

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jerol Swaim, president of Williams Baptist College in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas.

After 48 years of service to Williams Baptist, Dr. Swaim has announced his retirement. Although he will no longer be on the campus every day, his influence will certainly be felt there for years to come.

Dr. Swaim started his career at Williams Baptist as a professor of history, government and economics. In 1973, he became academic dean of the college and has also held the titles of vice president for academic affairs and executive vice president. In 1995, he agreed to become the fifth president of Williams Baptist, a role he has filled since that time.

Dr. Swaim is stepping down after presiding over a transformation of the Williams campus. Since the late 1990s, nearly every building on the campus has either been newly constructed or extensively renovated.

Under Dr. Swaim, Williams Baptist has expanded its academic offerings as well as its academic reputation. It broke into the top tier of U.S. News & World Report college rankings in 2010 and climbed in the rankings again this year.

Madam Speaker, today we honor Dr. Jerol Swaim for his 48 years of service to Williams Baptist College and the countless lives he has changed.

RYAN BUDGET IS SHAMEFUL

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, the Republican budget cuts at least \$3.3 trillion from low-income programs over the next 10 years while it increases the defense budget. It reduces taxes to a level that will wreak havoc on the Federal Treasury.

The rate of poverty is at its highest level in nearly 30 years. The Republican budget would increase poverty and exponentially raise the misery index for hardworking American families.

The Ryan budget also wreaks havoc on seniors. The American people must know that this Republican budget—which has been endorsed by all three Republican Presidential candidates—will end Medicare as we know it. Their plan is to get the Federal Government out of the Medicare program. Republicans simply want to provide seniors a small voucher to purchase Medicare insurance on the private market. Most seniors will not have the money to do that.

The Ryan budget shows Medicaid cuts of \$810 billion. They want to get the Federal Government out of the medical assistance program to low-income families and place that burden on States with an underfunded mandate.

Madam Speaker, the Ryan budget is absolutely shameful and misleading. House Democrats will fight it to the end.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET: ASSAULT ON MEDICARE AND MIDDLE CLASS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, once again, Republicans in the House have put forward a budget that ends Medicare as we know it. This is an all-out Republican assault on Medicare and our Nation's middle class.

Who benefits from this Republican budget? Millionaires certainly do. Think Wall Street Bonus Boys. This Republican budget would give them an additional tax cut of \$187,000—that's for starters—yet lower and middle class Americans, people making \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year, they get no tax cut at all.

This Republican budget also gives away \$3 trillion in tax cuts and benefits to corporations. Republicans' real priorities: cutting the safety net, giving the super-rich a handout, and ignoring the damage to the deficit.

The Republicans would end the promise of Medicare for both current and future beneficiaries by shifting the program to private insurance financed by vouchers. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office says that the Republican budget would reduce benefits to seniors and force many to spend much more than they do today.

Why are the Republicans so intent on making seniors sacrifice first? Why not claw back Wall Street's bonuses?

I urge my colleagues to vote against the Republican budget. Support the Democratic alternative. Protect seniors and our middle class.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF POPE SHENOUDA III

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

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, on March 17, the world lost a great spiritual leader, His Holiness Pope Shenouda III. I rise today to join the millions of Coptic Christians in mourning his death.

This past Sunday, St. Mary Coptic Church in East Brunswick, New Jersey, held a very moving memorial service for the Pope. An estimated 1,000 mourners gathered in the cathedral while a thousand more listened to the service in nearby rooms.

There was an outpouring of grief from people of all faiths. Leaders from many religions and sects were in attendance to pay homage to the Pope, including His Grace Bishop David, the Bishop of the Archdiocese of North America.

As we mourn the loss of a great leader and purveyor of faith and religious tolerance, we remember and embrace all that the Pope has done for the Coptic community in Egypt and around the world. The beloved leader of the Coptic Christian church has provided immeasurable contributions to further

promote tolerance and interfaith dialogue in Egypt and serves as an example of how communities of different faiths can live in harmony.

As Egypt continues its transition, Egyptian leaders must work together to uphold the rights of all religious communities in Egypt and end all discrimination.

OBAMA CARES

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

Ms. HANABUSA. Madam Speaker, I read my local paper this morning and read a reference by Richard Borreca, a reporter who said that the Affordable Care Act is known as ObamaCare. At first I cringed because that's the way Republicans refer to it. But then I thought about it, and you know what? You're absolutely right; Obama cares. That's why we have that law.

Think about what he looked at in 2008 and 2009. There were 50 million people who were uninsured at a cost of \$116 billion a year. That could bankrupt any family. But with the Affordable Care Act, think about what you have: women no longer have to be worried about being discriminated against as a preexisting condition; seniors don't have to worry, they can have preventative care and the doughnut hole will close; youth can be covered under their parents' plan to the age of 26; and small business can avail themselves of a tax credit.

Yes, Madam Speaker, Obama cares, as do the Democrats.

PUTTING AMERICANS BACK TO WORK

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

Mr. YODER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to again encourage my colleagues to support pro-growth economic policies that can help put Americans back to work.

With over 8 percent unemployment and slow economic growth, many Americans are struggling to pay their bills and provide for their families. Unfortunately, many of the policies coming out of Washington over the past few years have prolonged this economic stagnation and damaged our recovery.

With small businesses creating two out of every three jobs in this country, we need to support policies that keep business taxes down, eliminate costly regulations, and open up new avenues for access to capital. That's why I'm happy to support the JOBS Act. This bipartisan legislation will help new business formation, open up access to capital, and help new businesses create jobs.

Madam Speaker, let's work together in bipartisan fashion on the JOBS Act and other legislation, and let's help put Americans back to work.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET 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. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Ryan Republican budget that will end Medicare as we know it.

Reminiscent of last year, the Republican budget provides tax breaks for the millionaires and billionaires while ending the Medicare guarantees for our seniors, sticking them with the bill for rising health care costs.

The proposals in the Republican budget lack balance and jeopardize the health and economic security of our Nation's seniors. The 300,000 Texas seniors, who have saved almost \$200 million on prescription drug costs since the Affordable Care Act was signed into law, will be forced back into the prescription drug doughnut hole.

I urge my Republican colleagues to end this attack on our seniors, as they have already been through enough, and we have given the rich too much leeway while the middle class and the poor pay the bills.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET

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

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, as I reflect on where this country has been in the last 10 years, I see two wars fought at the cost of thousands of lives and \$2 to \$3 trillion; tax cuts during a time of war—something unprecedented in this country's history—and now we're seeing more of the same: a Republican budget that would increase spending on defense, despite the fact that we spend more than every other country combined on defense, and would provide tax cuts to the very wealthiest in this country. The Office of Management and Budget estimates that millionaires will see \$150,000 in tax cuts with this budget.

So who pays? Anybody who relies on medical research for a cure or to stay healthy will pay. Our education will pay. Pell Grants and Head Start for poor children to get educated will be gutted. Medicare will pay. Medicaid will pay. In my district where highways and railways are critical, investment in those things will be gutted. We all pay if this budget becomes law. I urge—implore—my colleagues to reject the Republican budget.

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ALL FOR ONE AND THE ONE GETS ALL

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, a recent analysis of American tax reve-

nues revealed that in 2010, as our country was recovering from the Great Recession, 93 percent of new income went to the top 1 percent of earners. That's \$288 billion more exclusively for the 1 percent. I am sure my friends across the aisle were outraged that 7 percent could go to waste on the other 99 percent of American families.

Their solution: the Republican 1 percent budget—a gift basket for millionaires and billionaires. Inside is a permanent extension of the Bush tax cuts, which have created an income gap in this country on par with Cameroon and Rwanda. But the Republicans' 1 percent budget doesn't stop there. It gives an additional tax break of \$150,000 to people earning more than \$1 million a year while dismantling Medicare, slashing education, transportation, and the social safety net to pay for it.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this "all for one and the one percent gets all" budget and to support a plan that reflects our Nation's values of fairness and shared responsibility.

COMMENDING PRESIDENT OBAMA'S COMMITMENT TO DOMESTIC OIL PRODUCTION

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, rising gas prices are hitting families hard, adding to what is already a tough economic situation for our citizens across the Nation.

That is why I commend President Obama for his all-of-the-above energy strategy, which includes a strong commitment to domestic oil production. Oil and gas development has increased in every year of the Obama administration, and domestic oil production is now at an 8-year high. Furthermore, our foreign dependence on oil is at a 16-year low. Last year, we cut net oil and petroleum imports by 1 million barrels a day.

President Obama has also offered millions of acres of land for lease and has improved safety measures to prevent future spills. The President has also proposed opening up more undiscovered offshore oil and gas resources for development in the Gulf of Mexico.

I thank President Obama for his leadership in increasing oil production so that our Nation, our country, will depend less on imported foreign oil.

REJECT THE REPUBLICAN BUDGET

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

Mr. CLEAVER. You hear a lot about the Ryan budget. I've chosen not to call it the "Ryan budget"—it's just my personal thing—because it becomes personal. So, when I criticize it, it seems like I'm criticizing a person when I'm not. I'm criticizing the Re-

publican Budget Committee from which it came, and I'm criticizing it because 62 percent of all the cuts in that budget will be aimed at low-income individuals and seniors. The Medicare program is going to be threatened, and the AARP sent out a notice to all of its members explaining what would happen to Medicare if it is voucherized.

We are the only Nation in the history of planet Earth to give tax cuts as we enter and then are in the middle of a war—2003, 2005—giving tax cuts in the middle of a war. Last year, the 22 largest hedge fund managers earned \$22 billion, and they paid only 15 percent on the tax of the capital dividends. The people who are watching this pay 27 to 30 percent.

It's not right. We've got to reject this budget.

THE BUDGET AND MEDICARE

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

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, as my constituents remind me frequently, seniors have paid into the Medicare system their whole working lives. Seniors have done so with the understanding that, if they work hard and play by the rules, this country will provide for their health care needs during retirement. That is why I am committed to working with my colleagues and the administration to ensure the survival of Medicare, and that is why I strongly oppose the Republican budget.

The Republican budget would end Medicare by transforming it into a voucher program, and it would slash over \$1 trillion in benefits over the next decade. So, with far less money in hand, our seniors would become dependent on insurance companies to decide the fate of their health care—insurance companies that could price our seniors out of the market or cut benefits at will. Also, while the Republican budget takes from seniors to cut costs, it gives millionaires an average tax cut of at least—at least and I've seen larger numbers—\$150,000 in 2014.

Our seniors deserve better. I look forward to a real bipartisan effort to preserve the promise of Medicare for future generations.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET ENDS MEDICARE

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, again this year, the Republican budget would end Medicare's guarantee to our seniors. The Republican budget takes aim at the very heart of our moral obligation to our seniors.

Medicare has been both a blessing and a lifeline for our seniors and the disabled. Our seniors have worked a