

It is the third hospital in the Nation to receive the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award. The Baldrige award, created in 1997 to honor the memory of the former Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige, is the Nation's highest honor for quality achievement by companies, agencies and organizations.

Every day the 2,252 employees at Baptist Hospital bring their unique skills to work with them to serve their patients. When walking into any Baptist Healthcare facility, you will be greeted with a smile and a "how may I help you?" The company should pride itself on its highly efficient and effective working environment, but, more importantly, it should take pleasure in knowing their employees have worked together to give the company a family-like atmosphere.

Mr. Speaker, Baptist Hospital is a world-class hospital striving for excellence every day and achieving extraordinary results in all areas of service. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate Baptist Hospital on their prestigious award and exemplary service to northwest Florida communities.

□ 1916

CELEBRATING GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate Greek Independence Day with the people of Greece and Greek Americans. March 25, 2004, marked the 183rd anniversary of the beginning of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire. It is important for us to not only recognize and celebrate this day with the people of Greece but also to reaffirm the democratic heritage from which the United States and the country of Greece were born.

I am proud to represent Greek Town in the city of Chicago, and I certainly want to extend congratulations to not only my Greek constituents but the people of Greece all over the world and especially those in Greece.

MEDICARE

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening because many of my elderly constituents in Florida have been misled about the new Medicare law. They have been misinformed because of the distortions spread by some of the liberal special interest groups and, quite honestly, some bitter Democrat politicians. These insincere groups have even tried to smear the AARP, an organization

that seniors have trusted for over 45 years. They have tried to discredit AARP along with 300 other health care organizations. AARP supports the health care law that Democrats quite honestly wish that they could take credit for. Unlike what appears on TV, the biggest supporters of this bill are not the pharmaceutical companies. They are patients rights groups, senior advocacy groups, nurses and other health care professionals who have made quality health care and services their priority.

Mr. Speaker, I ask, are 300 non-partisan organizations interested only in health care all wrong, while a handful of politically motivated Democrat interest groups are right? The answer is absolutely not.

MEDICARE CREDIBILITY GAP

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I hear my friends on the other side of the aisle talk about the Medicare bill. This was a bill that the President told us cost \$400 billion. Yet people in the department who were not allowed to tell Congress had told the White House it would cost \$550 billion. That is the first part of the credibility gap.

The second part of the credibility gap is that the President said this was a bill to help America's seniors, when in fact this bill will mean \$139 billion more in drug company profits, \$46 billion in direct subsidies from taxpayers, from all of us, directly to the insurance industry.

This bill was written in the Oval Office, this Medicare law, by the drug industry and by the insurance industry while the President and the Vice President stood by and tried to pretend that it was for American seniors. That is the credibility gap this President and this Vice President have.

We should have passed a prescription drug benefit for Medicare beneficiaries, not for the drug companies, not for the insurance companies.

RECOGNIZING FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE, ON ITS SELECTION AS A PRESERVE AMERICA COMMUNITY

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Franklin, Tennessee. Franklin and Williamson County, Tennessee, were recognized today and were given a great honor. They received the Preserve America Community distinction. This comes from the White House Advisory Council on Preservation. Franklin deserves this. We were so excited that the Preserve America distinction came to them today. They are one of only 28 towns in America to receive this award. This

has come because of a tremendous commitment from the community over the past several decades. We have had thousands of volunteers. It has been a partnership effort between volunteers and also between the local, the State and the Federal elected officials, and the hard work and the dedication to preserve the history and the heritage of Franklin and Williamson County, to educate future generations and to let them see what makes this community unique and special. That was recognized today.

Mr. Speaker, we applaud them, we say congratulations to Franklin, Tennessee. We know the best is yet to come.

QUESTIONS REGARDING 9/11

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. What does the President's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, have to hide? It might have been that she told the 9/11 Commission that she misspoke when she said that there was no intelligence that terrorists might use airplanes as weapons and that the administration had no knowledge of that. Of course, she did all that in private. In public she is spinning a very different story. She has appeared everywhere and anywhere on the press, with the press, in public; but she will not go before the 9/11 Commission and give sworn testimony to that commission and the American public. We deserve better. We deserve the truth about 9/11, what the administration knew and when they knew it.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT ALCOHOL ADVERTISING DURING BROADCASTS OF COLLEGIATE SPORTING EVENTS SHOULD BE TERMINATED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, not long ago the National Academy of Science released a report on preventing underage drinking. This week, the Final Four NCAA basketball playoffs will occur. I believe there is a connection. The National Academy of Science report recommended that colleges and universities ban alcohol advertising and promotion on campus. Other important research points to the problem of alcohol consumption on college campuses. For example, the proportion of