

of elements. After just 40-some days, there are already reports that workers have suffered from exposure to the oil. And this cleanup will go on for years.

The time to address the issue of the health of the cleanup workers is now, before they lose it.

DUBOIS BUSINESS COLLEGE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the DuBois Business College started teaching courses in DuBois, Pennsylvania, 125 years ago. They pride themselves on a small student-to-teacher ratio and a stellar success rate for students. From legal assistants to clinical medical assistants, the college has spent decades helping to move people into careers with a future and a good paycheck.

In 1996, the college opened branches in the nearby communities of Huntingdon and Oil City. Then, in 2001, a core group of eight veteran instructors and working administrators purchased the college and committed themselves to continuing the college tradition of excellence.

The college will be celebrating its anniversary throughout the year, but this weekend they'll hold an open house and tours of their newly remodeled facility and new student annex as a commemorative celebration.

In an area where there are no community colleges, DuBois Business College has filled a need over its history and continues to offer quality and affordable education in the fields of accounting, business management, medical, legal, information technology, graphic arts, computer applications, and even movie making.

It is my pleasure to congratulate this institution on its anniversary and to wish them continued success and growth.

AMERICA IS RECOVERING

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the research by USA Today shows that Americans are paying the lowest tax rates since the 1950s—not the 1990s, not 2001 or 2002, but since the 1950s. The Democrats' tax cuts for middle class and small businesses are helping this economy. The economy continues to move in the right direction and it is being sustained. Unemployment is going down in 90 percent of our metropolitan areas.

And the President is attacking the BP oil spill in the right way. But as I represent the gulf region where fishermen and oystermen are, as well as oil workers, we've got to ensure that we continue to save jobs. That means the industry has to reform itself. No permit should be issued unless there is a

defined recovery plan that is approved and vetted by experts that are independent of the government and the industry.

We are saving and creating jobs, but we are as concerned about safety and security. This is the right path. Democrats reduced taxes. The President is in charge. We're going to be able to see America recover.

REALITIES BEHIND HEALTH CARE TAKEOVER

(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, yesterday the administration held a town hall by telephone with seniors across the country to promote a health care takeover bill that costs more by the minute. Seniors need more than a sales pitch. They need to know the facts about this bill.

Fifty percent who depend on Medicare Advantage could lose this coverage. The impact of the bill could be devastating. In Texas, 300 doctors have already stopped seeing seniors. Seniors' loved ones will be deeply impacted by the takeover bill with a \$2,100 hit. This is the amount the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has predicted that early retirees, the self-employed, small business workers, and millions of others who buy family coverage in the individual market will pay more for their health insurance.

Instead of spending time selling a broken product, lawmakers need to repeal it and offer seniors a patient-centered health care plan that lowers costs and expands access.

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

PART D DOUGHNUT HOLE

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, there's great news for seniors, and I think that they'll be receiving it in the mail soon. The notorious doughnut hole is going to be closed. And starting this week, the part D doughnut hole where seniors have to pay for their drugs at an immense amount that hurts them will start to be filled because of the health care bill we passed in this House without a single Republican vote that made it law. The Democrats did it.

And \$250 one-time rebate checks will go out as early as this week to seniors who are in the doughnut hole. They will start to be mailed out tomorrow, June 10. Seniors who fall into that hole can expect a \$250 tax rebate check in their mailbox to help them cover those costs, part of the Democratic bill that reformed health care that didn't have a single Republican vote to help it become law. There were 217, 218 Democratic votes up to make that law.

Eventually, the doughnut hole will be eliminated, but we start with these \$250 checks. And I am proud to have voted for it, proud to have supported it, and pleased to give seniors relief from drug bills that are hurting them every day.

WHY WE HAVE NO BUDGET

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, here's one way the American people can tell that it's an election year. After racking up record deficits, congressional Democrats are now trying to run away from the truth about their out-of-control spending.

Last fiscal year, Democrats in Congress tallied a record \$1.4 trillion of deficit spending. Through the first 7 months of this year, they've already overspent by \$800 billion.

So it's no wonder, with elections coming up in just a few months, that they don't want you to know how much deficit spending they plan to do next year. That's why we have no budget.

House Democrats are not putting a budget on the table. They don't want to own up to their numbers. They don't want you to see another trillion dollars added to the deficit. So they'll just leave the books open without a plan and spend without restraint.

About the only thing that will stop them is if the American people speak up and say this is not acceptable. We sent you to Congress to lead; so write a budget.

GOVERNMENT MUST ENFORCE POLLUTION LAWS

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, this morning the Sustainable Energy and Environment Caucus had a meeting with Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson, and she told us something that I thought was encouraging, which is that the United States Federal Government has insisted that British Petroleum drill a second relief well to make sure that we've got a relief well that can ultimately stop this horrific spill in the gulf coast.

And it's encouraging because the Federal Government has to be the ultimate decider to make sure this job gets done. BP only wanted to do one well, but the President and his administration insisted that they do two wells to make sure that we get one that works.

But there's a disturbing effort now going on in the U.S. Senate to deprive the EPA of the ability to clean up the industry that is now putting pollution in the air as well. We've got to preserve the Federal Government's ability to enforce our air pollution and clean water laws. The American people deserve that. We ought to stand strong to

have a sheriff in charge of this operation.

HIGH-DEDUCTIBLE HEALTH PLANS

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

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, a recent report has shown that enrollment in high-deductible health plans associated with health savings accounts grew by 25 percent in 2009 to a total of 10 million Americans. These plans, which often provide the lowest-priced health insurance, are targeted in the newly enacted health care bill.

ObamaCare will increase taxes on HSAs from 10 percent to 20 percent and will prevent over-the-counter drugs from being reimbursed tax free from the health savings accounts. Millions of Americans rely on HSAs to cover deductibles, insurance copays, over-the-counter medications, and a plethora of other medical expenses. Furthermore, HSAs are an excellent tool to cut health care costs, while ObamaCare, itself, provides no such tools.

If you truly support health care affordability, I ask you to support my legislation, H.R. 5126, which restores the valuable tool that saves costs.

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SARAH NOBLE SCHOOL WALKING PROJECT

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

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, more than 52,000 miles in 4 weeks. That is what 10,000 steps, or 5 miles, every single day is. That's what the kids at Sarah Noble School in New Milford, Connecticut, accomplished in May. In their fourth annual school walking project for fifth graders, students lived by the "Triple E" mantra: exercise, eating healthy, and protecting the environment. These students are putting themselves on a path to a healthier life by investing in walking. Healthy habits that can start now can pay off as they grow older because, as we know, obese youth are becoming an epidemic. They are more likely to have high-risk factors for cardiovascular disease such as high cholesterol and high blood pressure, as well as Type II diabetes and several types of cancer.

We've got to break this cycle, and it starts with a single step, some healthy snacks, and keeping the air we breathe clean. At Sarah Noble School, fifth graders are already doing their part, and they have given me this pedometer to help me do the same. Together, we can all strive to be healthy, one step at a time.

AMERICA SPEAKING OUT TOWN HALL

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in an effort to engage Floridians to talk about the challenges facing our country, I hosted an America Speaking Out town hall meeting in Plant City, Florida, late last week. City Hall was packed with people who are concerned about the direction our country is headed. Their message was loud and clear: Washington has ignored the voice of the American people and pushed through an agenda that does nothing but grow the size of government and our national debt.

Mr. Speaker, instead of handing an IOU to future generations in an effort to radically grow the government, Washington should exercise fiscal restraint and produce economic solutions that let people and businesses keep more of what they earn so they can innovate, grow, and create jobs to kick-start our economy.

Mr. Speaker, Washington can no longer ignore the voice of the people. Americans are speaking out and Washington needs to listen.

JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

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

Mr. BACA. Last week, the unemployment rate dropped to 9.7 percent, and the economy added over 400,000 jobs. Since the beginning of last year, we have added an average of 200,000 jobs a month. Unemployment rates dropped in 90 percent of the Nation's largest metro areas, with much of the improvement seen in the manufacturing sector instead of outsourcing like it was done in the past administration. And thanks in large part to the first-time home buyers tax credit, home sales rose in April as well.

But while our economy is showing signs of progress, our work is far from over. We must continue to focus on solid, job-creating bills that will help our economy move forward. Yet even though progress has been made, Republicans want to continue to side with Wall Street and the big banks that caused the crisis. Saying "no" over and over again is not progress; it is destructive.

Democrats are committed to keep on working and focusing on initiatives that will correct the failed policies of the past, but we all must work together.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE INVESTIGATIVE REPORTERS GONE?

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, investigative journalists pursued alleged scandals involving former House majority leader Tom DeLay and former White House deputy chief of staff Karl

Rove, even though neither was ever convicted of any wrongdoing. But today, few investigative reporters are focused on what could be a criminal attempt by the Obama administration to manipulate the Democratic Senate primaries in Pennsylvania and Colorado.

While we don't know all the facts about the administration's actions, we do know the following: It is against the law to offer a government job in exchange for dropping out of a political race. It is against the law for administration officials to interfere in the nominee process of a Senate election. And it is against the law to obstruct justice.

Rather than a swarm of investigative reporters demanding answers from the administration, we hear only the sound of crickets chirping on the White House lawn.

JOBS

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

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I am amazed and disheartened by congressional Republicans' attempts to reinstitute the same flawed policies that created the economic crisis we find ourselves in today. Congressional Republicans are determined to abandon Americans who have lost their jobs and partner with special interest groups like the Wall Street banks, credit card companies, Big Oil, and insurance companies.

Their intent is shown in their voting record. Republicans have voted against every major piece of economic legislation we've taken up this year. They voted "no" on the Recovery Act. They voted "no" to rein in banks through Wall Street reform. They even voted "no" for summer jobs.

I am proud to be a Democrat in this Congress and stand up for hard-working Americans. Our party is dedicated to moving America in a new direction, creating good American jobs, lowering taxes for the middle class and small businesses, and building a strong new foundation for the economy and for Main Street.

The growing signs of economic recovery show our policies are working. Consider that American jobs have been created in six of the last seven months, averaging nearly 200,000 jobs a month this year. While more needs to be done, Mr. Speaker, America is on the road to recovery.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. A recent Gallup poll showed 79 percent of Americans now view the Federal debt as a serious threat to the future well-being of this Nation. It's no wonder because the administration just announced that the Nation's debt will