

funding, it currently employs 28 people at two locations and will expand to over 100 in the upcoming year. ABS Materials is currently working on producing a more environmentally friendly way of separating oil from ocean water in the Gulf of Mexico.

I congratulate both of these companies on their perseverance and success during these tough economic times and their leadership in combating the worst oil spill in our country's history.

HONORING CHEVEZ CLARKE

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

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chevez Clarke, a baseball player from my hometown of Marietta, Georgia, who, along with two other Georgians, Kaleb Cowart of Cook High School and Cam Bedrosian of East Coweta High School, was drafted with the first round of the 2010 Major League Baseball draft by the Los Angeles Angels.

Clarke, who's a senior at Marietta High School, is a switch-hitting center fielder, and scouts say he has the ability to be a "game-changer." Marietta Coach Chris Stafford said Clarke is the most talented player he has ever had the chance to coach and is a "very mature, focused kid." No doubt Marietta High School benefited greatly from the playing ability of Chevez Clarke.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my congratulations to Chevez Clarke's mom and dad, who I know played a big part in his success, and I wish Chevez all the best.

IN MEMORY OF ARMY SPECIALIST BENJAMIN OSBORN

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

Mr. MURPHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the very sad duty of reporting the tragic passing of Army Specialist Benjamin Osborn. Osborn was killed in action in Afghanistan on June 15, 2010. Specialist Osborn was assigned to the Army's 101st Airborne based out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky. A beloved son, husband, friend, and soldier from Lake George, Ben will be sorely missed by the entire Adirondack community. My heart goes out to Ben's wife, Nicole, and to his parents, William and Beverly. This true American hero made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of his Nation, and we owe him our eternal gratitude.

Ben Osborn, just 27 years old, volunteered for the position of gunner because, in the words of his sister, Bethany, "He was a proud soldier and believed in what he was doing." Specialist Osborn was willing to give his life in service to all of us and to the country that he loved. The expression of our gratitude for his sacrifice to our Nation is beyond words. This Nation

has been built by great men and women like Ben Osborn, and we must never forget the true cost of the freedoms that we hold dear. I pray that it's not just on days like today when everyone is reminded of the hardships, suffering, bravery, and sacrifices of our Armed Forces. Every day we must try to be more like Ben and dedicate ourselves to these worthy ideals for which he gave his life.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Osborn family during this difficult time.

□ 1900

THE FAIRTAX

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

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Americans are overtaxed. The Tax Foundation estimates that it took American workers over 3 months this year to pay their share of local, State, and Federal taxes, and this Congress has raised taxes over \$500 billion on the American people so far.

You know, enough is enough. We need to reduce spending and then focus on reforming the tax code with a fairer, simpler system. That's why I have cosponsored H.R. 25, the FairTax. The FairTax eliminates income taxes, estate taxes, capital gains taxes, Social Security, Medicare, and self-employment taxes and replaces them with one simple retail sales tax. Workers will keep 100 percent of their paychecks, and a new set of winners and losers will be there. The winners being the taxpayers, and the losers being the government.

The FairTax is common sense and abolishes the IRS, making April 15 just another day on the calendar, and maybe one day, we can pass a suspension to recognize that great accomplishment. Lower taxes, less government, and personal responsibility—that's a recipe to getting this economy back on track.

RESTORING DIGNITY AND FREEDOM TO THIS NATION

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday, June 19, was the celebration of Juneteenth. Thirty-six States now recognize that as a State holiday, a holiday that is not just for one narrow community, but in actuality, is about perseverance, determination, commitment, and freedom. Major Gordon Granger landed on the shores of Galveston, Texas, to announce that those who had been enslaved are free, 2 years later, past the Emancipation Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln.

Today we have the same challenges of restoring, of being persevering and

determined to improve education, to restore summer jobs that have not been voted on yet, to pass a remedies bill that I am introducing that is going to take a new look at the gulf oil spill and restore some new processes to not have this happen again. And yes, restore some dignity to the brass as it relates to the Commander in Chief, who should always be respected. Let us restore dignity and freedom to this Nation and include the United States military brass that have to be more respectful of the President than I have seen in the last 48 hours.

BONE MARROW DONATION

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage participation in the National Marrow Donor Program. There are many terrible diseases, as we know, especially leukemia, where patients may very well require a bone marrow transplant, yet nearly 70 percent of patients don't match with a family member for a transplant. That's why the National Marrow Donor Program is so vital.

These patients need you. They depend on the selfless people in our community that are registered with the National Marrow Donor Program. Every name that is added greatly increases the likelihood that a patient will find the match that that person needs. And joining the registry is simple. All that is needed is a swab of the cheek, and your name will be entered. You can also order an at-home registration kit at marrow.org or sign up in person at one of the many Be the Match Registry drives throughout the country. Help save a life. Join the National Marrow Donor Program today.

RAISING TAXES

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the majority leader today gave a speech, and he indicated that we have to raise taxes. He said the deficit was so big—due in large part to the spending on the Democrat side of the aisle—that the deficit was so big, we have to raise taxes. There's no other way.

When Ronald Reagan took office back in 1980, he heard the same thing. Everybody said that the spending was out of control, that we had to do more with less, and we had to raise taxes. Ronald Reagan talked to a guy named Art Laffer, who is an economist. He said, The way to get the economy moving was to cut taxes, to give people more disposable income, to give businesses more money to invest, and the economy would right itself. And it did, and we had 20 years of prosperity.

Now the Democrats, under the leadership of Mr. HOYER, want to raise

taxes, take money out of people's pockets, take money out of businesses, and say that's going to solve the problem. It will compound the problem and make the recession much, much worse. What we need to do right now is what Ronald Reagan did—cut taxes, give people more disposable income, and give businesses the ability to grow. That's how you create jobs.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

CAPRICIOUS, ARBITRARY, PUNITIVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, "capricious, arbitrary, and punitive." Those are the words of a Federal judge today in ruling about the moratorium for offshore drilling. The Federal judge said that the administration's decision to ban offshore drilling in the deepwater was capricious, arbitrary, and punitive—therefore, illegal. And the Federal judge granted an injunction by the hardworking folks in the gulf States to stop the moratorium because of the detrimental impact it would have.

You see, Mr. Speaker, 150,000 people would lose their jobs if that moratorium continued. There are 3,900 wells in the gulf. Those 3,900 wells produce 31 percent of the Nation's domestic oil and 11 percent of our natural gas. In the deepwater area, we receive 17 percent of the Nation's domestic crude oil from that deepwater drilling. So those affected parties—by the arbitrary, capricious, and punitive ban of the Federal Government—decided to sue, and a Federal judge ruled that the administration's moratorium was improper, granted an injunction by the affected parties, and allowed them to now drill in deepwater. The Federal judge said that the people that sued the oil-related industries would suffer irreparable harm if this ban were to continue. The government's response was, Well, their losses would be trivial. The Federal judge didn't buy their argument.

Also, before a preliminary injunction can be granted, Mr. Speaker—these are rare animals—what happens is, someone goes to court and says that because they're going to be hurt so bad, the Federal judge has to stop somebody's action. In this case, our own government's action. And also, the Federal judge said, probably if there were a trial, the plaintiffs—those suing the Federal Government—would prevail on the merits and win in a jury trial. Granted the injunction because the harm done to the gulf, to the related

industries, to the loss of jobs were massive and irreparable. When the Federal judge tried to hear what the Federal Government said about banning offshore drilling, the judge said, "The government's explanation abuses reason and common sense." In other words, there was no reason, there is no common sense in the almighty Federal Government coming in and banning deepwater drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. It made no sense. Mr. Speaker, it makes no sense to ban the whole deepwater drilling because of the actions of BP.

Recently in Texas, we had a BP refinery explode. People were killed. Hundreds were hurt. But we didn't close all the refineries in the United States because of one accident. It wouldn't make sense. It defies reason and common sense. When a plane crashes and people die, that's horrible, but we don't close down the airline industry for 6 months because the Federal Government wants to eventually get around to finding out what happened.

So the Federal judge who ruled in this case did so properly, and it was important for him to do so to prevent people from losing jobs. Jobs that were lost or would be lost because of the Federal government's action, not because of BP's action. So what's the Federal Government going to do about this? They're going to appeal. They don't like the ruling, so they want to appeal to the Fifth Circuit to try to overrule this judge. Why didn't the Federal Government just follow the law and allow deepwater drilling and not destroy the economy of the whole country because of arrogance and because of the lack of reason and common sense?

So, Mr. Speaker, the disaster in the gulf continues to be the second disaster in the gulf for the lack of leadership. We still don't have a Federal plan. We don't know what the Federal Government's response is. It seems like, to me, FEMA is in charge of all of this because the results are always delay, delay, delay, but let's punish deepwater drilling.

The Federal judge's rules will be upheld. The Federal Government needs to get with the program, understand there's a sense of urgency, find out what caused this problem, not let it happen again, clean up the mess, and move on down the road. Meanwhile, follow the law. Don't destroy the jobs in the Gulf Coast, and the Federal Government needs to get out of the way and let us continue safely to drill offshore and provide the energy needs of this country and also provide good working jobs for Americans. Otherwise, these jobs will leave the country, go to Brazil and Indonesia, and never return.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING FIRST LIEUTENANT JOEL GENTZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SCHAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHAUER. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, the Seventh Congressional District of Michigan and our country lost a hero. On June 9, First Lieutenant Joel Gentz of Grass Lake, east of Jackson, was killed while completing a helicopter rescue mission in southern Afghanistan. He was 25 years old. The people that I serve will never forget the sacrifices he made because of the love of his country. I would like to share his story with you.

Joel ran cross-country at Chelsea High School, where he graduated in 2002. He attended Purdue University and graduated with honors in aerospace engineering in 2007. In June 2008, Joel married Kathryn Sullivan, his college sweetheart. They had just celebrated their second wedding anniversary when he lost his life. I spoke with Kathryn on Saturday. She has truly lost her best friend.

Joel originally wanted to be an astronaut, but through his ROTC program, he met combat rescue officers, learned about their mission, and decided what he wanted to do most was to help people. As part of the Air Force's 58th Rescue Squadron, First Lieutenant Gentz spent 2 years becoming a combat rescue officer. He completed Superman School, a training program with a 60 to 90 percent dropout rate. The intense program takes 2 years, and only the strongest finish. Joel was one of about 14 that graduated of the 90 that started in his class.

When he died, First Lieutenant Joel Gentz was flying eight helicopter rescue missions a day into hostile territory in Afghanistan to rescue both Americans and Afghans. He told his dad there was no greater joy than saving an Afghani child and seeing the look on the faces of the parents. He saved a lot of children. His mother said, He was more of a peacekeeper than a fighter, and his service to others demonstrates this.

Just a month ago, Joel emailed Ellen Harpin, the founder of The Ships Project, asking her to send toys to Afghani children that could be dropped off during his unit's missions. The Ships Project sends packages to servicemen and -women in Iraq and Afghanistan. The toys had been gathered, and she was just waiting to hear back from Joel for an address to ship them when he died. She promises to make sure they are all shipped and Joel's wishes are honored.

The Pararescue Code states, "It is my duty as a Pararescueman to save life and to aid the injured. I will be prepared at all times to perform my assigned duties quickly and efficiently,