

So if we cancel the Bush tax cuts, \$4 trillion. Okay, we're now at the President's "big deal" target which we're not going to meet under the Gang of Six or any of these other constructs around here. Cancel the Social Security tax holiday. Instead, borrow that money one more year, as the President has proposed, and invest in infrastructure. It will put millions to work. And then when those millions go to work, they'll be paying taxes, and that will reduce the deficit by another quarter.

So we've solved three-quarters of the problem without killing programs essential to the American people and without cutting taxes on the job creators.

The Gang of Six is proposing that billionaires should see their taxes cut by about 25 or 30 percent. That will help us balance the budget? It is time to get back to the real world and out of "Alice in Wonderland."

#### HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ROSS MCGINNIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, since 1947, every August, the Little League Baseball World Series is held in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania, within Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District. And each year, Little League International recognizes Little League graduates who have become outstanding citizens and role models as adults for induction into the Little League Museum Hall of Excellence.

Among previous recipients of this honor include prominent figures such as Vice President JOE BIDEN in 2009, General Peter Pace in 2003, and former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani in 2002.

This year's ceremony will prove to be extra special. For 2011, Little League International plans to enshrine the first-ever Little League graduate known to have received our Nation's highest military award, the Medal of Honor. That person is Army Private First Class Ross Andrew McGinnis of Knox, Pennsylvania. Ross McGinnis played second base and outfield for 6 years and is a graduate of Little League in Knox, Pennsylvania, also in the Fifth District.

In 2006, Army Private First Class Ross McGinnis heroically gave his life to save four others from a grenade blast inside a Humvee during Operation Iraqi Freedom. On June 2, 2008, McGinnis was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for his heroic actions.

I will quote from President George Bush: "In a selfless act of bravery, in which he was mortally wounded, Private McGinnis covered the live grenade, pinning it between his body and the vehicle and absorbing most of the explosion," the official citation read, which was awarded by President

George Bush. McGinnis' mother, Romaine, says baseball taught her son teamwork and a commitment to achieving common goals.

Today, because of McGinnis' sacrifice and commitment to others, four men will live on to enjoy their families and their futures. Congratulations to you, Ross Andrew McGinnis. We thank you for your service, and may you rest in peace. Thank you to Little League International for recognizing Mr. McGinnis' heroic achievements. To the McGinnis family, we are proud of your son, a true American hero.

□ 1020

#### PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, almost no one in Washington is talking about jobs. For 2 months now, both Chambers of the Congress have been locked down in talking about the debt ceiling.

Meanwhile, if you look back at the Bush years, America lost over 8 million jobs while the largest recession since the Great Depression, was precipitated by the Bush Wall Street bailout. America has only gotten back about 2 million jobs. Yes, only 2 million; still jobs are being created at about 120,000 per month. That is far from where we need to head to achieve economic recovery for all.

But rather than this Congress engaging in intelligent dialogue on how to create jobs, we keep going down these side roads to nowhere. Meanwhile, unemployment just went up another 10,000 jobs. 10,000 more workers filed for unemployment.

Every Member in both Chambers will be judged on not doing the work that the people want us to do. Instead Congress must focus on how to use the power of the Federal Government to create jobs.

If you take a look at what the Republican majority in the House wants to do, they want to cut unemployment benefits. That's not even understandable to any rational person.

They want to cut food. I invite any one of them, come to my district. Come and stand in the food lines. See how it feels. Better yet, help us pack some of the food bags, and then distribute them and give them to veterans who are coming home from the wars who don't have jobs. And then ask yourself what are you really doing here. What are you doing here? America needs jobs.

What about health benefits for people who've fallen out of work, and don't have any more health benefits for their family? Why should we cut there?

You know, there are some who like to proudly proclaim they're pro-life. Pro-life doesn't only involve the period before a child is born. It involves the entire life of a person, of a human being until natural death.

I think there are some philosophical questions our Members ought to be

asking themselves about helping the American people at this critical point in our history.

Now, all of us want to produce balanced budgets. When you have full employment, you get balanced budgets and you even can get extra funds. Full employment means you can pay down your long-term debt. But you don't hear anything up here being talked about jobs. If it were happening, we'd have more job creation. But we have less job creation. More people are going on unemployment benefits. So the current conversation and discussions are totally off base.

Let's just look at one sector where America and the Federal Government could save a lot of money. America, as a country, spends over \$250 billion a year on prescription drugs. And nearly a third of that amount is paid for by the Federal Government, which actually means our people paying their fair share of taxes, when they work, to the Federal Government and then the Federal Government meeting its obligations to our citizenry for their security and our Nation's future. Now, some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are saying, cut Social Security, cut Medicare. Hurt the American people. Hurt the people who have worked for a living. They don't talk about trimming the excess profits of the pharmaceutical companies. So, let's look at that pharmaceutical industry.

You know what? They're not paying their fair share into the Federal till.

Let's just look at one bag of heparin in a hospital for which Medicare ends up paying over \$600, and in total, millions and millions of dollars a year for a product, a blood thinner that's been off patent for years. It's made in China. The ingredients are made in China. They're not even made here. Do you realize how much money a couple of companies are making off of selling just that one product? My Republican friends aren't trying to get fair prices for the American people.

Celebrex, for treating arthritis, Medicare pays for an average patient \$148 a month. For Lipitor, for those trying to lower cholesterol, \$122 a month.

Now if you take a look at the profits of Pfizer, Pfizer made \$8.3 billion in profits, and its CEO made \$25 million last year, just in what he's willing to admit. Johnson and Johnson made \$13.3 billion in profits, while their CEO walked away with \$29 million. Other big drugmakers like Abbott Labs, \$4.6 billion. These are with Bs—billions. These aren't with Ms—millions. These aren't millions; these are billions. And Eli Lilly, \$5 billion in profits our Federal Government is just forking over billions all the time. Yes, the Federal Government is the pharmaceutical industry's biggest customer, and the industry surely knows it.

Why doesn't the Federal Government use its purchasing power to get better bids on these drugs and have competitive bidding in order to purchase more fairly-priced pharmaceuticals? We did

that back in the 1990s. We haven't done it since.

There's plenty of ways to get the funds to try to balance the budget. But the most important way to balance the budget is to help Americans get back to work. Then Congress must not forget the places in our budget where the American people are being gouged because some very powerful companies aren't doing their fair share to help our Nation recover. Proper management of the Federal pursestrings in long overdue.

#### REMEMBERING LANCE CORPORAL ROBERT S. GRENIGER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor of the House to honor and remember an American hero, Marine Lance Corporal Robert S. Greniger of Greenfield, Minnesota, who died last week after an IED attack in Afghanistan in Helmand province.

As we grieve the loss of one of our finest citizens who loved being a marine and share our grief with his widow, Ashley, and his family, we really marvel that such heroes have been able to live among us. He gave up everything to protect his neighbors and extend the blessings of freedom to millions who have never known it. He was proud of his country and of the marines that he served with.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of Lance Corporal Greniger, we need to regularly thank our servicemen and -women and pray for their safe return each and every day.

We honor the service and the memory of Lance Corporal Greniger and commit ourselves to follow his example of patriotic duty, honor, and sacrifice in our daily walk as Americans.

Semper Fi, Lance Corporal.

#### TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT RUSSELL JEREMIAH PROCTOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, on June 26, a roadside bomb in Julula, Iraq, claimed the life of a young man from Oroville, California. He was Army Staff Sergeant Russell Jeremiah Proctor, age 25, on his third tour of combat duty.

He was laid to rest last week in solemn ceremonies in California. Sergeant Proctor leaves behind a grieving widow, a devastated family, and a 9-month-old son who will know his father only by reputation. And it is reputation I want to speak of today.

I never met Sergeant Proctor. I too know him only by reputation. It is a reputation commemorated by, among other decorations, two Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achieve-

ment Medals, two Army Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraqi Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, two Overseas Service Ribbons, a Combat Action Badge, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart.

It's a reputation memorialized by those who knew him best, the men he served with. "He was a leader among leaders," said one. "His drive to be the best motivated all of us to reach our potential." Another said, "He led from the front. He inspired everyone around him to better themselves."

Perhaps the most poignant was this simple post on a local newspaper site: "My son was killed with Sergeant Proctor. Private First Class Dylan Johnson and the rest of the soldiers in the unit all looked up to Russell for leadership and guidance. They are both heroes to me as well." It's signed, "A grieving dad."

I had the honor to speak last week with Sergeant Proctor's widow, Soila. She's also active duty Army. They met while serving at Fort Hood. She was deployed at the same Forward Operating Base as Russell. They were billeted together. She was nearby when he was killed.

I cannot begin to imagine the hell that she has been through. And yet, having endured all this, she plans to continue her service to our country in the U.S. Army.

Mr. Speaker, James Michener's question thunders down upon us at times like these: Where do we get such people?

As I talked with Soila last Monday, I was struck by the transcendent nobility that accompanies her grief.

Perhaps a more pertinent question is: What would our country do without such people as Sergeant Proctor, or the nine generations of Americans who have preceded him in the defense of our Nation?

General Patton was right when he observed: "It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather, we should thank God that such men lived."

And so, Mr. Speaker, I rise today for exactly that purpose, to thank God that Russell Proctor lived and to pray that his infant son, Ezekiel, grows up in a Nation made safer by his sacrifice, and a Nation that will never forget not only what we owe to those who Lincoln called "the loved and lost," but what we owe to the families who so personally bear that loss.

□ 1030

A chaplain who brought the dreaded news to the family wrote a commentary over the 4th of July weekend, a weekend filled with barbecues and picnics and fireworks, in which he noted the grief of this family amidst all of the frivolity around them. And he noted that at the age of 25, Russell Proctor will never again celebrate a birthday, take his son fishing, or hug his wife.

Sergeant Russell Proctor and all those who preceded him since the first shots on Lexington Green believed enough in our country and what it stands for to sacrifice all of those precious years of love and life and joy so that we, their fellow Americans, could enjoy those same blessings of liberty and safety and security, including a baby boy named Ezekiel, whose dad won't be there to take him fishing or hug him or celebrate birthdays with him.

Ezekiel, if you should someday stumble upon these words, I hope you will know that, like you, many of us knew your dad only by reputation, and we stood in awe of him.

#### HELP AMERICANS REDUCE DEBT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CLARKE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today I'm asking this House and this Congress to cut the debt that's truly crushing the American people right now, the debt that Americans and American families have to pay month after month, year after year, without any help from anyone else. It's a direct burden on our people.

And I'm not talking about the Federal debt. I'm talking about the debt that Americans must pay on their mortgages and on their student loans. So today I'm offering a resolution to strongly urge this body, that as we work to prevent the government from defaulting on its obligations, that we do the same thing to help the American people, that with equal intensity and drive and commitment, we work to help Americans free themselves of debt.

Now, if we help the American people reduce their debt burden, that's going to help our families to be more financially secure. Now, yes, jobs are important. I represent metro Detroit, a region that has one of the highest unemployment rates in the country. But you know what? I know folks that are working, they have jobs, but they don't have any money because all of their income is going to pay off creditors. That's outrageous.

A couple of days ago, I made a big issue to the American people about not borrowing and handling their money responsibly. The reason why I said that is because many of us think that being in debt is the American way. It's not. This country was founded on the principles based on the Declaration of Independence, that we all have a God-given right to life, to liberty, to the pursuit of happiness. But who can be free when drowning in debt?

So I'm urging this Congress, cut the mortgages, forgive the student loans. That will help American families be secure. But also this: by reducing that debt burden that Americans have to directly pay, that will create more jobs because that will free up money that Americans are earning for themselves.