

I'm proud to say that he earned a reputation as someone who worked across the aisle, striving to find common-sense, bipartisan solutions to the issues of the day.

Congressman Michel celebrated his 90th birthday last month, and he continues to be an inspiration for all who are more interested in working together to get results than trying to score cheap political shots.

Central Illinois has a long tradition of public servants who made a career out of reaching across party lines. Former Republican Senator Everett Dirksen of Pekin, in my district also, played a key role in the passage of the 1964 civil rights bill, while former Republican Congressman Ray LaHood of Peoria has worked across the aisle to improve the Nation's roads, bridges, and rail lines as Secretary of Transportation under the Obama administration.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that all Members of this body will join me in pledging to work together to put the people we represent first, and I would like to wish Congressman Michel a happy 90th birthday.

#### REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT COLONEL DONALD HOOD

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

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, retired United States Army Reserve Lieutenant Colonel Donald Hood passed away on December 30, 2012. He served our Nation with distinction, first on Active Duty in the United States Army and later in the Army Reserve.

Lieutenant Colonel Hood began his military service with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he became the first parachute-qualified, combat-ready optometrist in the United States Army.

From 1970 to 1972, Lieutenant Colonel Hood served in Southeast Asia during the war in Vietnam as the Army's chief of eye services at the Diplomatic Medical Mission in Bangkok, Thailand.

In 1972, he left Active Duty and continued serving his country in the United States Army Reserve as the chief of optometry for the 5502 United States Army Reserve Hospital in Aurora, Colorado, until his retirement in 1990.

Lieutenant Colonel Hood is survived by his wife, Patricia; his daughter, Chelsey Russell; his son, Cayman; and his granddaughter, Hayden Russell.

#### ACROSS-THE-BOARD BUDGET CUTS

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, later today, the House will vote to restore funding to the Nation's air traffic control system to better protect the traveling public and to restore order to a

vital sector of our economy by shifting unused funds.

Two lessons are hopefully now learned:

Across-the-board budget cuts are abysmally stupid. Cut a program that's vital to the health, safety and the economy, and what about this unused money over here? Oh, we can't move that, so we took care of that.

Second, there are some here who believe the Federal Government doesn't need to and should not invest in facilitating the movement of goods and freight and people in this country. It should devolve to the States.

Well, this is an object lesson in how vital these Federal programs are to the Nation's airspace. And next year, when the Highway Trust Fund goes below zero and we cut spending by \$50 billion on highways and transit, we will have another crisis. Let's hope we don't have to see a million layoffs and total disruption across the country before we fix that one. Fix that one before it happens.

□ 1010

#### NATIONAL PARK WEEK

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate National Park Week.

Our national parks are truly one of America's greatest natural resources, drawing nearly 279 million visitors and families who go to camp, hike, fish, and explore each year. Minnesota, my home State, is home to several national parks as well, with lakes and rivers and waterways.

In just a few years, our national parks will celebrate their 100th birthday. In preparation for this centennial, I have introduced legislation, H.R. 627, to allow the U.S. Mint to issue a National Park commemorative coin, with all of the proceeds going to help our national parks and our National Park Foundation. The bill has strong bipartisan support, and it is one more way that we can provide additional resources for our national parks.

Protecting and preserving these beautiful spaces—our national parks, monuments, and Civil War battlefields—for future generations is important. Our National Park Week is a perfect time to reignite this interest for individual community efforts in order to ensure that our national parks remain and retain their place as the most beautiful in the world.

#### A NEW ACHIEVEMENT IN MATHEMATICS

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce a new achievement in mathematics.

We learned about square roots in middle school. In the 15th century, mathematicians discovered the square roots of negative numbers. These "imaginary numbers" form the basis of much science and engineering, which are applied for practical uses, like the design of airplane wings.

In the 1920s, Paul Dirac constructed the square roots of "differential operators" in the development of quantum mechanics, which is the basis of much high-tech science.

In the 1970s, another type of square root, called "matrix factorization," which is important in physics, was discovered by David Eisenbud. This month, Daniel Murfet, a postdoc at the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute, announced new ways of linking matrix factorizations together, which will have numerous applications.

Mr. Murfet's work was funded by the National Science Foundation, and illustrates the importance of our Nation's continuing investment in the research and education of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

#### LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last night, a random telephone poll of my constituents was conducted in five Hill Country counties in the 21st District of Texas.

Here are the results:

Eighty-eight percent feel that the border should be secured before other immigration reforms take effect; 84 percent favor a system that would require employers to hire legal workers; 96 percent think that the Federal Government should balance its budget; and 85 percent believe the American people are taxed too much.

These are sincerely held views by hardworking, law-abiding, tax-paying good Americans. Congress would do well to heed their advice.

#### SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Safe Climate Caucus to take note of a major milestone in human history. This past week, the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere passed 400 parts per million.

I say a "milestone in human history" because this level of carbon dioxide has never been seen in human history. In fact, this level has not been achieved for millions of years.

I also say a "milestone in human history" because it is human activity—the way we produce and use energy—that is responsible for this high concentration; and it is of historic importance because, as scientists have made

clear, this great concentration of greenhouse gas is changing our very climate in ways that are dangerous and costly in dollars and lives. If we fail to change our ways, fail to change how we generate and use energy, then we will face worse and worse—blistering wildfires, withering droughts, flooding events, super hurricanes.

As the Earth goes barreling past 400 parts per million of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, let's take action now, this year, this Congress, to address climate change. Let's show that this is a turning point, not just a marker of inaction and environmental degradation.

#### PROTECT YOUR RIGHT TO REFUSE

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, 8 months from now, the Affordable Care Act's individual mandate will begin to punish Americans with a tax simply because they refuse to purchase health care. The mandate sets a dangerous new precedent.

If Congress has the power to tax our decision to not purchase health insurance, what else can a future Congress tax?

The Supreme Court has opened Pandora's box and has allowed future Congresses to tax Americans for failing to purchase any number of conceivable goods or services—basically, whatever Congress deems necessary.

That's why I introduced House Joint Resolution 28, the Right to Refuse Amendment, which would effectively reverse the mandate taxes and permanently prevent Congress from forcing Americans to choose between a purchase and a tax. The amendment is short and simple; Congress shall make no law that imposes a tax on a failure to purchase goods or services.

If my colleagues believe the Court got it wrong and if they believe in limited government, then I urge my colleagues to cosponsor House Joint Resolution 28.

#### THE NEXT TAMERLAN

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of the terrorist attack on the Boston Marathon and in learning that their next target was Times Square in New York City, I hope my colleagues who oppose gun safety laws will reconsider.

We have learned that Tamerlan, the terrorist, was on the terror watch list for 18 months. Many of our colleagues say that someone should have done something to prevent the terrorist from killing; but strangely, making the next Tamerlan undergo a background check on the Internet or at a gun show to buy a gun is not one of them.

The pro-gun lobby insists that the next terrorists should still be able to

buy all of the assault weapons they want and all of the 100-round magazines they need—no problem, no background check necessary. The next terrorist, or the next Tamerlan, thinks they are absolutely right; but 90 percent of Americans disagree, and I hope my colleagues will reconsider gun safety legislation.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 853. An act to provide the Secretary of Transportation with the flexibility to transfer certain funds to prevent reduced operations and staffing of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 111-5, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, appoints the following individual to the Health Information Technology Policy Committee:

Dr. Scott Gottlieb of Connecticut.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of section 3166 of Public Law 112-239, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, announces the appointment of the following individual to be a member of the Congressional Advisory Panel on the Governance of the Nuclear Security Enterprise:

Michael R. Anastasio of New Mexico.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the re-appointment of Steve Zink, of Nevada, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

#### RESPONSIBLE HELIUM ADMINISTRATION AND STEWARDSHIP ACT

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. 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 the bill, H.R. 527.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 178 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. 527.

Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HULTGREN) kindly take the chair.

□ 1018

##### 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. 527) to amend the Helium Act to com-

plete the privatization of the Federal helium reserve in a competitive market fashion that ensures stability in the helium markets while protecting the interests of American taxpayers, and for other purposes, with Mr. HULTGREN (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, April 25, 2013, all time for general debate had expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources, printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113-9. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read.

The text of the amendment in the nature of a substitute is as follows:

H.R. 527

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Responsible Helium Administration and Stewardship Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

Section 2 of the Helium Act (50 U.S.C. 167) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "and" and inserting a period; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) FEDERAL HELIUM RESERVE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'Federal Helium Reserve' means the Bureau of Land Management Cliffside Gas Field and supporting infrastructure.

"(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'Federal Helium Reserve' includes—

"(i) the Cliffside Gas Field helium storage reservoir; and

"(ii) all associated infrastructure owned, leased, or managed under contract by the Secretary for storage, transportation, withdrawal, purification, or management of helium.

"(5) QUALIFYING DOMESTIC HELIUM TRANSACTION.—The term 'qualifying domestic helium transaction'—

"(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), means any new or newly renegotiated agreement for the purchase or sale of at least 15,000,000 standard cubic feet of crude helium or bulk liquid helium delivered in the United States in the most recent full fiscal year; and

"(B) does not include any purchase of crude helium from the Secretary.

"(6) TOLLING AGREEMENT.—The term 'tolling agreement' means an agreement between a helium refiner and another party under which the helium refiner agrees to process the other person's helium at an agreed upon price."

#### SEC. 3. SALE AND AUCTION OF CRUDE HELIUM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6 of the Helium Act (50 U.S.C. 167d) is amended to read as follows:

##### "SEC. 6. SALE OF HELIUM.

"(a) PHASE A: FINALIZING DEBT PAYOFF.—