

high-income counterparts. The effect is particularly pronounced when we consider people with fixed incomes like seniors. Almost a third of America's aged are low-income.

High gas prices also affect the programs like the meal and transportation services.

First, programs have to cut back services. For example, in testimony before the Senate Special Committee on Aging last June, Donna Harvey, the executive Director of the Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging in Iowa told of having to eliminate transportation services "for all 'non-essential' trips such as family visits, general shopping, trips to the workplace, and other social activities" because of rising fuel costs.

Second, as with so many other provisions in the Older Americans Act, the meal and supportive services programs are heavily dependent on volunteers. Many of the drivers are called the "young-old"—those who are independently mobile but are still on a senior's fixed income. A significant portion of these volunteers get reimbursed based on rates that precede the gas price hikes because the Administrations on Aging can't afford to keep pace. It is easy to see why we are losing drivers. They are taking the brunt of the gas price increases and are forced to curtail their generosity.

Finally, as those seniors living at the financial margins who cannot afford the inflated cost of gas lose their independence, they rely more heavily on services like those provided by the Administrations on Aging through the Older Americans Act.

At the same time that prices have gone up, funding has gone down. Supportive services has not even been flat funded since FY02, going down six million dollars. The same is true for congregate meals—their funding has decreased by five million dollars since FY02. And funding for home delivered meals has increased by only five million dollars, failing to come close to keeping pace with inflation.

We must do what we can to make sure our mothers, fathers, siblings and grandparents are not losing the services they need to help them lead independent, dignified, healthy lives because of gas prices. My amendment holds harmless from rising gasoline prices the congregate and in-home nutrition services as well as the supportive services. It does this by authorizing a yearly adjustment to the fuel component of their budgets. If the price of crude oil rises year after year, then the agencies' fuel budgets will rise a proportionate amount. If oil prices fall, fuel budgets fall in step as well. I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

**HONORING TOP COPS AWARDEES
DETECTIVE BRIAN FENNELLY &
DETECTIVE ROBERT ZIELINSKI**

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to congratulate and honor two outstanding police officers, detectives Brian Fennelly and Robert Zielinski for the recognition they received last week by the National Association of Police Officers (NAPO).

On May 12, 2006 Detectives Fennelly and Zielinski, officers with the Morton Grove Police Department, were awarded NAPO's "Top Cops" award for their heroic service in the line of duty. On January 21, 2005, with the assistance of Chicago Police Sergeant Richard J. Plotke (also awarded a Top Cops honor) the

officers tracked down two suspects who had forcefully entered a home in Morton Grove and held hostage, robbed and brutalized the woman residing at that property.

While attempting to serve a warrant at the suspects' apartment, all three officers came under heavy gunfire. Despite the violent onslaught, and injuries sustained during the suspects' violent attack, the three officers relied on their skills and training to successfully disarm and render the assailants harmless.

By successfully tracking down those dangerous criminals, putting themselves in the line of fire and ultimately disarming the assailants, Detectives Brian Fennelly and Robert Zielinski (and Sergeant Plotke) prevented the serious threat posed to their fellow law enforcement professionals and to the entire community. Their heroic demonstration of bravery, team work and public service certainly makes them Top Cops in my book and in the eyes of their peers.

On behalf of the entire 9th Congressional District and along with Morton Grove's Police Chief, Paul Tasch, Jr. and Mayor, Richard Krier, I want to commend and thank our Top Cops Detective Brian Fennelly and Detective Robert Zielinski for their heroic service to our community. I urge all members of the House to recognize their outstanding service and the service of all public safety and law enforcement personnel throughout the country.

**HONORING REVEREND PERRY
SANDERS**

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Reverend Perry Sanders, a devoted and faithful servant to his God, his church, and his community in Lafayette, Louisiana.

On May 14th, Reverend Sanders gave his last sermon at the First Baptist Church in Lafayette. The day marked the culmination of his 47 years of service to the congregation. Born in South Carolina, Reverend Sanders came to First Baptist in 1959. Following graduation from college and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Reverend Sanders pastored at several churches in Louisiana before coming to the First Baptist Church in Lafayette. As a young preacher, he made it clear from the beginning that a segregated South would not stop him from preaching to "anybody and everybody" who came to listen. As a result, Lafayette became home to the first Southern white Baptist church to be racially integrated.

During his tenure at First Baptist, Sanders led the church to establish a media ministry that would set the pace for Southern Baptists. The power of the cassette tape was harnessed in the early seventies and his messages have encouraged many in even the most remote parts of the earth. First Baptist was selected as one of the "Great Churches" in a broadcast series in the mid eighties.

Reverend Perry Sanders led First Baptist through remarkable growth, especially considering its location in the Acadian culture with its strong Catholic traditions. From a congregation of a few hundred and a budget of about \$70,000 per year, First Baptist has grown and

now averages more than one thousand worshippers each weekend and owns buildings on six city blocks. Additionally, several hundred thousand dollars a year is given to missions outside the Lafayette community.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation would benefit greatly if we all dedicated our lives to the service Reverend Perry Sanders has exemplified throughout his career. It is with this in mind that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring him today.

**IN MEMORY OF CHIEF WARRANT
OFFICER ERIC W. TOTTEN**

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Chief Warrant Officer Eric W. Totten, an American hero who lost his life in defense of liberty and freedom. He made the ultimate sacrifice so that others might know freedom, and I am humbled by his bravery and selflessness.

Chief Warrant Officer Eric Totten was killed on May 5, 2006 when his CH-47 Chinook helicopter crashed in Kunar Province, Afghanistan while conducting combat operations. Chief Warrant Officer is survived by his step-mother, Tommie Totten.

Chief Warrant Officer Totten was assigned to Company B, the 3rd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment, and 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York. During his service to our Nation, he exemplified the skill, commitment, and passion of a true patriot for freedom's reign. Chief Warrant Officer Totten died accomplishing the task he loved the most—serving his country.

Chief Warrant Officer Totten leaves behind a legacy marked by courage, integrity, and character. May God bless all those he loved, and may I convey to them my sincerest condolences and the gratitude of the American people.

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2007**

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chairman, this budget resolution that we are now debating is being sold as a deficit-reduction measure, but that is false advertising. This budget resolution does contain spending cuts—ones that hit lower-income families particularly hard. But those spending cuts pale beside the companion tax reconciliation measure that the President just signed into law. Together, those budget actions add to the deficit; they don't reduce it.

Nothing illustrates that more clearly than the provision in this budget resolution that would increase the federal debt limit for the fifth time under President Bush.

This President and this Congress have squandered the fiscal discipline of the 1990s and created a legacy of deficits and debt that will erode the standard of living of our children and our grandchildren. This is a record-setting Administration, but they are the wrong records. We have seen the federal budget deficit set a record in dollar terms, we have seen the national debt rise to a record level, and we have seen our trade deficit and our indebtedness to the rest of the world rise to a record level.

The President likes to talk about how fast the economy is growing and how successful his policies have been in stimulating an economic recovery from the 2001 recession. But the American people are saying "what economic recovery?" and, "when am I going to see any benefits from this President's economic policies?" Mr. Speaker, we should listen to the American people and we should adopt economic policies that promote the economic well-being of all Americans—not just those at the very top of the economic ladder.

The President's FY 2007 budget and the House budget resolution do not do that. Instead they perpetuate economic policies that have produced a legacy of deficits and debt that leave us unprepared to deal with the budget challenges posed by the retirement of the baby-boom generation and that weakens the future standard of living of our children and grandchildren.

Economic policy over the past 5 years has not served the interest of the typical American family. The resilience of the American economy has allowed it to recover from the 2001 recession, but we are still experiencing the labor market effects of the most protracted jobs slump in decades. Job creation has lagged far behind what is typical in a strong economic recovery, there is still evidence of hidden unemployment, and the benefits of productivity growth have been showing up in the bottom lines of companies rather than in the paychecks of workers. Finally, there is a growing gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots" in this country as income and earnings disparities have widened.

Yes, workers have become more productive—they produce more and more in each hour that they work. But they haven't been getting rewarded for that productivity. Average hourly earnings have not kept up with inflation for the past 2 years and they barely kept even the year before that. Median family income has failed to keep up with inflation every year under President Bush.

Those who are already well-to-do are doing very well in the Bush economy. But the typical American family is struggling to make ends meet in the face of high costs for energy, health care, and a college education for their children.

This budget resolution does not address any of these problems. In fact, it makes things worse. An analysis by the Democratic staff of the Joint Economic Committee shows that budget cuts in programs that provide payments for individuals are concentrated among lower-income families, while the tax cuts that have already been enacted go overwhelmingly to those at the top of the distribution. More than a third of the costs of spending cuts for

families go to those in the bottom 20 percent of the distribution (families that together have only 3 percent of aggregate income). Meanwhile those at the top get nearly three-quarters of the benefits from the tax cuts. This analysis relates to the budget resolution originally brought to the floor a month ago, but the essential character of the plan has not changed.

With policies that have turned a \$5.6 trillion 10-year budget surplus into a deficit over those same 10 years of at least \$2.7 trillion, this Administration and this Congress have turned the United States into a Nation of debtors, relying on the rest of the world to finance our budget deficits and the rest of our excessive spending. Last year we had a current account deficit of \$805 billion. That is the amount of money we had to borrow from the rest of the world to finance our trade deficit and international payment imbalance.

Foreign governments are holding large quantities of our public debt, putting us at risk of a major international financial crisis if they should decide that the benefits of holding dollars are no longer worth the risk.

Mr. Chairman, future prosperity depends on increasing our national savings and making wise investments; it depends on being ready for the retirement of the baby-boom generation and the pressure we know that will put on the budget. But how is the other side preparing us for that future—with more deficits and more debt. They want to make the tax cuts that have gotten us into this mess permanent, and they have no realistic plan for controlling spending or bringing revenues into line with the amount we need to spend to defend the country and take care of the needs of our citizens. We need a better plan.

CELEBRATING THE FIRST JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in solidarity with Jewish Americans from Maine to Hawaii to celebrate the designation of this May as the first ever Jewish American Heritage Month.

On Thursday April 20th, President Bush proclaimed that May would be Jewish American Heritage Month. I was a proud cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 315 when it unanimously passed the House of Representatives on December 15th, 2005, urging the President to do just that. Now for the first time there will be a national month recognizing the 352-year history of Jewish contributions to American culture.

As a first generation Jewish American, I have witnessed firsthand Jewish immigrants who have come to this Nation in order to create a better life for themselves, their families, and future generations. Since the first Jews settled here over 300 years ago, Jewish Americans have made endless contributions to our country through technology, the economy, entertainment, academia, politics, art, medicine, military service, and more. Like other important immigrant communities, the Jewish experience in the United States represents the ideal of freedom and the promise and opportunity of America.

Through educational programming, Jewish American History Month will help raise the awareness of a people, their history and contributions. It will help combat anti-Semitism, a phenomenon that is on the rise and that unfortunately still exists in our Nation. At no time in recent history has the need for this observance been greater. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) most recent Hate Crimes Statistics, 67.8 percent of criminal incidents motivated by religions bias stemmed from anti-Jewish prejudice.

The lessons from the Holocaust have taught Jewish Americans that we must never turn a blind eye to terror or discrimination. It is necessary to combat hate wherever it exists. As a Jew I cannot sit idle while genocidal atrocities continue to unfold in Darfur, Sudan. I was proud to witness American Jewish organizations found the Save Darfur Coalition in June 2004 to mobilize a coordinated interfaith response to the ongoing humanitarian disaster. I hope every American will lend their support to this critical effort.

I look forward to the celebrations that will take place each May for years to come and I encourage everyone to help make this inaugural year's observance memorable by developing educational and celebratory programs in your communities.

And I wish you a happy Jewish American Heritage Month.

SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, as a strong supporter of the efforts being undertaken by the National Security agency to monitor and track terrorists, I commend to the attention of my colleagues the excellent piece by Mort Kondracke in today's Roll Call.

Mr. Kondracke rightly notes that the NSA's interception of international terrorist communications is both legitimate and vital to the Global War on Terror.

[From the Roll Call, May 18, 2006]

IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICT MENACES U.S. ABILITY TO FIGHT TERRORISM

(By Morton M. Kondracke)

Enough already! It's harmful enough that ideological conflict and partisan politics are preventing this country from solving its long-term challenges on health care, fiscal policy and energy. Now, it's threatening our national survival.

I do not exaggerate. Bush-hatred has reached such intensity that CIA officers and other bureaucrats are leaking major secrets about anti-terrorism policy and communications intelligence that undermine our ability to fight Islamic extremism.

Would newspapers in the midst of World War II have printed the fact that the U.S. had broken German and Japanese codes, enabling the enemy to secure its communications? Or revealed how and where Nazi spies were being interrogated? Nowadays, newspapers win Pulitzer Prizes for such disclosures.

In Congress and in much of the media, the immediate reaction to news that the National Security Agency was intercepting international terrorist communications was