

Business Lending Fund Act. This legislation will help the small businesses in my district, such as Al & Joe's Deli, a family-owned business in Franklin Park with sub sandwiches to die for, that is looking to expand. It will also save businesses such as National Plumbing & Heating Supply Company in Illinois, which had to shut down after 60 years because banks ended its line of credit.

To respond to these problems, I will vote to create a new \$30 billion loan program to boost lending to small businesses so they can expand and create jobs.

I also cosponsored an amendment that will include commercial real estate lending as small business lending. This will complement regular lending efforts and help businesses like Al & Joe's capitalize on existing property to expand and create new jobs.

I urge my colleagues to pass this critical legislation.

□ 1015

#### HONORING ELAINE KANG

(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, I rise today to recognize and honor the young talent of Elaine Kang, a 16-year-old violinist from Port Matilda, PA.

This coming September, she will make her radio debut on NPR's "From the Top," a critically acclaimed radio show that reaches 700,000 listeners each week. "From the Top" serves to honor the passion and tenacity of classical musicians under the mission of allowing young people to make a difference by showing who they are and what they can accomplish.

Elaine should be highly commended for developing this wonderful talent. With only 16 years behind her and many more ahead, she is well on her way to a fruitful career. She is a role model for many other young musicians, as well as her peers. The lessons of hard work and discipline are universal, and Elaine certainly promotes them. She has exhibited wonderful skill and her example shows the benefit of pursuing one's passions.

I wish Elaine the best of luck on her upcoming taping at the Majestic Theatre in Gettysburg, and I look forward to hearing her play.

#### COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. BACA. I agree with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that America's borders must be secured. Border security is an important part of comprehensive reform, but we simply cannot ignore the 12 million in-

dividuals who are forced to live in the shadows of our society. Our broken immigration system is tearing families apart, thousands of families, every year.

The Department of Homeland Security reports that over the last 10 years, more than 100,000 immigrant parents of U.S. citizen children have been deported. Misguided laws like Arizona's SB1070 don't help keep families together.

Immigration is a Federal problem that can only be solved with a comprehensive approach that is both sensitive to families and ensures border security.

I urge my colleagues, both Democrats and Republicans, to cosponsor H.R. 4321.

Last, but not least, I would like to wish the women good luck tonight in their softball game.

#### CONGRESS MUST BUDGET

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, the national debt just surpassed \$13 trillion. Since 2000, the national debt and government spending have doubled, and in simple terms, every American citizen now owes \$42,000 toward this debt.

To govern is to choose, Mr. Speaker, and choices must be made within our budget to resolve this dire situation. Yes, the choices before us are hard, and restoring economic strength will be very difficult. But tightening the belt, making hard choices and relieving the massive debt burden that will otherwise be left to our children and grandchildren, this is the charge of Congress. This is our duty. This is what the American people deserve.

Government spending and overreach are eroding economic confidence, yet there is neither a political will or a mechanism in Washington right now for addressing this spiraling debt and deficit/right now there isn't even a budget, and this is unconscionable and unsustainable. Our constituents deserve a Nation with its fiscal house in order, and this starts with a responsible budget plan.

#### REMEMBERING BLOODY SUNDAY

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

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, we had an opportunity yesterday to witness another it-will-never-happen moment. Thirty-eight years after 13 unarmed men and women were shot dead on the streets of Derry in the north of Ireland, on a day now known as Bloody Sunday, the families and relatives of the victims have found the justice they've been seeking for decades. They learned the truth yesterday about what hap-

pened during a peaceful civil rights march in the Bogside community in January of 1972. And they heard the British Prime Minister David Cameron say that their loved ones were innocent and that the actions of the parachute regimen on that day were unjustified and wrong.

If Bloody Sunday was a defining day in the history of the troubles, let us hope the publication of the Saville Report will be transformative and cathartic moment for the people in the north of Ireland.

Today we remember those who lost their lives marching near Free Derry and Rossville Flats. We remember Bloody Sunday and those who were wounded. The innocent people have now been exonerated.

For those of us who stood up with those families over the course of almost four decades—and I was a staunch supporter of those families—this is a moment of satisfaction. And at the Guildhall yesterday in Derry, people cheered the vindication of their loved ones who died on that tragic, tragic day.

#### GIRLS ROCK THE HOUSE WINNER

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

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elli Rassbach, an eighth grade student from Walla Walla, Washington, the winner of the first "Girls Rock the House" contest in my home State of Washington State.

At a time when only 17 percent of Congress is made up of women, we need to be doing a better job of making young ladies aware of the opportunities and encouraging more young women to become involved in public service.

That's why I'm a strong supporter of "Girls Rock the House," and I'm very proud of this year's winner. The bill Elli wrote and submitted to "Girls Rock the House" is well-researched and well-written. It's an idea to promote healthy living, and I'm proud to stand before my colleagues and ask them to join me in recognizing her achievement.

On behalf of the United States Congress, congratulations, Elli. Well done.

#### NO MORE FREE RIDES COURTESY OF THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, author Michael Kinsley once observed that "a gaffe is when a politician tells the truth."

The Republican leader, Mr. BOEHNER, proved this point the other day when he was asked point blank whether he agrees with the Chamber of Commerce that the government should pitch in to

pay for BP's oil spill. He replied, "I think BP and the Federal Government should take full responsibility for what's happening here." His words clearly misstated the law. BP is solely responsible, and his staff went into damage control overdrive afterwards to clean up his mess.

But this gaffe really confirms what every American knows in their heart of hearts, that Washington Republicans for the last 40 years have been lockstep allies of the oil companies' push to shift the risk of oil production onto the taxpayer and keep the benefit to themselves. Americans listening today should know that no matter what the Republican leader says, the Democratic majority understands that BP is solely responsible for the cleanup; that the taxpayer will be repaid for its costs; and that BP will compensate small businesses and working families for the damage done to their lives.

No more free rides courtesy of the American taxpayer.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

#### BENEFITS OF THE HEALTH CARE ACT

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, after a year and a little bit more of debating health care in this country, with all the numbers and the rhetoric, sometimes we lose sight of the actual human face of what we accomplish for the American people.

I have the great honor today of being joined by two bright and beautiful young women: Camille Davis and Madeline Davis of Louisville, Kentucky, 7 and 9 years old. They both had tethered cord syndrome that was diagnosed and treated successfully at Children's Hospital in my hometown. They are doing great, and they will grow up to be whatever they want to be. As a matter of fact, I'm glad that they're not 25 because probably one of them would take my seat very shortly.

But the important thing is now, because of the health care bill that we passed, they can be anything they want to be. They can go to grad school. They can do an internship. They can stay on their parent's policy until they're 26. They have total freedom without regard to being denied coverage because of their medical history. This is one of the great benefits of the health care act that we achieved for the American people, and there are millions more like Madeline and Camille who will benefit for the rest of their lives.

I am so proud of what we accomplished for Madeline and Camille Davis and for millions of American young people.

#### SLOAN HILLS WITHDRAWAL ACT

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, today the Senate will hold a subcommittee hearing on the Sloan Hills Withdrawal Act introduced by Majority Leader REID. I am a cosponsor and strong supporter of the House companion to this legislation.

This bill would withdraw a 640-acre site near the Sun City Anthem community in Henderson from being made available for mining purposes. The proposed mining operation would cause air quality deterioration, a serious concern, especially for seniors and children, who are vulnerable to respiratory diseases. The proposal is also water-intensive and will increase traffic in the area.

Residents of nearby communities, which are in District Three, would be most directly impacted by this project. That is why I attended a public meeting in April of last year with more than 400 concerned residents of the area. I heard loud and clear that the proposed mine was unacceptable.

The Sloan Hills Withdrawal Act would ensure that an aggregate mine is not developed on this site and will protect the health and well-being of my constituents in Henderson. So I urge its passage.

#### SCOTT URBAN, 2010 OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD FOR TEACHER ACHIEVEMENT

(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, I rise today to honor Scott Urban, a teacher from Mankato West High School in Mankato, Minnesota. Scott was this year's recipient of the Minnesota WEM Foundation's Outstanding Educator Award. This award recognizes exemplary teachers who support, inspire, and assist students to achieve their full potential. They are nominated by students, parents, colleagues, and community leaders, the people that matter most.

As a teacher on leave myself from Mankato West High School, I had the honor of teaching in the classroom next to Scott. I have seen his passion and outstanding leadership inspire students to achieve far more than they ever dream. He encourages his students to learn the material, not simply for a test but to test their knowledge and their limits.

Scott's success with students is unparalleled. Over the past 11 years at Mankato West, the students in his rigorous advanced placement government and politics class have maintained an 80 percent pass rate on the national exam, well above all averages. Last year, 85 students took the exam with a

pass rate of 94 percent, and 54 percent achieved five out of five. Students in Scott's advanced placement government class come away with not only superior knowledge of our political system but a deep love for our democracy.

For 27 years, he has challenged and inspired, and I hope it's another 27.

Congratulations, Scott.

#### WE MUST BREAK OUR ADDICTION TO FOSSIL FUEL

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

Ms. BERKLEY. The horrific crisis and tragedy in the gulf must be a wake-up call to America that we must break our addiction to fossil fuel and move with all deliberate haste to a renewable energy future or America simply will have no future.

Energy independence is an economic necessity. We can create an entire economy based on green jobs. It's not only an environmental necessity. Look at the crisis that we have in the gulf with the loss of life and the destruction of an ecosystem that will take a lifetime to fix.

It's a national security imperative. We have to break from our reliance on the Saudis and the Venezuelans, the BPs of the world, and harness the sun, wind, geothermal, biomass. The State of Nevada can become the epicenter of renewable energy. We just need the will to do it.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in a renewable energy future for this great country.

#### WALL STREET REFORM

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

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, Wall Street reform is critical to creating jobs and growing our economy. As we rebuild America, we must ensure that Wall Street won't gamble again with our futures.

I support the Restoring American Financial Stability Act because it includes commonsense reforms to hold Wall Street and the big banks accountable. This bill will end bailouts by ensuring taxpayers are never again on the hook for Wall Street's risky decisions and will rein in big banks and their big bonuses. It protects families' retirement funds, college savings, homes and businesses' financial futures from unnecessary risk by lenders.

It also safeguards the American people from predatory lending abuses, which resulted in millions of foreclosures over the past few years.

The American people deserve and want these reforms. Let's give Americans what they deserve: fairness in the financial system.