

graduation section of the *Madelia Times Messenger*, Emilio's favorite quote was listed as: "Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today."

By all accounts, Emilio did exactly that.

Tomorrow, his family, his friends and his community will gather together to honor his memory and to celebrate his life. We will remember his sacrifice to this Nation and how he died and gave the ultimate sacrifice; but we will also remember the kind of person he was—full of life, kind-hearted, a good friend, and a good son.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NEED JOBS

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

Ms. JENKINS. Madam Speaker, unemployment is over 9 percent. Americans are struggling. They need relief. They need certainty. They need jobs.

House Republicans have passed legislation aimed at removing barriers to job creation, including bills to rein in wasteful spending, end unnecessary regulation, decrease uncertainty, and ensure the survival of Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security.

One of the many pieces of legislation passed to spur job growth was our budget. My colleagues across the aisle can critique our plans, but it is unacceptable to demagogue it without having a plan of their own.

Law requires that Congress pass a budget; yet Democrats shirked that responsibility last year when they held the majority, and they have yet to propose an alternative this year. We have heard a few speeches but no honest plan that can be read, scored, compared, and negotiated.

The American people need jobs. Rather than engaging in demagoguery, I ask my colleagues to bring a plan to the negotiating table. Let's do our job so more Americans have one.

RECOGNIZING PRIDE MONTH

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in celebration of June as Pride Month.

Participating and supporting the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community is a way of life. At its core, this month stands to recognize a fundamental belief upon which this country is founded: equality.

The first pride parade took place in 1970 to commemorate the Stonewall riots in New York. Forty years later, the event has become much more than a parade; it has evolved into a month-long celebration of the LGBT community.

What was once a moment is now a movement, bringing people together to

fight for the rights and benefits granted to them by the Constitution, rights we should all fully support and fight for every day in Washington. We've got a few victories under our belt. Hate crimes legislation and the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell have passed these Chambers, but there remains much to be done.

I look forward to celebrating equality for all this weekend at the Chicago Pride Parade and festival, and I am as emboldened as ever to continue this important work in Congress.

ECONOMIC NEWS

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

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, I rise to report some distressing economic news from my district.

To add to our country's rising unemployment, plummeting home values and a steep drop in retail sales last month, Allen Family Foods filed for bankruptcy last week. A well-known name in the poultry industry and a longstanding Delmarva family business, this closing could cost thousands of jobs.

The reason for Allen's collapse: soaring grain prices, energy costs and overbearing government regulations, especially from the EPA.

The chilling signal sent to potential job creators throughout America right now is that the bureaucrats in this administration are now the central planners of our economy—and they are not doing a very good job. We have tried to create jobs their way, and it hasn't worked. Overtaxing, overspending and overregulating cannot and will not create jobs.

It is time to head in a new direction. It is time for a new economic policy. If we stop the spending spree in Washington, businesses will, once again, create jobs in America. It is up to us to restore confidence and certainty and to send a signal to the private sector that the United States is, once again, open for business.

AMERICANS ARE OPPOSED TO ENDING MEDICARE

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

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, the Republican majority seems to be using any route possible to hide the truth about its "road to ruin" budget and its plans to end Medicare. The Washington Post, the New York Times, the National Journal, and others recently reported that mass mailings sent from Democratic Members of Congress to their constituents have been heavily edited by majority leadership if they address the Republican plan to end Medicare.

But Americans know the truth, Madam Speaker. Every day, I hear

from many of my constituents in the Capital Region of upstate New York who tell me how much they rely on Medicare and how worried they are over the majority's plan to end the program. My constituents know that a voucher will not even come close to covering their rising prescription drug costs and doctors' visits. Our senior community is tremendously wise. They know that the risk associated with the Republican plan is shifted from our government to their pockets.

No matter how it is spun, Americans are opposed to ending Medicare. Let's instead work together to strengthen the program and ensure it remains on strong financial footing.

□ 0910

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION KILLS JOBS

(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. Madam Speaker, tomorrow the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, led by Chairman DARRELL ISSA, will conduct a field hearing at The Boeing Company's 1.1 million square-foot manufacturing plant in North Charleston, South Carolina. This will expose an outrage of Big Government killing jobs.

As the *Seattle Times* correctly editorialized Monday: "The NLRB is attempting to reverse a U.S. investment by the Nation's number one exporter 17 months after the company decided to make it—after the money's been spent, after the equipment is set up, and after 1,000 workers have been hired. For the government to demand now that the company move everything to another State shows no sense of practical reality."

South Carolina recruited this new second line of 787 Dreamliners through a competitive incentive package developed by Commerce Secretary Joe Taylor, which included a trained, world-class workforce, a welcoming pro-business climate, right-to-work laws, and pro-business local government of Republican and Democratic bipartisanship. The Boeing Company's decision was based on economics and sound business policy. The Obama administration should stop its attack on American jobs and American workers.

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

MEDICARE

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, a close examination shows the changes that our Republican colleagues are proposing to Medicare would actually make things much worse, not better.

To begin with, the Republican proposal would add to the program's cost. Privatizing Medicare would cost 11 percent more than it would for providing exactly the same services under the current Medicare plan. And the additional cost for going private would just widen over time.

According to the nonpartisan politifact.org, under the Republican plan, those just becoming eligible for Medicare, those 55 years old and under 10 years from now, would have to pay a whopping \$6,400 more per year than they would under the current plan.

This kind of foreseeable increase in costs actually works just like a tax aimed squarely at our retiring seniors. The Republican plan would be a disaster for our seniors and our economy.

OUR NATION DESERVES BETTER

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, today we will vote on a bill to deprive impoverished mothers and their children of nutritional assistance at a time when record numbers of Americans are unfortunately relying on these programs.

There is no better indication of the majority's misplaced priorities than when you examine their cuts to meals for low-income seniors and the cuts to our Nation's emergency food banks. My Republican colleagues love to say that these painful cuts are necessary to reduce the deficit. Don't believe it for a second. If we repeal the Bush tax cuts for millionaires for 1 day, just for 1 day, we could preserve every penny of the \$100 million in cuts to senior food, aid senior hungry and soup kitchens.

We're recovering from the worst economic disaster since the Great Depression. Poverty is on the rise across America. During these tough times, we could ask millionaires to go without their special tax cuts for 1 day. Instead, Republicans are asking some of America's poorest, most vulnerable seniors to go hungry for 1 day and more.

Madam Speaker, our Nation deserves better than that.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2112.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CONAWAY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 300 and rule

XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2112.

□ 0917

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2112) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes, with Mrs. MILLER of Michigan in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, a request for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) had been postponed, and the bill had been read through page 80, line 2.

AMENDMENT NO. 38 OFFERED BY MR. HOLDEN

Mr. HOLDEN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following new section:

SEC. _____. Each amount made available by this Act (other than an amount required to be made available by a provision of law) is hereby reduced by 5.88 percent and may not be used to carry out the limitations contained in paragraphs (1) through (8) of section 728.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOLDEN. Madam Chair, what my amendment will do is restore the \$1 billion in cuts to mandatory conservation programs in the underlying bill. Almost half of the total cuts in this piece of legislation come from mandatory conservation programs. That's the largest cut in history.

Madam Chair, specifically in this bill there are \$210 million in cuts in the Conservation Steward Program; \$350 million in cuts in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program; \$50 million in cuts in Farmland Protection Program; 96,000 acres reduced in the Grassland Reserve Program; 64,200 acres reduced in the Wetland Reserve Program; and \$35 million of reductions in Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program.

Madam Chair, to make this budget-neutral as it is scored by the CBO, it is paid for with a 5.88 percent across-the-board cut in discretionary spending in the bill, including the \$102 million already reduced in discretionary conservation programs in the bill.

Madam Chair, this is shared sacrifice as opposed to not shared sacrifice in the overwhelming, significant reduction of \$1 billion in mandatory discretionary programs.

Madam Chair, in the farm bill we worked very hard in a bipartisan man-

ner to get the investment in conservation that our producers need all across the country, and they need it now more than ever as they are under significant danger and peril from regulatory agencies, particularly the EPA. They need these conservation programs so they can stay in compliance and they can do the job that they do so well in producing our agriculture all across the country.

□ 0920

This is a bipartisan bill. I am honored to be the ranking member on the Conservation Subcommittee and to be joined by the chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON). And I urge adoption of the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word.

The CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Chair, as chairman of the House Agriculture Committee's Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry, I rise in strong support of this amendment offered by my friend from Pennsylvania and ranking member on the subcommittee, Mr. HOLDEN.

This amendment will restore limited mandatory funding for the conservation programs as defined under the current farm bill. I believe it's important to note that this amendment does not have any additional cost. We're still within the frame of the Appropriations Committee's allocation for the bill.

This amendment simply preserves critical conservation programs which remain important for many farms, ranches, and agricultural lands across the Nation in order to protect environmentally sensitive areas. The programs offer voluntary incentives for farmers and ranchers to enroll land into conservation areas. In my district, these programs are vital for water quality improvement on our local farms and throughout the region. And it's the same for many other States. In my area of Pennsylvania, this is vital to be able to deal with the mandates levied upon us by agencies such as the EPA. The programs are cost-effective and provide excellent returns on investment while utilizing local, State, and private funding so that everyone involved has skin in the game.

The amendment, again, does not increase the bill's cost by even one penny because it's fully offset by reducing the bill's discretionary funding by 5.88 percent. I commend the Appropriations subcommittee chair for his efforts to produce an overall bill that is fiscally responsible and reduces funding in total by 13 percent in comparison to previous fiscal years.

And as the chairman of the subcommittee with jurisdiction over these programs, I can say very frankly to my good friend from Georgia, I look forward to the next farm bill where the