

McKinney is from Fort Wayne, Indiana, and a member of Detachment 18 Recruiting and Retention Command out of Muncie, Indiana.

I congratulate Army National Guard Specialist Terrance McKinney for his achievements and am proud of Indiana's 14,700 members of the Indiana Army and Air National Guard.

We owe endless gratitude to these men and women in uniform who have devoted their lives to our security, brought justice to the leader of al Qaeda, and continue to bring justice to those who seek to destroy us.

THE BENEFITS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS

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

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, all over this country, small, independent farmers are making a living by farming in a way our parents or grandparents would recognize—raising high quality food and selling it close to home.

The USDA recognizes the importance of this growing economy and has developed programs like “Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food” and research focused on local food systems. These programs are critically important.

Later today, we will take up a bill that is accompanied by a report that will cripple these efforts with unnecessary bureaucratic requirements and by prohibiting research on local and regional food systems. That's right, the committee report actually urges USDA to stop doing research on the benefits of local and regional food systems.

Mr. Speaker, more and more American families want to know where their food is coming from and want to buy it locally. Now is not the time to make it harder for small farmers to give consumers what they want.

CONGRATULATING THE NBA CHAMPION DALLAS MAVERICKS

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the newly crowned NBA champions, the Dallas Mavericks. They came together, persevered, and played exceptionally well as a team.

The MVP of the series, Dirk Nowitzki, will go down in history as a tireless worker and humble team player who shined both on and off the court.

I'm proud of the Mavs' first-ever NBA championship title and hope there are many more to come. It is Flag Day, and I think it's noteworthy that this team is emblematic of the American spirit—as individuals they are good, but when they come together, they are great.

God bless Texas. God bless the Mavs. I salute you.

BEST WISHES TO BRAD ADAMONIS

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the United States Challenge Cup Junior Golf Foundation headquartered in East Providence, Rhode Island, which provides competitive opportunities for young golfers throughout New England.

Recognizing the need to expand access to competition for young golfers, the Challenge Cup was founded thanks to the vision, passion, and dedication of Dave Adamonis, Senior, in 1980, and continues today under the strong leadership of his older son, Dave, Junior.

The Challenge Cup has enabled thousands of young men and women to grow through the game of golf, resulting in hundreds of alumni advancing to compete at the collegiate level, developing the careers of many golf professionals, and fostering the personal growth of all participants.

As the 2011 United States Open begins this week, multiple Challenge Cup alumni are part of the field, including one of the tour's first participants, Dave Adamonis, Senior's younger son, Brad.

I thank the Adamonis family for their immense contributions to Rhode Island and the national golf community, and I wish Brad Adamonis the best of luck as he battles Congressional Country Club this week in hopes of capturing our national golf title.

DERIVATIVES

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

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to talk about something that most Americans don't know much about: derivatives.

Derivatives are basically big bets on the future of the housing market, the future of oil prices that, amongst other things, AIG used to destroy itself, requiring the Bush administration to put together a bailout package that was so controversial that we got to pay for.

Derivatives are also used by speculators to take position in energy markets. Don't take it from me. Goldman Sachs says that \$20 to \$30 of the price of a barrel of oil today is associated with speculation in the energy markets.

Now, you'd think given all this that we might regulate derivatives, which we haven't done before, and you'd be right, except for the fact that the bill that we're talking about today, the Agriculture bill, would gut money for the CFTC, which will be the regulator of the derivatives markets.

Now, the majority can't say we shouldn't regulate them. So, instead, in their zeal to deregulate everything, they're saying let's gut the regulators' ability to look after these contractors.

Sounds crazy? It is.

WE NEED TO KEEP OUR PROMISES TO OUR SENIORS

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, during these difficult times, we define ourselves as a society and a country by how we treat those who are less fortunate and those who are dependent. We also define ourselves by how we keep our promises, and this is why it is so important that we keep our promises to our seniors.

I'm speaking, Mr. Speaker, about Medicare and the Republican plan to do away with Medicare as we know of it today. You hear many things, but we owe it to our seniors to be honest and up front with them as to exactly what this plan is going to do.

You will hear that Medicare will not affect those seniors who are on Medicare now. That is not true. Seniors who are on Medicare now will see that doughnut hole reappear. In other words, they're going to pay for prescription drugs again. You will see figures like 3.9 million of them paying \$2.2 billion next year, alone, for that doughnut hole.

We will also see that it will cost them a total of about \$11 million next year because they will now have to copay for their wellness visit.

This is not the way we keep our promises to the elderly.

□ 1210

SAVE MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

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

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, we must save Medicare and Medicaid. With more and more people growing older and the costs of medical technology skyrocketing, the proposal to end Medicare would result in many seniors on a fixed income going bankrupt. The proposal to gut Medicaid would end up throwing our loved ones out of nursing homes and into the streets. I will tell you how Congress can best balance the budget. Just do these three things: Help create more jobs, help stop foreclosures, and help keep people healthy by providing health care to everyone.

THE DEMOCRATS' JOBS AGENDA

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, the agenda of this House should be jobs, jobs, jobs. And yet here we are in June, and the Republican leadership has not put forth one single jobs bill, not one single jobs bill, and the American people want that. The Democrats have proposed the

Make It in America program, a Make It in America agenda that will close tax loopholes that encourage U.S. jobs to go overseas. It will provide hometown tax credits to small businesses to hire new employees and help sell their products and innovations overseas; to boost incentives to create clean energy jobs so we don't have to spend so much money with our military and lives protecting oil imports from the Middle East; set requirements for the government and its contractors to buy American products and services; and demand that China and other countries honor fair trade principles. Jobs is the agenda. The Democrats are offering a jobs agenda. I support it and ask the other side to come forth and try to help us create jobs.

FUND THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, if I mentioned the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, there would be a lot of glazed-over eyes. But if I mentioned high gasoline prices and food prices that are going through the roof, the American public would understand that. So let me tell you that our Republican friends, who want a sea of deregulation so that consumers won't be protected, are attacking the body that regulates speculation on gasoline prices and food. What does that mean? It means that every time you go to the grocery store as a working, middle class family, all you can see is the price of food going up, up, up. Yes, we have had storms, and we have had droughts. But the reason is, the speculators are gambling on food prices. They are gambling on gasoline prices. So the hardworking Americans that are working are getting the short end of the stick.

Can you imagine, here we go with Republicans again, defeating the consumer. Democrats are ready to fight for jobs. We're ready to get rid of those speculators and fund the Commodity Futures Trading Commission that deals with protecting consumers. Is there no shame? Is there no shame? Protect the consumers and fund the CFTC.

WHITE CASTLE'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the 90th birthday of a restaurant. While it was started in Wichita, Kansas, in 1921, this restaurant then came to Ohio, came to Cincinnati, and it's that little square hamburger, White Castle. And when you look at the Ingram family and what they've done across the Nation

with their idea of an entrepreneurship of just a little square hamburger—they now have 400 stores in 11 States. This is a family company, and it employs thousands of people.

The craze that Mr. Ingram created in 1921 has grown in large part due to marketing, innovation, and adaptations of service. It has been reported that White Castle was the first fast-food restaurant to advertise in newspapers. It developed cardboard cartons for hamburgers, French fries, drinks, and even invented its own small type of semipermanent restaurant building. Mr. Speaker, "White Castle" was certainly a fitting name for this Ohio institution. Please join me not only in congratulating the Ingram family on the 90th birthday of White Castle but to remind ourselves of the importance of jobs and entrepreneurship in the United States.

THE REPUBLICAN MEDICARE-ENDING PLAN

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

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the Republican ending-Medicare plan. Now some on the other side have complained about the unfairness of characterizing the Republican plan as an end to Medicare. But, Mr. Speaker, I just call it like it is. So here are the facts about the Republican Medicare-ending plan: Seniors will pay approximately \$6,000 more in out-of-pocket expenses, double their expenses today. They'll lose benefits. They'll be forced to negotiate—our seniors will be forced to negotiate with the big insurance companies under the Republican Medicare-ending plan. Under the Republican plan, seniors will immediately reopen the prescription-drug doughnut hole that we close. And so, Mr. Speaker, this is not a mischaracterization. It's just speaking the truth to the power of the Republican Medicare-ending plan for our seniors and for those who are approaching the age of 65. So I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to say that the Democrats are going to stand on the side of jobs, of working people, and of those who want to protect Medicare for future generations.

RECOGNIZING KATHRYN TUCKER WINDHAM

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

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of a great American. Kathryn Tucker Windham was a steward of the community and one of Alabama's most beloved authors and storytellers. Mrs. Tucker was a master storyteller, author of 24 books, a playwright, an accomplished photographer, popular public television and radio personality,

and a female reporter in a time when there were so few. Her spellbinding stories of life in Alabama and of the true Southern culture have captivated people all across this world.

On a personal note, growing up in Selma, Alabama, where she lived and did most of her writing, I heard Kathryn Tucker Windham tell her ghost stories, which captivated my imagination and encouraged me to read and write. Her stories were an integral part of my childhood, and for that I will be forever grateful. Over the years, Kathryn Tucker Windham built a well-deserved reputation as a respected writer and reporter. She was a true treasure, and her stories were a gift to all of the people of the Seventh Congressional District and the State of Alabama. Her writings will serve as an outstanding legacy for not only her incredible talent but also for her boundless passion for the life of Alabamians. Therefore, I, TERRI SEWELL, the Representative of the Seventh Congressional District, do hereby recognize Mrs. Tucker for her numerous contributions to the life of those in the Seventh Congressional District and the State of Alabama and our Nation. And I ask those present to join me in honoring her and commending her for her many achievements across this Nation.

REPUBLICAN PLAN TO END MEDICARE

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, first, again, I want to congratulate those Dallas Mavericks for winning the NBA championship, and also to rise in opposition to the Republican plan to end Medicare. The Republican budget replaces Medicare with an underfunded voucher system that eliminates the guaranteed Medicare benefit for everyone under the age of 55.

In the Dallas and north Texas region, the Republican plan would increase the out-of-pocket costs of health care coverage by over \$6,000 per year for 630,000 individuals under 55. The Republican plan would immediately cut benefits and would require seniors in my congressional district to pay an extra \$47 million for prescription drugs over the next decade. I urge my colleagues to protect our seniors and defend them against these reckless attacks on their health care and economic security, and also their peace of mind.

□ 1220

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION FUNDING CUTS

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, the American middle class wants Washington to create jobs and put unemployed people out of work back to work.