

acres of Federal land that they are not currently drilling. If big oil really wants to drill more, why aren't they drilling?

Madam Speaker, Washington Republicans are wrong again to rely on big oil to bring down the prices at the pump. After all, while American consumers battle these record prices, big oil is laughing all the way to the bank.

THE CURE FOR PUMP PANIC

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

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, with all the gloom, doom and despair about the high gasoline prices, there is a remedy to this pessimistic pump panic. Before we start passing out bicycles to the multitudes or start going to Dr. Phil for therapy, we can and should obtain more crude oil here in America. Crude oil will still be the driving energy of this Nation for the foreseeable future until we find some alternative. And we don't need to line the pockets of OPEC and Third World dictators by begging them for more crude. We already give them \$425 million a day!

The U.S. Geological Survey has released a report that says the "sweet crude" oil find in the Williston-Bakken Basin is larger than first believed. It is enormous. According to the report, it is over 500 billion barrels, and it is located in the Dakotas. It is 15 times larger than the oil in the Alaskan North Slope.

America needs to take care of America. We need to remove the silly restrictions that prohibit drilling. We need to drill in the Badlands of the Dakotas; remove the offshore drilling ban; drill in Alaska; and we can cure this pump panic disease.

And that's just the way it is.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR THE FLOOD AND TORNADO VICTIMS IN IOWA

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

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere sympathy for residents in my district and around Iowa who are currently experiencing severe flooding at record setting levels.

Just this weekend I went to two neighborhoods to help sandbag and protect homes. I spoke with a man who pointed to his home and said, "This is the only thing I have." It was a very emotional setting. I was touched by the intensity and good spirits of many of the residents and volunteers despite the circumstances, and I commend them for their perseverance.

The Governor of Iowa has already issued emergency proclamations for many of Iowa's counties, and four counties have been declared Presi-

dential disaster areas. I understand that the National Guard has been activated to assist in the flood control efforts. I am grateful for their assistance. I continue to stand ready to help my fellow Iowans in any way possible.

SOLUTIONS EXIST FOR HIGH GAS PRICES

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I feel sympathy for the folks paying these high gas prices. Here is a problem: On average, \$3.98, take in climate change 50 cents and we'll be paying \$4.48 a gallon.

Here is the solution: Outer Continental Shelf, which is off-limits by appropriation bills; moving coal-to-liquid technology, which has been blocked here on motions to recommit; expanding renewable fuels, which has been helpful, but still is not the panacea.

The New York Times, which is not one of our best supporters, says the counties were motorists spend the highest percentage of their income on gasoline tend to be poor, rural areas, which is what I represent. That is why I am on the floor monthly now talking about gas reaching \$4 a gallon, refinery expansion delayed because of environmental attacks, the clean gas, \$4 increase in price of natural gas bills.

Our consuming public cannot stand these high prices any more. Our manufacturing base cannot. We have to bring on more supply.

THE PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

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

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, 45 years ago today, President Kennedy signed a law to end what he called the "unconscionable practice of paying female workers less wages than male workers for the same job."

When President Kennedy signed the law, women earned 60 cents for every dollar earned by a man. In 2006, the woman's share is 77 cents. While we have made some progress in 45 years, it is scant at best. Since 1963 the ratio has narrowed by less than one-half cent per year. At this rate, my 13-year-old daughter will be close to retirement by the time President Kennedy's order is realized.

That is why I am cosponsoring H.R. 1338, the Paycheck Fairness Act, which adds teeth to previous laws.

Equal pay for equal work is as American as a principle can be. This is not about men versus women, but basic fairness. And its ramifications affect everyone. Paying women less hurts men who aren't hired because hiring a woman is cheaper. It hurts families by devaluing the work of women and mothers who are already paying out of

pocket for child care so they can pursue a career. In short, it hurts all of America, and it must end right here, right now.

YOU CAN'T GET OIL FROM A DRY HOLE

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, more smoke and mirrors that we are hearing this morning from the majority party about, oh, there is plenty of land to drill in, the big oil companies just aren't drilling. Let me just straighten that out just a little bit. Ninety-seven percent of the Federal offshore drilling sites are off-limits. Ninety-four percent of the federally owned onshore areas are off-limits. Fifty-two percent of the area that oil companies drilled in between 2002 and 2007 were dry holes. We need to allow these oil companies to drill in areas where there actually is oil.

I don't know the economics that the majority party has, but if there is no oil, why would you drill there? That does not make sense. If the government would sell companies leases that have oil in them instead of selling them places that turn out to be dry holes, then we would have more oil produced in this country. We imported over 600 million gallons of gasoline last year. We need to add to our refinery capabilities, also.

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ANOTHER MONTH OF JOB LOSSES: CONGRESS SHOULD EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, every month this year our economy has shed more jobs than it has produced. Last month was no exception; 49,000 jobs were lost nationwide and unemployment rose from 5 percent in April to 5.5 percent in May. That is the largest 1 month increase in 20 years.

As job losses continue on a monthly basis, it is becoming increasingly difficult for the unemployed to find jobs, and it is expected to get even worse. That is why last month this Congress passed legislation to extend unemployment benefits for an additional 13 weeks.

Today, more than 1 million people have exhausted all of their benefits. Washington should provide these workers some additional relief as they continue to pursue a job through these rough times. Yet President Bush and congressional Republicans oppose the unemployment insurance extension, even though they supported a similar extension in 2002 when economic conditions were not nearly as hard as they are today.

Madam Speaker, the May jobs report should serve as a wake-up call to President Bush and congressional Republicans to support our efforts to extend unemployment insurance.

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO DECLARE AN EXPEDITED MAJOR DISASTER AREA IN THE STATE OF INDIANA

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, across Indiana, Hoosiers are picking up the pieces from a week of extraordinary weather. My own hometown of Columbus is in the midst of a cleanup of the worst flooding since the Great Flood of 1913, and I come to the floor today to urge the President of the United States to take immediate action and declare an expedited major disaster area in the State of Indiana as a result of these severe storms, tornadoes and torrential downpour.

Following the harsh impact of tornadoes 1 week ago today, on Saturday parts of my district experienced approximately 10 inches of rain in a matter of hours. This is more rainfall than Hoosiers typically see in 2 months during this time of year, and the results have been catastrophic.

I commend the President for his action on Sunday evening speeding relief to community governments, but this government must act and act now to bring relief to Hoosier families, small businesses and family farms. We need additional declarations like those requested by Governor Mitch Daniels of the President, support from FEMA and the Department of Agriculture, and we need it now.

Hoosier families and communities are hurting, and they deserve to know that help is on the way. I urge this administration and all of my colleagues to focus their attention on this urgent Midwestern need for emergency relief.

CONGRATULATING SHAWN JOHNSON: 2007 WORLD GYMNASTIC CHAMPION; 2008 NATIONAL CHAMPION

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

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, last November I stood here to congratulate a native of Iowa, a young woman from our district who has demonstrated amazing discipline and spirit of American ambition. In September of 2007, Shawn Johnson won the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastic Championship. She is one of four American women to hold this esteemed title.

Today, I congratulate Shawn on her most recent win. On Saturday, June 7, Shawn successfully defended her title as the National Champion in women's gymnastics. Next weekend she will

compete in Philadelphia for a spot on the elite six-member U.S. Women's Olympic Gymnastic Team.

Shawn not only exudes the hard work necessary to achieve her dreams, but also the character of a natural role model. Even with all her gold medals and new-found fame, Shawn continues to compete with humble pride and gratitude.

I thank Shawn for all of the wonderful things she has done around the State of Iowa and the Nation. Since winning the world championship, she has used her fame to bring awareness to breast cancer and other cancers that affect women.

Once again, Shawn, congratulations on winning the National Championship again, and good luck in Philadelphia.

REPUBLICANS ARE READY TO ACT ON ENERGY NEEDS

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, my constituents and Americans are asking, where is the bill? When will House Democrats bring forward a real plan for families being hammered by record gas prices?

Today, the majority will spend hours considering no less than 10 nonbinding resolutions. Yet this Democrat Congress will do nothing, nothing, about outrageous energy prices. We fill the day with recognitions and commemorations, but there is no urgency for struggling Americans.

It is shameful that with energy prices rising 70 percent on their watch, House Democrats remain stubbornly opposed to offering any ideas to increase supply and lower gas prices. All we see from this majority is brazen neglect.

Republicans, on the other hand, have brought forward an energy action plan. We are ready to act. We are ready to increase American-made energy resources. We are ready to provide a broad mix of energy options. We are ready to streamline regulations allowing for increasing refining capacity. We are ready to help.

Madam Speaker, we are ready. Americans are begging to know, when will this Democrat majority be?

THE TROUBLED STATE OF OUR WORLD'S OCEANS

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the troubled state of our world's oceans. Last month, I attended an ocean science summit in Monterey, California. Also there were State and Federal policymakers and scientists concerned about our oceans and the lack of attention our Federal Government has given them.

This year's summit marked the 10-year anniversary of the Year of the Ocean and the oceans conference in Monterey attended by President Clinton and Vice President Gore. In the intervening 10 years, the Federal Government has done little to address the oceans' growing problems, ranging from overfishing to pollution to coastal development and global warming. California and Massachusetts have had to step into the breach, but problems as big as our oceans can't be addressed by a few States.

Fortunately, there is a solution. Oceans 21, introduced by Representative FARR and moving through the Natural Resources Committee now, establishes a national oceans policy and a framework for national and regional management of our shared ocean resources.

I strongly urge my colleagues to sponsor Oceans 21. Join us, and help provide stewardship for this vast resource and protect it for future generations.

REMEMBERING THE HEROES OF WORLD WAR II

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, 64 years ago this week, my father and approximately 2 million of his fellow soldiers from the United States, Great Britain, and Canada were moving into the area of France, which began the liberation of Europe. Sixty-four years ago they sacrificed in ways almost unimaginable for us. Had they not done that, had they not succeeded, we would not enjoy the freedoms we have today.

Yet it was little remarked nor remembered on the pages of our newspapers across our country and on our television sets. And the fact of the matter is these brave, gentle warriors are dying at over 1,000 a day. We soon will not have the opportunity to thank them for the sacrifices they made.

So today as we deal with these problems that face us, let us remember that America has always been a can-do country. We have never shirked from challenges. We have figured out how to do it. And remember in the words of those people in that movie not too long ago, to ask ourselves what our fathers asked themselves; are we worthy? Did we lead a good life? Did we do what we had to do?

DEMOCRATS ARE FIGHTING TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF VETERANS

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

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, while the Iraq war has stretched our military thin and our troops continue to struggle with multiple deployments,