

plagues our system, regrettably. In the last Congress we instituted tougher penalties for those who cheat the system, and we should pursue identified ways to do more of that. Representative QUINN's legislation to establish an inspector general for the program I think is a fine first step. I hope that we will continue to deter and punish those who drain our Medicare resources by cheating.

Mr. Speaker, the campaign is over. The demagoguery, the distortions, the cynical misdirections might have served a political purpose in the last Presidential campaign, but they did not do anything to save the Medicare trust fund. The effect dramatically of it in this year's report has been to exacerbate the problem. As the trustees note, and again there are Cabinet members among them, "it is misleading to think that any part of the program can be exempt from change." We have to fix it.

It is time we heed the trustees' warnings. It is time for structural reform that saves Medicare not merely until the next election, but well into the next century because a great many Americans are counting on it.

Mr. Speaker, I served on the Kerrey commission. We talked about the entitlement, the well-being of the entitlement programs in our country, and we discovered that we were on unsustainable trendlines, and this is just the first of others that are going to follow unless we have reform of our entitlement programs.

I am proud that Congress did its job. We passed the strength of the Medicare Act bill in the last Congress. The Senate passed it. President Clinton vetoed it. Since that veto we have lost almost \$20 billion in revenues in trust fund part A. This adds up to real money, but more important, it adds up to real anxiety for our senior citizens.

It is time we heard from the White House on this program. The Cabinet members have spoken, the committee has spoken, Congress has spoken. Will the President speak?

EXPRESSING PROFOUND GRATITUDE OF THE PEOPLE OF NORTH DAKOTA FOR OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT FROM THE COUNTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Dakota [Mr. POMEROY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, as North Dakota's sole Member of this body, I rise on behalf of the people of North Dakota to express the profound gratitude that we feel toward the outpouring of support demonstrated in this Chamber and across the country as North Dakotans deal with the unprecedented disasters that have afflicted our State, most particularly the city of Grand Forks.

The city of Grand Forks, a city of 50,000, has established a benchmark in terms of flooding disasters for a com-

munity of this size. Never before have we seen a city of 50,000 so completely inundated, so completely devastated by a flooding river. The river in this case, the Red River of the North, which flows normally at 16 feet, maybe 15 feet on a summer afternoon, flood stage: 28 feet; the flooding waters of 54 feet in depth ultimately reached the dikes and inundated this city. It was the flood of record. They are now saying a flood of 1,000-year-event dimensions.

As if the resulting inundation city-wide was not bad enough, fire broke out in the downtown business district, and as so many watched in the television footage of the event, a fire department who normally has water as its best ally in fighting flames was rendered powerless by the fact that they could not even get at the hydrants because they were literally under the flooding Red River water that was coursing through the streets of the town.

Now as we deal with the aftermath of this unprecedented disaster, we have seen an outpouring of support from across this country that has truly touched us and gives us a great deal of assistance and moral support as well as financial support in moving forward to pick up the pieces and rebuild this community.

Examples that have occurred just in my own experience include a 7-year-old boy, who in his car noted that he was 2 years old when Hurricane Andrew devastated their family's home, brought by a box of food supplies for me to take to the people of Grand Forks. The shoe shop located in the base of the Longworth House Office Building has devoted 10 percent of its proceeds for 2 weeks on shoe repair to assisting the people of Grand Forks. Phil Jackson, famous coach of the Chicago Bulls basketball team; I am proud to say North Dakota native, graduate of the University of North Dakota, and he was a star for the Fighting Sioux basketball team, has agreed to cut a public service announcement which will inform people across the country of how they might help the people of Grand Forks recover from this disaster.

Now, Mr. Speaker, at a time when the outpouring across the country has been so significant, I also want to let my colleagues know about the outpouring that has occurred across both parties within this Chamber at a time when people, I think, are very cynical in terms of whether we have a political system that can quit its partisan bickering long enough to respond to problems. We have seen exactly that occur within the past week.

Five days after the dikes were breached, the President of the United States was there to encourage and comfort the flood victims with promises of additional assistance. Six days later the White House brings up to the Hill a supplemental assistance package. Six days after the dikes breached, Chairman BOB LIVINGSTON, the major-

ity chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, had additional assistance inserted into the disaster supplemental bill being considered by the appropriations body. Not enough, not configured exactly how we want, but, as he indicated, more needs to be done, this is a work in process, the first crack we had in Congress to help the people of Grand Forks. Thanks to the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON] they were assisted in action by his committee.

A day later, the Speaker devoted a Friday evening that otherwise had been scheduled for familytime to come to North Dakota to see the devastation. I was very pleased to travel along with Speaker GINGRICH, as well as the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE], the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. GUTKNECHT], and the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. RAMSTAD], to visit with the people of Grand Forks and East Grand Forks and see the extent of the devastation. I am extraordinarily grateful to the Speaker and know that his presence in our area meant an awful lot to people as they deal with the unpleasant dimension of pumping out basements, assessing whether homes can be saved, and trying to pick up the pieces of their businesses.

On Monday, just 2 days later, majority leader DICK ARMEY also came to North Dakota, bringing with him a number of our colleagues including the gentleman from California [Mr. ROGAN], the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM], the gentleman from New York [Mr. LAZIO], the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. SOUDER], the gentleman from Kentucky [Mrs. NORTHUP], and the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. SABO].

□ 1815

Again, both political parties, heavy representation from the majority leaders of this body, as well as the majority Members of this body, coming to our area to extend their concern and see how they could help.

The people of North Dakota will never forget the conscientious extending of the hand of help and concern that occurred this week, and I am very proud to serve in this Chamber with the Members of both political parties that have shown how deeply they care and how much they want to help.

RENAMING THE DUBLIN, GEORGIA FEDERAL COURTHOUSE IN HONOR OF FORMER U.S. REPRESENTATIVE ROY ROWLAND

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. NORWOOD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker and fellow Members of the House, we find ourselves today in a period of great debate as to what constitutes bipartisanship. I believe now that true bipartisanship is honorable compromise for the good of the country.

If we search for real-life models of honorable compromise, we can find no better example than the former Democratic Member from my home State of Georgia that I have brought back to the floor of the people's House for this occasion.

Congressman Roy Rowland of Dublin, GA, began a lifetime of public service long before coming to the House of Representatives. Roy Rowland spent his youth developing a keen sense of duty and honor as an Eagle Scout.

Fresh out of high school, Roy entered the U.S. Army to fight in World War II as a sergeant in command of a machine-gun crew in the European theater. He was a member of United States Forces that liberated German concentration camps, where he learned firsthand the horrifying final results of intolerance.

Roy left the Army at the end of the war with a Bronze Star for service in combat and returned to educational pursuits. He graduated from the Medical College of Georgia in 1952 and continued what was to become a lifetime of public service by providing health care to the people of Dublin, GA, as a family practice physician.

Roy not only provided health care to Georgia families, he served them in the State legislature from 1976 until 1982. And in 1983, Roy's dedication to serving his country brought him to the U.S. House of Representatives. In his freshman year, Congressman Rowland introduced and succeeded in passing legislation that stopped the illegal use of quaaludes through fraudulent prescription sales.

In the early 1980's, the abuse of quaaludes had reached epidemic proportions, and the drug was fast on its way to becoming the illegal drug of choice on the streets. Today that problem is history because of the work of Roy Rowland. Congressman Rowland's efforts were not Republican or Democratic in nature. They addressed a pressing concern for all Americans and garnered true bipartisan support.

When debate over the AIDS crisis was still locked in a state of misinformation and confusion and fragmentation, Roy Rowland stepped forward in this House with his experience as a medical professional to provide the leadership this body needed to move ahead.

Congressman Rowland introduced and passed into law legislation that created the National Commission on AIDS, which provided America with the plain scientific facts so necessary to establish sound public health policy to combat this killer disease.

When the battle over health care reform was at its peak in the 103d Congress, Roy Rowland once again led the way in finding solutions to America's problems that were outside the realm of partisanship. He succeeded in drafting health care reform legislation through a group of five Republicans and five Democrats that provided coverage for 92 percent of the American public.

The Rowland bill did not pass during that time of heated debate and multiple proposals, but the blueprint that Roy left us is one that should be carefully examined when we face contentious issues in the future.

In his 12 years of service here in the House, Roy set a standard for standing firm on conviction without resorting to partisan attacks. He fought like a tiger on the floor but never had an enemy on either side of the aisle. In his reelection campaigns, he was frequently personally attacked but never, never responded in kind.

Today I am introducing legislation that will honor and preserve the legacy of service that Doctor and Congressman Roy Rowland has left for us to follow. This bill would redesignate the Dublin Federal Courthouse in Dublin, GA, as the J. Roy Rowland Federal Courthouse in order that the example Roy Rowland set through a lifetime of service should not be forgotten.

In the spirit of true bipartisanship that our former colleague exemplified, I ask for support for this legislation.

WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN PROGRAM SHOULD NOT BE CUT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DAVIS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as I have been moving around in the last few days and I have looked to see that the Sun was shining, I was under the impression that we were embarking upon a new season, the beginning of spring, and that we would see fresh ideas, that we would see coming to life new feelings of inclusiveness. But then I had a rude awakening.

I was awakened when the House Committee on Appropriations voted to cut the WIC Program, a program that is designed to benefit women, infants, and children; a program that is designed to provide nutrition, nutritional aid, to women, infants, and children; individuals who in many instances are disadvantaged, in many instances do not have the basic resources to meet the food requirements to grow up healthy, to have a healthy body, to have a healthy mind.

Oftentimes they do not have the resources that will put them on an even playing field with all the other members of our society, and it is hard for me to imagine how one could cut or how a group could cut something as important, something as basic, something that is so greatly needed as a program to provide food for individuals in need.

I would hope that as spring continues to emerge, that there might be a rebirth of ideas and there might be another way of looking at things; there might be another way of looking at the priorities of our Nation, the priorities that would say every person, no matter who he or she might be, would have an opportunity to grow up, to live in a

country, to live in a society, the most technologically proficient Nation of the world, the wealthiest Nation of the world, which should be able to make sure that its neediest citizens are provided basic food.

So I would urge that as we move ahead, that the Members of this body would look differently at this issue than we saw the Committee on Appropriations look, and that the Members of this body would recognize that unless all of us can be healthy, it really reduces the health of each one of us; that unless all of us who need food can be fed, it reduces the feeling of each one of us; and that unless America, this Nation, can demonstrate that it understands how to look after the needs of its old, the needs of its young, and the needs of those who oftentimes cannot care for themselves, then we would never experience the potential greatness that this Nation has, we will never become the America that we can be.

UTAH LAND GRAB

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. DUNCAN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today in the Subcommittee on National Parks we heard testimony which should be disturbing to all Americans. In fact, we heard Senator ORRIN HATCH testify that in 20 years in the Senate, he had never seen such an arrogant abuse of power.

He was referring to the sneak attack by the Federal Government just before the last election to lock up 1.7 million acres in the State of Utah to produce what is called a national monument. This monument would be in the Escalante-Grand Staircase section of southern Utah. However, there are several reasons why this particular land grab has been questioned like no other in U.S. history.

First, it was done with no public discussion or hearings of any type, no vote by the Congress, the Utah State legislature, or the people of Utah. In fact, the Governor of Utah testified at our hearing that the first notice any Utah public official had was when they read about it 9 days beforehand in the Washington Post.

This raises the second serious question, the secrecy, the coverup. Not only were high ranking officials not notified, but Senator BENNETT testified that he now has administration documents which say that it cannot be emphasized enough that public disclosure would have stopped the designation because such an outcry would have been created. It almost makes you wonder if we have people running our Government today who want to run things in the secret, shadowy way of the former Soviet Union or other dictatorships.

Third, this 1.7 million acres contains the largest deposit of clean, low-sulfur