

as “entrepreneurs” and transform their teams into companies that manufacture, market and sell “products.”

In addition to engineering their ROVs, the students are required to prepare technical reports, poster displays and engineering presentations that are delivered to working professionals. This structure allows competitors to experience the “real world” aspects of bringing such products to the marketplace; not only highlighting the importance of ocean observation and exploration, but also the intrapersonal and professional skills needed to effectively contribute in a professional environment.

Mr. Speaker, I am immensely proud of these talented and hardworking young oceans leaders from my congressional district and congratulate them on their remarkable achievement. These students have proven, on an international level, that the innovative mind and entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well in all generations of Americans. Constituents in my district have long recognized the value of our oceans and coasts and the Aptos High Robotics Team has developed an important prototype that will help scientists gather more ocean observing data. I commend the team for their efforts and encourage them to continue to pursue their passion for ocean science and exploration.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FARMER'S MARKET WEEK

**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Farmer's Market Week, which will take place August 4, 2013 through August 10, 2013.

In New Hampshire, the agricultural industry contributes nearly one billion dollars to our local economy every year. With over 400,000 acres of land across the Granite State devoted to everything from timber operations and greenhouses to dairy farms and apple orchards, agriculture is an integral part of our landscape and history. I am proud to be the first Representative from New Hampshire to serve on the House Agriculture Committee in seventy years.

Farmer's markets are a vital part of our communities in New Hampshire, connecting the farmers who grow our food with the families who consume it. In fact, farmer's markets could be found in New England all the way back to colonial times. Currently, there are nearly one hundred farmer's markets throughout the Granite State, from small summertime gatherings to year-round markets—and the number is still growing. Many of these markets were created by individual citizens with a passion for serving their community and the willingness to roll up their sleeves and make it happen.

Farmer's markets strengthen our communities by supporting local farmers and providing consumers with fresh, nutritious food. It's a win for our economy, a win for our health, and a win for the environment. That's the New Hampshire way.

The growing number and popularity of these markets is truly a testament of the commitment that Granite Staters have to our commu-

nities. National Farmer's Market Week recognizes the important role that farmer's markets play in our food system, and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the nearly 8,000 farmer's markets across our great nation.

#### SEQUESTRATION'S EFFECT ON PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year President Obama signed into law The Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act. This law takes an important step to accelerate research on pancreatic cancer and other cancers with the highest mortality rates and for which there has been little progress on diagnosis or treatment. In recent decades, steady progress has been made in improving the survival rate for many forms of cancer, but today only 6% of individuals diagnosed with pancreatic cancer will survive more than five years. This staggering statistic, which has not improved in 40 years, only begins to tell the story of the enormous toll this disease has taken on these patients and their families.

Under the new law, the National Cancer Institute at the NIH will develop a scientific framework to attack pancreatic, lung and other deadly cancers. The NCI has started this process by convening a working group of experts in the field of pancreatic cancer research and releasing an initial report with recommendations about high-priority research areas. When fully implemented, this law holds promise to lay the foundation for the development of better diagnostics and treatments that pancreatic cancer patients desperately need.

Now, sequestration is putting this progress in doubt. In one fell swoop, the sequester chopped \$1.55 billion from the NIH budget. Even before these cuts took effect in the middle of this fiscal year, the threat of the sequester caused NIH to delay or trim down the size of research grants. Now that it is in effect, the sequester has impacted every area of medical research and every Institute and Center within NIH. NIH-funded researchers in labs across the country will receive 700 fewer research grants this year than last year. And the bite of the Budget Control Act's cuts to NIH could deepen next year if Congress does not correct it.

The Director of NIH, Dr. Francis Collins, has said that “if the Budget Control Act—imposed caps on discretionary programs continue, and NIH funding is reduced proportionally over the next 10 years, funding will decline by about \$19 billion. The consequences will be harmful to scientific progress and to American leadership in science.”

The erosion of NIH's budget represents bad policy and missed opportunities. Advancements in science and health care take time and sustained funding. Breakthroughs occur only after years of incremental gains. The sequester is disrupting and delaying the efforts of our nation's leading researchers and scientists who are toiling to understand complex and unsolved medical problems. The squeeze of the sequester is also jeopardizing the future biomedical research workforce by making it

more difficult to recruit and train the next generation of scientists and bio-engineers.

The science and research community is sounding the alarm. Congress needs to provide strong, stable funding for NIH in order for our global leadership in science and biomedical research to continue and for our researchers' discoveries to benefit patients as soon as possible. Let's not allow ideological budget battles to jeopardize our country's investments in the health of our citizens any longer. I urge my colleagues to listen to the experts, work together, and take action to replace the arbitrary cuts of sequestration with a balanced plan that reflects public priorities and common sense.

#### RECOGNIZING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE JO BONNER

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of my good friend and colleague from Alabama, JO BONNER. Both JO and I are privileged to represent portions of the Gulf Coast. Our constituents in Alabama's First Congressional District and Florida's First Congressional District share inextricable bonds built on family, friendship and faith.

I have had the opportunity to work closely with JO over the past decade, and I can truly say that he is one of the hardest working lawmakers here in Washington. He is also a man of unimpeachable character, and his integrity as a public servant was reflected in his tenure as Chairman of the House Ethics Committee. Serving as Chairman of such an important House committee is a great challenge, but JO has served in some of the most challenging roles here in the House, including as a member of the Appropriations Committee and as Assistant Whip.

Despite taking on demanding leadership roles in Congress, JO has never stopped fighting on behalf of his constituents to help lure economic development to the Gulf Coast. JO helped lead the Gulf effort to bring the newly opened Airbus A320 assembly plant to Mobile, which is the company's first American production facility. The thousands of jobs that the Airbus plant has brought to the Gulf Coast come on top of other efforts led by JO to promote the Gulf Coast as a region open for business. In 2007, JO was a crucial figure in the construction of the \$4.8 billion ThyssenKrupp Steel plant, which brought thousands of jobs to the area, and he has also helped already established businesses, such as Austal USA, expand and create new jobs. JO's unwavering efforts helped businesses create thousands of jobs for both his constituents and mine, and the entire Gulf Coast region will continue to benefit from these projects for decades to come.

JO has been a leader in the Gulf community in good times, helping to promote economic growth and job creation; however, he has also been there during devastating disasters such as the recovery from Hurricane Ivan in 2005, and, most recently, the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill in 2010. JO worked closely with federal, state, and local authorities to coordinate

the emergency response efforts, while simultaneously working to hold BP accountable through the Gulf Coast Claims Facility. Here in Washington, JO and I worked closely with other members from the Gulf states to draft and pass the RESTORE Act, which will bring billions of dollars of fine money from the oil spill back to the impacted communities for economic and ecological restoration. JO's constant leadership and work on behalf of his constituents have left an indelible mark on his district, and his tireless work has helped assure a more prosperous future for citizens along the Gulf.

We will all be sad to see JO leave the House, and I will particularly miss his commonsense approach to legislating, but we also know that his service to the people of the State of Alabama is far from over. JO's new position as vice chancellor of government relations and economic development for the University of Alabama System will allow him to continue his distinguished service to the people of Alabama. Although as a University of Florida graduate, I think I can speak for the entire SEC, when I say that the last thing that the University of Alabama needs is more world-class talent. JO's track record of success here in the House will no doubt be an invaluable asset to the University of Alabama system and its students.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the whole House I extend my deep gratitude to JO for his years of distinguished service on behalf of his constituents and the entire Gulf Coast that we call home. My wife Vicki and I wish JO, his wife Jane, their daughter Lee, and their son Robins all the best as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, during roll No. 445, on the passage of H.R. 367, the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2013, I was called away from the floor for official business and was unable to vote on the final passage. I intended to vote "aye."

#### RECOGNIZING JIM CARMICHAEL'S COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO THE KITSAP COUNTY REGION OF WASHINGTON STATE

#### HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jim Carmichael, a recent recipient of the Kitsap Economic Development Alliance's Lifetime Achievement Award. For 30 years, Mr. Carmichael has worked to advance the economic interests of Kitsap County through steadfast service to his community. As a result of his dedication, Mr. Carmichael has had a profound influence on the economic development of Kitsap County and the surrounding region.

Mr. Carmichael began his work in the county in 1977, when he was hired as the chief lender for Kitsap Bank. By 1985, he was its President and Chief Operating Officer. Kitsap Bank has thrived under his stewardship, expanding throughout the region and creating good, living-wage jobs. Due to the foresight and judgment of Jim Carmichael, Kitsap Bank successfully navigated the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

Mr. Speaker, as an active member of the Kitsap Economic Development Alliance, and as its former board president, Mr. Carmichael worked to foster local entrepreneurship, attract business to the region, and educate the community about the benefits of development. As a board member of the YMCA, he worked to promote the well-being of some of our most vulnerable citizens. As the head of Kitsap Bank, Mr. Carmichael ensured the availability of lending opportunities, making our communities stronger, healthier, and more self-reliant.

Mr. Carmichael has always been someone that leaders throughout our community and state—including yours truly—could contact to better understand financial issues, economic development opportunities, or other civic matters.

Mr. Speaker, it is because of these great accomplishments that he has received this special award. Today, I can say with confidence that the careful judgment of Mr. Carmichael, and his extraordinary commitment to the promotion of the public good, has made our state a better place to live and do business. I am pleased to recognize his service today.

#### THE 40TH VOTE TO REPEAL AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, there is something extraordinary taking place. Not only are we implementing the Affordable Care Act across 50 states benefitting hundreds of millions of people in our country, but there is simultaneously an effort in the House of Representatives to repeal the law for the 40th time.

Imagine. . . this is not the fourth time, but the 40th time that Republicans are moving to take away rights to which Americans are legally entitled. These are the rights signed into law by the President and confirmed by the United States Supreme Court.

There's never been such an effort in Congress in the history of our country where a measure has been taken up 40 times. I believe my friends on the other side of the aisle are on the wrong side of history.

I would like to highlight this phenomenon through the lens of constituents and the rights they have and the rights that my Republican colleagues want to take away from them.

They want to reopen the prescription drug donut hole that was created through the program that they supported, costing seniors thousands of out-of-pocket expenses a year.

They want to take away from children the ability to stay on their parents' insurance policy up to the age of 26.

They want to take away lifetime limit caps on insurance policies. How can anyone argue that lifetime limit caps were ever good policy?

They want to take away preventive services from Americans like mammograms and colonoscopies.

They want to take away health care premiums that are actually spent on medical care instead of advertising.

They want to take away the right to plain language explanations of plan benefits.

And most of all, they want to take away the rights of my constituents to health insurance for those with preexisting conditions.

Thomas Jefferson said in 1808 that "great innovations should not be forced on slender majorities." I think an overwhelming number of American people would say they are in favor of the rights they have under the Affordable Care Act, versus going back to a time of discriminatory practices of private insurers.

#### THE IMPACT OF U.S. INTERNATIONAL WATER PROGRAMS ON HEALTH

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, two years ago, the subcommittee that I chair held a hearing on U.S. Africa programs and found that the unitary water budget line item had been "zeroed out." Needless to say, members of our subcommittee were astonished that such an important segment of our foreign policy was seemingly being abandoned. We were assured that the money for international water programs did not disappear, but was merely redistributed among several programs. The hearing that we held yesterday was intended to look at how effective this strategy has been and to look at how our government's international water programs will be implemented in the future.

Water is undeniably important to health and the very survival of human beings. Water comprises more than two thirds of human body weight, and without water, we would die in a few days. The human brain is 95% water, blood is 82% and lungs 90%. A mere 2% drop in our body's water supply can trigger signs of dehydration: fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic math, and difficulty focusing on smaller print, such as a computer screen. Water is important to the mechanics of the human body. The body cannot work without it, just as a car cannot run without gas and oil.

It is, therefore, troubling that so many people in the world do not have ready access to water. According to a 2012 report released by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund, roughly 780 million people around the world lack access to clean drinking water, and an estimated 2.5 billion people (roughly 40% of the world's population) are without access to safe sanitation facilities. Tainted water and unsanitary practices are at the root of many health problems in the developing world and are hindering U.S. and international global health efforts.

In a June 27th hearing on neglected diseases, the subcommittee heard testimony on the WHO list of 17 neglected tropical diseases—three of which are primarily waterborne. However, there are dozens of other diseases transmitted through contaminated water, including botulism, cholera, dysentery, hepatitis A, polio and SARS.