

Coast Guard Reserve member and a Vietnam veteran who serves as the executive director of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Ingham* Memorial Museum, as well as Beth Nowell, development director for the museum, that the residents of Key West and I were able to welcome the *Ingham* to our maritime family with open arms. Towed in to stand tall alongside the active USS *Mohawk*, the *Ingham* will be open to the public as a living and breathing museum.

This historic ship has saved so many lives and helped shape the course of American history. She and her crews have performed every mission in the best tradition of the United States Coast Guard. I give thanks to the unwavering dedication and work of the crew of the *Ingham* for over half a century of service. The *Ingham* is a demonstration of what it means to be an American and why we should always be proud to say so.

So please come to Key West and see for yourself this beautiful museum, a testament to the brave men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard.

#### SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

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

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I recently got some first-hand experience with the way in which the right-wing propaganda machine operates. The pattern appears to be to begin with a lie and then have that lie multiplied through an echo chamber that repeats it and repeats it.

In this case, a man named John Fund, who is an editorial writer at the Wall Street Journal, one of the most right-wing of our publications these days, on the editorial page just told a lie about me in November of last year. He gave a speech at Restoration Week-end. I don't know what they were restoring, but it certainly wasn't respect for the truth. And he said, "Democrats were very rattled by the November 3 election results. What do liberals do when they lose elections? They change the rules. In January, CHUCK SCHUMER and BARNEY FRANK will propose universal voter registration." "There'll be felon reenfranchisement too." "The Feds will tell the States, 'Take everyone on every list of welfare recipients you have, take everyone on every list of unemployed you have.'"

It's a lie. He made it up. It's not even a misinterpretation. It's not a quote taken out of context. It is a total myth. There is no such bill. There wasn't in November. Then right-wing echo chamber picks it up. The Washington Times, the voice of the Reverend Moon, says, SCHUMER and FRANK "have plans to ram through legislation that will produce universal voter registration." And they say it will be on the floor of the House in 2 weeks. It's the lie repeated. Glenn Beck joined in. Rush Limbaugh joined in.

This begins with a totally fictional accusation by John Fund with no basis whatsoever. It is then repeated by Glenn Beck and repeated by the Washington Times and repeated by Rush Limbaugh. None of them have checked what we were talking about, none of them seeing if it was accurate.

I was asked by a constituent why I had done that. My response was, Done what? I didn't do it. So I checked into it, and I found that the source of this was Mr. Fund's totally irresponsible myth in November. So I wrote to Mr. Fund—and I put this letter in there—and said, I was puzzled to hear you say this. I checked. I now write to tell you that you are entirely wrong in your assertion about me, and in the absence of your being able to show any basis on which you made such a statement, to ask you to acknowledge that fact.

He is not only a liar; he is a coward. He wouldn't do it. My staff member, Mr. Gural, asked him, called him up and said, Well, what was this based on? He said, Oh, I made a mistake. Well, have you issued a retraction? Mr. Gural asked him. Oh, yeah, he said. Can we see a copy? Mr. Gural reasonably asked. Oh, I told a couple of people.

So here we are. Mr. Fund makes it up. It's a lie. It's a myth. There was nothing there. And it's to discredit all Democrats. His right-wing cohorts then echo it and echo it. The next thing you know, it's going to be coming on the floor in the House in 2 weeks. People hear it, and it's all over the blogs. This is the Democrats' disregard for the electoral process. And when we call Mr. Fund's attention to the fact that this was a lie, what does he say? Whoops. But he's not going to tell anybody about it.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the only case of this. And I know this has happened before; but because I was directly involved here, I am in a position to document this. It begins with a lie from this editorial writer from the Wall Street Journal. It is then a lie repeated by all of his right-wing colleagues. And then when he is nailed in the lie, he simply blithely refuses to do anything about it.

I hope people will take from this the lesson to be very skeptical when these right-wing propagandas—Limbaugh or Beck or the Washington Times or the Wall Street Journal editorial board—propagate these vicious smears.

PARTIAL TEXT OF JOHN FUND'S SPEECH AT RESTORATION WEEKEND NOVEMBER 21, 2009

Democrats were very rattled by the November 3rd election results. What do liberals do when they lose elections? They change the rules. In January, Chuck Schumer and Barney Frank will propose universal voter registration.

What is universal voter registration? It means all of the state laws on elections will be overridden by a federal mandate. The feds will tell the states, "Take everyone on every list of welfare recipients you have, take everyone on every list of unemployed you have, take everyone on every list of property owners, take everyone on every list of driver's license holders, and register them to vote regardless of whether they want to be."

By the way, there'll be felon re-enfranchisement too. At that point, you have destroyed the integrity of the registration process.

Now they will sell this very cleverly. They will say, "Well, OK, ACORN did have some problems with voter registration. We shouldn't have these third party rogue groups out there. So let's put ACORN out of business. Let's register everybody."

Now the problem, of course, is there are a lot of duplicates. And there are a lot of people on those rolls who are illegal aliens. It's not a clean list. They don't care. So, this is the issue you haven't heard about. There's a reason you haven't heard about it. They don't want you to hear about it.

The path between the day this bill is introduced and the day it hits the House floor will probably be less than two weeks. Get ready for it. You can stop it. Don't get me wrong. But this is their stealth bill that is even more sneaky than the health care bill.

[From the Washington Times, Jan. 7, 2010]

#### EDITORIAL: LETTING CROOKS & ILLEGALS VOTE

Democrats have a political death wish. At least that's how it looks. There's no other explanation for their feverish push to take over the health care system when a huge majority of Americans are opposed to the plan. But facing an angry public, Democrats are scheming to find ways to manipulate the electoral process so they can cling to power even when voters want to kick the bums out.

Sen. Charles E. Schumer, New York Democrat, and Rep. Barney Frank, Massachusetts Democrat, have plans to ram through legislation that will produce universal voter registration. No matter what they claim, the rule changes will make it possible for illegal aliens to register to vote and for others to register multiple times.

The proposal is to register everyone on every welfare list, everyone getting unemployment insurance, everyone with a driver's license, everyone who has had run-ins with the legal system, everyone owning any property—basically everyone on every list the government keeps. People will be registered to vote whether or not they want to be registered. If individuals are on any public record, they will be automatically registered.

Obviously a lot of illegal aliens have driver's licenses, and many get other government benefits. Quite a few have rap sheets. People's names and other identification information are frequently recorded differently across these different lists, which means that one could be registered a separate time for every slight variation in how their personal information is kept on file.

The legislation is also expected to give felons the right to vote. Why Democrats insist on letting someone who has raped multiple women vote on social policy is beyond us. According to Democrats, robbers who have preyed on helpless victims—and even murderers—have the judgment to tell us how law enforcement should be run in this country.

In May 2005, Public Opinion Strategies surveyed felons who had their voting rights restored and nonfelons who voted in Washington state. Even after accounting for the voters' race, gender, education level, religious habits, employment, age and county of residence, the book *Freedomomics* found that "felons were 36 percent more likely than nonfelons with the same characteristics to have voted for [John] Kerry [a Democrat] over [George W.] Bush [a Republican] and 37 percent more likely to be registered Democratic."

For years, Democrats have fought against requiring photo IDs at polling places. The

practice, which is simply a way to make sure voters are who they say they are, is used in about 100 other countries. Mexico, for example, has cracked down on voter fraud and is strict about requiring photo identification to vote. If Democrats have their way, it will be easier for Mexicans to vote in America than in their own country.

It speaks volumes about Democratic unpopularity that they have to look to criminals and illegal aliens to try to shore up their voting base.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, January 13, 2010.

Mr. JOHN FUND,  
*The Wall Street Journal*,  
New York, NY.

DEAR MR. FUND: I was puzzled during the last couple of weeks to be asked why I was supporting something called "universal voter registration," which supposedly would allow all sorts of undesirable people to register to vote. I was puzzled because I have had absolutely no involvement in such a proposal.

I asked my staff to check the source of the rumor, and we discovered that it is you. Apparently last fall, you invented a story that Senator SCHUMER and I planned to introduce such legislation. I've since learned that Senator SCHUMER is working on legislation regarding voting, but I am told that it does not remotely resemble your version of it. But more importantly to me is that I have had no involvement with this whatsoever, with Senator SCHUMER or anybody else.

You simply made this up with regard to me. I must tell you that I was not surprised, because this sort of fictionalized attack on political opponents has sadly become characteristic of many on the right. And once you lied about me in this regard, several of your right-wing colleagues in the media, including Rush Limbaugh, Glenn Beck and the Washington Times, repeated it.

I should note that, again not surprisingly, you made no effort to check with me or anybody who works with me to find out if what you said was true. You made your assertion with no factual basis and without any effort to verify it. To me, that qualifies as a lie.

So I now write not simply to tell you that you are entirely wrong in your assertion about me but, in the absence of your being able to show any basis on which you made such a statement, to ask that you acknowledge that fact.

BARNEY FRANK.

#### WE THE PEOPLE, BY CALEB MATHENA

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

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, now more than ever, young people across this country understand the gravity of the issues that we face today as a Nation. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take some time this evening to share a poem that was written by a ninth grade student in Washington State. This ninth grade student just happens to be my grandson. His name is Caleb Mathena, and he has written a poem. He sent me the poem and said, Papa, what do you think about this? I didn't know that he was writing this poem, but I was pleased to get it; and I am pleased to share it with those who are listening. It's called "We the People."

"We the people of freedom and choice, we elected our main voice,

hired to keep our country strong, our rights secure and list of options long. Why is it then that this has happened? Why have they disregarded us in this matter? Thinking they know what's best or what we need, speeding through without the heed of what we choose, of what we demand, forgetting they are merely hired hands, easily removed, easily replaced.

"Perhaps that is what's best for these United States, knowing not humility, only selfish ideals. Now reacting blindly, regardless of how others feel. Secretly dealing, concealed by closed doors. Instead of candidly conveying, betraying what was promised before. What has it come to? Has it come to this? Where we the people are just dismissed?"

□ 1730

As for me, I know that I won't be silent, won't just stand by. I will not watch as my country, our country is taken. I cannot nor will not sit back. I will not forsake it.

If we all stand up and state our thoughts, if we have the courage to secure our rights that our Founders painstakingly sought, if we wisely decide who would honestly be truly honest and unselfish leaders for our great country, surely then the land in which we live will remain free, free for my children's children to admire and see and say, "If my forefathers fought obtaining liberty for me, then I can surely do likewise to the utmost degree."

Mr. Speaker, this young man speaks words far beyond his 15 years on this Earth. He talks about liberty and freedom. This is the people's House, and sometimes we forget who we represent. Sometimes we forget who we work for. We work for the people of these United States. We must listen to these words and the words of our constituents; listen to the words of Caleb Mathena, a 15-year-old student, and all the people and citizens across this country; listen to the words of our constituents in our districts across the country and respect their wishes to preserve and protect the freedom that has been so bravely fought for by so many.

#### HONORING A LEGEND—BEN SPIES

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, here on the floor of the House of the United States House of Representatives, tribute must be paid to the incredible achievement of a constituent of the First District of Texas, from Longview—he's already a legend—Ben Spies. Ben won the 2009 FIM Superbike World Championship.

This brave and talented Texan started racing as an 8-year-old child with the Central Motorcycle Roadracing Association and, for good reason, has earned himself the nickname "Texas Terror." Ben is the second youngest rider to win the American Motorcyclist

Association Superbike Championship, and the fourth youngest rider with 20 AMA Superbike wins. He holds the third most all-time AMA Superbike wins, and boasts the longest AMA Superbike winning streak.

After coming off his third straight AMA Superbike Championship, Ben successfully beat the expected winner, Noriyuki Haga, at the 2009 FIM Superbike World Championship by six points with 11 poles in the 14 round series for a total of 28 races. The discipline, dedication and success that Ben has displayed to the sport of motocross racing over the past 16 years has truly set him apart as a true champion.

Ben Spies is to be congratulated upon his winning the 2009 FIM Superbike World Championship. He has no doubt blazed a trail for future successes with his steady hand, nerves of steel, and balance like nowhere found here in the House of Representatives.

May God bless and protect an American legend, Ben Spies.

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

(Mr. BROWN of Georgia addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### HONORING THE FOUR CHAPLAINS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a sacred memory in our Nation's history. It was 67 years ago today when a terrible event occurred and a brilliant event occurred. It was 67 years ago, February 3, 1943. We now call this memory the Four Chaplains Day and honor this day in our Nation's memory because of the valor and because of the strength that was exhibited by four members of our armed services, four chaplains.

It was the *U.S.A.T. Dorchester*. The ship was a coastal liner converted to a U.S. Army troop transport for World War II, and it was with more than 900 men on board. It was a freezing night when the *Dorchester*, one of three ships in a convoy, was torpedoed. It was freezing, and it was about 1:00 in the morning when a terrifying shot was fired by a Nazi submarine 100 miles off the frigid coast of Greenland, and the ship quickly began to sink in the cold, cold waters. Many Americans were killed by the explosion. Others were trapped below deck.

As everyone started to panic, the four chaplains on board remained calm. They quickly passed out life vests to the young troops on board. They helped the wounded. They prayed with the