

at the Illinois State Swimming and Diving Championships this February.

Elizabeth Lukes graduated from Eastern Illinois University in 2001 with a degree in Art Education. Besides coaching, she teaches art in the Downers Grove Elementary School, District 58.

Elizabeth lives in Warrenville with her husband, Ken; and daughter, Maggie. I am proud to honor Elizabeth Lukes for this great award and recognition, and I congratulate her again for an outstanding job at the school.

#### MEMORIAL DAY

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

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, this Monday, Memorial Day, gives citizens from around the country the opportunity to pause, come together, and remember those who have laid down their lives in protection of freedom. The debt we owe our Nation's members of the armed services, our veterans and their families can never be fully repaid.

Today we continue to be engaged in hostilities in Iraq and Afghanistan, and young men and women will continue to pay the ultimate price for this Nation.

As a 24-year veteran of the Army National Guard, I'm proud of the work we have done together in this Congress to support our veterans and military families. Although we have come a long way concerning care for our veterans, there's always more work to be done. We must ensure that our veterans do not fall through the cracks as they transition from the military to civilian life.

Back in Minnesota, as the 34th Infantry Division of the Minnesota National Guard prepare to deploy again to the Middle East, it's more critical than ever we back up those words with actions. We do so because it's the right thing to do for our veterans and the moral health of this Nation.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, we thank our current servicemembers, veterans, and their families for their service.

#### THE WARRIOR

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day is the day we remember Americans that served and did not return. Their blood has stained and sanctified the soil of every continent on Earth. They are buried in unmarked graves in far-off fields, mountains, deserts, and oceans. They brought freedom to peoples they did not know in lands they had never been.

The warrior, not the preacher, has given us freedom of religion.

The warrior, not the reporter, has given us freedom of press.

The warrior, not the lawyer, has given us the right to a fair trial.

The warrior, not the politician, has given us the right to vote.

The warrior, not the critic, has given us freedom of speech.

The warrior, not the movie personality, has given us freedom to assemble.

And the warrior, not the college professor, has given us liberty.

It is the warrior that gave his youth so we could have a future. It is the warrior who salutes the flag and serves the flag. And it's the warrior that is buried under the flag that we honor this Memorial Day, 2010.

And that's just the way it is.

#### CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, the 2008 economic meltdown had some roots in consumer finance. Financial lenders steered families into mortgages they could not afford to repay, steered them into subprime loans, then packaged those loans and sold them to investors in the securities market. Credit card companies used unfair and deceptive practices to exacerbate nearly \$1 trillion in nationwide credit card debt.

So it is important that we have a strong, independent Consumer Financial Protection Agency, such as we passed in the House last year. Putting this under or in another agency won't really protect the consumers.

The new CFPA must have the independence both to write and enforce regulations that will truly protect American families from abuses. This is our chance to reform Wall Street and stand up for ordinary Americans. And this is our chance to get it right.

I urge House leaders to insist on the stronger, more independent House-passed version of the Consumer Financial Protection Agency. Our constituents deserve no less.

#### THOROUGH STUDY ON YUCCA MOUNTAIN WASTE REPOSITORY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues on the House Armed Services Committee for including an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act to require a detailed report on the ramifications of closing the Yucca Mountain Waste Repository.

Before the administration irresponsibly walks away from a \$10 billion investment and a 23-year bipartisan agreement, we need to provide America's taxpayers and decisionmakers with adequate information.

To lessen our dependence on foreign oil, we must remain committed to investing in developing technologies. Nu-

clear energy is a clean, safe, and cost-effective energy source that has provided over half of the electricity generated in South Carolina for over 30 years. But in order to keep it safe, we must have a permanent site for disposal.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the global war on terrorism during Memorial Day activities.

#### CREATING NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY

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

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, it seems, at times, that Washington has forgotten that Americans don't need millions of dollars to create jobs. They can do plenty if the government just gives them a chance to succeed.

In my district, we are set to create new opportunities in the tourism industry with Federal action, not Federal dollars. Millions of people already visit greater Arizona to see our natural wonders, with a tremendous economic impact. We can grow our economy by preserving these sites for future generations.

I am getting the ball rolling with legislation to designate the Sedona Red Rocks as a national scenic area and to expand the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument. These bills will protect these magnificent attractions, bringing new visitors to Arizona, and help us get folks to work with almost no cost.

The Natural Resources Committee has scheduled a hearing on these measures. I appreciate their willingness to help us make progress. Congress needs to pass these job-creating provisions as soon as possible.

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#### PASS A BUDGET

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, House Democrats are refusing to do one of the most basic jobs that the American people have sent their Representatives to Washington to do: Make a budget. We are in the midst of a spending crisis. Seven months into this fiscal year, and the Federal Government has already spent \$800 billion that it doesn't have, and that number is skyrocketing. House Democrats are ready to add another \$134 billion to the deficit this week.

So how do we fix this problem? How do we stop taxing and borrowing and spending without restraint? One of the most obvious ways is by having a budget. That's our job, to pass a budget that makes hard choices and sets priorities and brings government spending under control.

But the Democrat majority in this House is afraid to let the American people see more of its deficit spending. They don't want to put a budget on paper because then they'll have to debate it, and they'll have to explain to the American people why they want to keep spending hundreds of billions of dollars that we don't have.

#### THANKING OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand to honor those who have died and have given their lives so that we might have a better life. But it's not enough to simply thank them with words. This is why the 111th Congress has passed Homes for Heroes, to help with the homelessness among our veterans. This is why we provided college benefits for the children of our veterans. This is why we produced a \$2,400 tax credit for employers who hire our veterans. This is why we provided a \$250 economic recovery benefit to our veterans. This is why we produced \$23 billion in health care and other services for our veterans.

They have been there for us. I thank God for them. It's time for us to continue to be there for them.

#### PASS THE SOUTH KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

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

Mr. DJOU. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to encourage and request the United States Congress to immediately pass the free trade agreement with South Korea. This is an important measure that has languished too long before this Congress.

First and foremost, we need to pass this because it is important for our economy. Expanding free trade and opportunities for commerce for our Nation is critical in this time of an economic recession.

For my district in Hawaii, expanding free trade will directly help the tourist industry, the number one sector of my district. Second, South Korea has been a strong ally of the United States. It's important right now we stand alongside our important allies in the foreign fields. And third and finally, Mr. Speaker, given the recent instability in the Korean Peninsula and the aggression taken by North Korea, and as a Congressman who represents the first Congressional District in the flight arc of North Korea's missiles, it is important that we right now stand beside South Korea and pass this free trade agreement and pass it now.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4213, TAX EXTENDERS ACT OF 2009

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1403 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

##### H. RES. 1403

*Resolved*, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 4213) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Ways and Means or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution as modified by the amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion.

SEC. 2. House Resolution 1392 is laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, for purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 1403 provides for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 4213. Mr. Speaker, the legislation is like many of the bills that we do. It's the product of many hours of hard work. It's also an effort to strike a balance between extending important life-saving assistance to laid-off workers and investing in smart spending that will help our economy.

A significant portion of the bill would go directly to helping our citizens. We extend unemployment insurance, we invest in summer jobs, fund loans for small businesses, and make bonds available to States. But I am pleased that the bill also cracks down on corporations, closing tax loopholes that have encouraged companies to ship jobs overseas, a thing I have devoutly desired for a number of years.

Unlike the previous administration, we use PAYGO rules here to make sure

that new spending, other than emergency spending, is fully paid for. In fact, it's worthy to remind my colleagues that the deficit facing the country was created by the last administration, which financed two wars, a prescription drug plan, and a huge tax cut, all of which was unpaid for, and consequently is responsible for two-thirds of the deficit.

In the recent frenzied back and forth over this bill, it is easy to lose sight of the important steps that Congress has taken up to this point to help right the economy. We passed small business tax relief, expanded the first-time home buyer tax credit, changed the way students apply for loans, funded a Cash for Clunkers program, injected money into the economy, and helped to protect domestic jobs at a critical juncture.

With this vote, we can help families across the country continue the path we set out on last year to help dig the country out of a terrible recession. For small businesses, the backbone of the Nation's economy, and the place where most American workers are employed, we use this bill to ensure them an easier time getting loans. The bill also continues the very successful research and development tax credit, a powerful incentive to creating well-paying jobs.

The measure extends the ongoing recovery by investing in Build America Bonds and Recovery Zone Bonds, making it less expensive for cash-strapped State and local governments to finance the rebuilding of schools and sewers and hospitals and transit projects.

The legislation helps American families with sales tax relief, property tax relief, disaster area tax relief, and college tuition deductions. The bill wisely invests in important energy provisions such as the biodiesel tax credit, while making good on our obligations to black and Native American farmers. Finally, the measure also strengthens the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund by increasing the amount the oil industry must pay to clean up its disasters.

I also want to pause for a moment to talk about two pieces of legislation that I personally am happy to see in the bill, because I think they'll pay enormous benefits. This bill closes a loophole in the Tax Code that has been used by huge corporations, including publicly regulated utilities. Companies use this loophole to avoid paying millions of dollars in taxes when they spin off a subsidiary. These deals cost taxpayers and they hurt consumers, especially when the company using the loophole is a phone company that wants to get rid of the older telephone lines in small towns and rural areas. With this bill we close that loophole, and we will save taxpayers \$260 million over the next 10 years.

On another front, the bill also extends funding for the wool trust fund, which helps to keep thousands of textile and apparel workers around the country employed. I was proud to work on this issue because of the relevance it has to Hickey Freeman, a 100-year-