

missionary trip, where 45 parishioners traveled to Guyana to minister to the residents of Georgetown and Linden. The Berean Bible Study Center, which opened in 1989, has trained hundreds to be leaders in the church's ministries. To meet the needs of its diverse congregation, the church has a wide range of active ministries including those for children, youth, and families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Full Gospel Assembly on its 35th anniversary. The church leaders and parishioners have dedicated themselves to serving the people of New York, and for that they are worthy of the highest praise.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
TUSKEGEE-MOREHOUSE FOOT-
BALL CLASSIC

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a classic gridiron rivalry, the 78th Annual Tuskegee-Morehouse Football Classic, which is known as the "Matchless Classic of All Historically Black College Football Classics." This year, the Maroon Tigers of Morehouse College will meet face-to-face with the Golden Tigers of Tuskegee University at A.J. McClung Memorial Stadium in Columbus, Georgia on Saturday, October 12, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

The Tuskegee-Morehouse Football Classic, one of the longest running NCAA Division II classics in the nation, marks a rivalry that began in 1902 and has been played seventy-seven times in over a century. It first began as an entertainment event for the African-American civilian community and African-American U.S. Army soldiers in Columbus and Fort Benning, Georgia and Phenix City, Alabama. Today, it helps raise funds to provide young men and women with scholarships to help them attend college.

In 1955, the Classic Committee was formed by the late Mr. Gordon H. Kitchen, Mr. A.J. McClung, and Mr. Carl Haygood. The Committee continues to organize the Classic and has preserved the vision and mission of its legendary founders and past leadership. This year, the Committee will welcome Dr. John Silvanus Wilson, Jr., the Eleventh President of Morehouse College; Dr. Gilbert L. Rochon, the Sixth President of Tuskegee University; and Dr. Beverly Tatum, the Ninth President of Spelman College.

This is the ninth year the Tuskegee-Morehouse Football Classic will be played in the A.J. McClung Memorial Stadium, which was named for the late Honorable A.J. McClung, a 1933 graduate of Tuskegee University, Chairman Emeritus of the Tuskegee-Morehouse Football Classic and 29-year member of the Columbus Council who served as Mayor of Columbus in 1973.

The weeks leading up to this longstanding tradition are filled with excitement and anticipation. The Tuskegee-Morehouse Classic Parade is widely attended and filled with fanfare. The weeklong schedule of events also includes church services, recruitment activities, a media press conference, a golf tournament,

Presidents/Queens Brunch, VIP Reception and high-spirited tailgating with thousands of fans from all over the United States and abroad.

Throughout the years, the high quality of play and competition between the two teams on the field has represented college football at its best. The players and coaches of both teams train and work tirelessly to ensure a memorable classic. Each Classic features a spectacular show put on by the marching bands, the Piperettes, Mahogany in Motion, cheerleaders, flag teams and other auxiliary units. It always generates enthusiastic responses from proud fans cheering loudly for their teams.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting the Maroon Tigers of Morehouse College and the Golden Tigers of Tuskegee University as they compete in this classic gridiron rivalry. Naturally, I will be cheering for my beloved Alma Mater, Morehouse College. Despite the outcome, however, the 78th Annual Tuskegee-Morehouse Football Classic is sure to be a memorable affair overflowing with spirit, pride, and tradition on behalf of the students, alumni, administrations, families, and supporters.

RECOGNIZING DAVE EDWARDS'
COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Dave Edwards' retirement from public office following more than four decades of service. Mr. Edwards, formerly the Department of Public Works Superintendent of the Town of Caneadea, officially retired at the end of September.

Mr. Edwards' impact on my district is truly difficult to quantify as he has influenced countless aspects of the community. Dave Edwards has served on the Allegany County Fire Service Advisory Board for five years and is currently a member of the Allegany County Volunteer Fireman's Association where he is Chairman of the Memorial Committee. He has also played a pivotal role in the transformation of the Houghton Volunteer Ambulance Service, Inc. into the thriving corporation that it is today. This passion for service drives him to be a strong advocate for the maintenance and preservation of his community's fire fighting history.

Mr. Edwards' impact on the district has also been felt by the Caneadea Boosters Organization. He assisted with raising funds to repair the old steel-framed bridge within the town and has been a proud supporter of the Allegany County Republican Women's Club's 50/50 raffle for many years.

Perhaps most importantly, Dave Edwards is a devoted husband and father. He and his wife Linda have been married for thirty-four years and have one daughter, Stacey. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with Dave Edwards while serving the constituents of the Southern Tier and I wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,747,421,858,503.24. We've added \$6,120,544,809,590.16 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.1 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, on October 10th Taiwan celebrates the 102nd anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of China. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Taiwan on its impressive economic progress and strong record of democratic achievement.

On this important anniversary the U.S. Congress should commit itself to strengthening our relationship by signing a bilateral investment agreement (BIA).

Greater economic cooperation between Taiwan and the United States will benefit both our peoples, and support the economic integration and material well-being of the entire Pacific region.

Such an agreement would provide protection for investors of the two countries and expand market opportunities for investors all over the world.

I applaud the efforts of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Washington to maintain the strong ties that exist between the people of Taiwan and the US Congress.

I look forward to ever greater cooperation between our two nations.

REFORMS ADD INTEGRITY TO
SNAP FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, Americans are a good and generous people and don't begrudge helping needy families, and especially children, when times are tough. Sometimes our friends, neighbors, and their kids need a little help to get by after a layoff or personal hardship. But we do demand that our tax dollars be spent honestly and in direct support of those who need the aid. Today, that's not always the case.

The United States Department of Agriculture is spending tax dollars to advertise the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) on TV, radio, billboards, and through

agreements with foreign governments. Through loopholes and questionable recruitment activities, people whose incomes exceed the SNAP threshold, illegal immigrants, and even the deceased are counted among those receiving taxpayer benefits. Able-bodied adults, too, are receiving food stamp assistance at record levels.

In a down economy, heightened demand makes sense, but with the President's 2009 waiver of work requirements for SNAP recipients, the percentage of able-bodied Americans receiving aid has increased 163%. By comparison, total participants in the SNAP program, including the able-bodied population, increased 70.3%.

This week in the House of Representatives, we voted to make America's food stamp program stronger and more accountable to the American people.

The Nutrition Reform & Work Opportunity Act is designed to preserve the integrity of the SNAP program for families, and especially children, who rely on food stamps. Reforms in this legislation put stronger protections in place to ensure that SNAP money is reserved only for those who qualify for food stamps and isn't wasted on government public relations campaigns, medical marijuana purchases, or lottery winners. Questionable loopholes and recruitment activities which extend assistance to those who make too much money are also ended.

Further, consistent with the bipartisan belief that the solution to poverty is found through work, not just aid, the Nutrition Reform & Work Opportunity Act reinstates Clinton-era SNAP work requirements. These rules stipulate that able-bodied adults, with no dependents, must be looking for work, developing job skills, volunteering for community service, or obtain employment to draw food stamp benefits. Not only will this provision ensure that the truly needy continue to receive aid, it will help beneficiaries compete and prepare for jobs.

An unchecked SNAP program that wastes its limited resources on publicity campaigns or subsidizing those who do not qualify is unable to provide the best service to the people it is designed to help. It is the job of this Congress to ensure the program is held accountable as a steward of taxpayer dollars and as a safety net of last resort for the needy.

Nothing in this legislation adds to SNAP's eligibility requirements, so not one law-abiding beneficiary who today meets SNAP's income and asset tests, and who is willing to comply with applicable, bi-partisan work requirements, will lose their benefits.

Yet this legislation has its critics on the right and on the left.

Many on the left are crying foul because enforcing eligibility rules, requiring work or job search from the able-bodied and eliminating loopholes will lead to some current SNAP beneficiaries being dropped. Although that is true, it is because there are people today drawing benefits who should not be.

One of America's greatest strengths is that we are a nation of laws. Regardless of the example set by this White House, the government cannot operate outside of the law. We

cannot pick and choose which to obey. If our laws set forth a standard for eligibility, recipients must meet the standard.

On the right, some are asking whether the savings and reforms in this legislation go far enough. I echo those concerns, and agree that even \$40 billion in SNAP savings seems a small sum compared to Washington's vast mandatory overspending machine.

Do we need to find more savings? Absolutely. But the Nutrition Reform & Work Opportunity Act improves the existing SNAP system and gives our country a unique chance to reform a mandatory spending program and rid it of inexcusable waste, fraud, and abuse.

The Nutrition Reform & Work Opportunity Act is a step in the right direction toward ensuring the integrity of the SNAP program and that benefits are reserved for those who qualify and for those working to get back on their feet. Supporting this legislation is the responsible and conservative choice.

IN SUPPORT OF FISHING GUIDES IN THE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a result of the government shutdown, middle class and working poor Americans all across this country are suffering, including fishing guides whose livelihood depends on tourism in Florida's Everglades National Park.

On October 9, 2013, nine days into the government shutdown, more than 100 boats gathered outside the shuttered Everglades National Park to rally support for re-opening park waters. I wholeheartedly support the efforts of these hardworking fishing guides.

One guide stated that he has lost \$10,000 in revenue since the waters were closed. There are around 350 such licensed guides in the area alone, not to mention the hundreds of employees who work in and around the park. It is time that Speaker BOEHNER and his Republican colleagues stop this charade, end the government shutdown, and let people get back to work.

This shutdown exemplifies government at its worst. American families should not fall victim to Washington's dysfunction. Wrong-headed cynical politics is interrupting the life, liberty and pursuit of happiness of American workers who have done nothing wrong. Government is supposed to help its citizens, not make it harder for them to put food on the table.

Mr. Speaker, the bottom line is that Congress must re-open the government. South Florida's fishing guides are ready to work. It is absolutely outrageous that politics is standing in their way.

RECOGNIZING MYKE REID

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Myke Reid for his distinguished service and commemorate his retirement from the American Postal Workers Union (APWU). From the beginning of his postal career as a clerk in 1976, through serving as the Legislative Director of the APWU since 2004, Mr. Reid has tirelessly fought for and proudly represented our Nation's postal workers.

Since arriving in Washington, DC in 1984, Mr. Reid played a major role in shaping important legislation and worked tirelessly as a strong and effective advocate for postal workers across the country. As first the Assistant Legislative Director of the APWU, then the Legislative Director, he played a key role in the development and passage of many bills that made life better for people everywhere. His accomplishments can be seen in the bills he fought for, including the Family and Medical Leave Act, reform of the Hatch Act, and the Postal Employees Safety Enhancement Act. His career was dedicated to serving our nation's postal workers and strengthening our nation's postal system.

Mr. Reid's accomplishments and dedication to serving others extended far beyond the halls of Congress and the legislative arena. While working, he remained very involved and active in his community. His energy and enthusiasm also carried into his love of golf and photography. He also was a great fan of jazz music and the great New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Myke Reid on his retirement and commending him for his years of service to our nation's postal workers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 11, 2013

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for the following votes on October 8, 2013. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on H.J. Res 84, rollcall vote 530; "nay" on rollcall vote 531, and "nay" on rollcall vote 532.

While I am a strong supporter of the Head Start program, I oppose the Republican piecemeal bills to fund the government. Vulnerable children and their families need and deserve critical government services that this legislation does not fund. I continue to stand ready to vote for a clean continuing resolution to end the Republican Shutdown and fund the entire Federal Government, including Head Start, the Community Services Block Grants, Child Care aid, and nutrition programs.