cost of rebuilding its own civil society.

I regret Congress has chosen to reject the counsel of the majority of the American people and the world community. A decent respect for the opinions of mankind should cause Congress to reflect on the fact that at this weekend's donor conference in Madrid, two-thirds of the \$13 billion made available for reconstruction by foreign countries in Iraq takes the form of loans and credits.

In the end, regardless of my disagreement with the means, I will support the Iraq supplemental bill which will go far to ensure the safe return of our troops and the triumph of freedom in this tyranny-weary land.

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, in the San Francisco Bay area, especially in Marin County in my congressional district, we have some of the highest rates of breast cancer in the Nation. While the toll on Bay area residents has been enormous and heart-breaking, community activists and local health officials are meeting this challenge, providing support to patients and survivors and working to find causes of this epidemic.

Women feel powerless when confronted with the increasing likelihood of contracting breast cancer; but as the Marin County breast cancer community has demonstrated through prevention and research, with hard work and dedication, we will beat this disease.

In memory of those who have died of breast cancer and in support of those fighting this terrible disease, and with hope that our daughters and granddaughters will not face this epidemic, I urge all women to acknowledge Breast Cancer Awareness Month by taking care of their own health and joining with others to win the war against breast cancer.

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

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, as has been noted earlier, this October we recognize the 19th anniversary of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This year alone, more than 200,000 of our mothers, daughters, sisters, and wives will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and close to 40,000 will die from this dreadful disease.

My wife and I first became aware of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month through our volunteer work with the American Cancer Society. We decided to get involved because so many of our friends and families had been impacted by this terrible disease and we wanted to make a difference.

Over its short history, the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month has successfully raised awareness for the early detection and prevention of breast cancer. As a result, mammography screening rates have doubled since 1985, and breast cancer mortality rates have steadily declined.

Mr. Speaker, the best way for all of us to join in the battle against breast cancer is to help spread the word to as many women as possible that early detection saves lives.

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(Ms. BERKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1