

rating agencies. I would hope the gentleman who serves on the Ways and Means Committee and I and others could work together so this doesn't happen again, that we make sure that the American people and that all of our creditors and people around the world know that the United States of America can and will handle its finances in a responsible fashion.

If the gentleman wants to say anything further, I'll yield back to him; if not, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2013, TO MONDAY, MAY 13, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Texas. I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next and that the order of the House of January 3, 2013, regarding morning-hour debate not apply on that day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

#### HONORING DR. SHIRLEY TILGHMAN

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

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Shirley Tilghman for her distinguished service as the 19th president of Princeton University.

Dr. Tilghman will step down this spring following 12 years of exceptional leadership. As the first woman to serve as president of Princeton, she is a role model for the campus community and young women and men across the country and throughout the world.

During her tenure, Dr. Tilghman, a molecular biologist, set in motion a number of significant initiatives. Princeton increased its financial aid offerings significantly, raising the percentage of students who receive aid and making Princeton's program one of the most generous in the country.

Dr. Tilghman has also worked diligently to bolster the university's academic offerings, overseeing the creation of the Lewis Center for the Arts, the Center for African American Studies, the Princeton Neuroscience Institute, and the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment.

As a proud Princeton alumnus, it is an honor to recognize Dr. Tilghman today. May the university continue to be guided by Woodrow Wilson's 1896 words, true also of President Tilghman's labors: "Princeton in the Nation's service," and now expanded to include in the service of all nations.

Our congratulations to Dr. Shirley Tilghman.

#### NURSES WEEK AND POLIO ERADICATION

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

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Nurses Week and to thank the millions of nurses who are on the front lines of our health care system.

Although a doctor is usually considered to be the primary health care provider for a patient, nurses are expert clinicians who provide high-quality and cost-effective care in every community throughout our country.

Around the world, nurses are the first and often the only link to health care for millions living in developing countries and are true warriors against diseases like malaria, HIV/AIDS, and polio.

Thanks to the work of nurses and community health workers, we are close to a polio-free world and could not have come so far without the leadership of the United States, the Gates Foundation, and, of course, partners like the United Nations and Rotary International.

As we thank and salute nurses around the world, we must also recognize the severe shortages of health workers and recommit ourselves to supporting programs and policies that have the greatest impact and farthest reach.

Once again, we must end polio now.

#### TRIBUTE TO MEGAN BELL

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

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and give thanks to the very first person that came to work for me when I came to Congress 5 years ago, my legislative director, Megan Bell.

Unfortunately, she is going to be leaving our office as she goes on to bigger and better things. But Megan has been a tremendous and tireless public servant for the people of southeast Louisiana and has provided great leadership to our Nation. She's been a huge help to me on energy issues, on health care issues, on coastal restoration issues, and so many things. When the *Deepwater Horizon* accident and disaster occurred 3 years ago, Megan was right there helping not only to get people back to work, but also to help draft and lead through the legislative process the RESTORE Act, which provided incredible support to the people back home. She also provided great help to constituents.

On a Friday afternoon, when we got a call from a father whose son needed lifesaving treatment, she worked through the whole weekend to get FDA approval for a lifesaving clinical trial.

She's just a great public servant, somebody that I think we can all aspire and look up to. We will miss her

here at the Capitol, and I surely will miss her at the office. But she will be going on to bigger and better things, and I wish her all the best.

□ 1220

#### SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, the Safe Climate Caucus is composed of 25 Members of the House who have made a commitment to talk every single legislative day on the House floor about the urgent need to address climate change.

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, we reached record levels of carbon in the atmosphere. Since 1956, a U.S. observatory has been recording data on the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere; and over the last few decades, carbon dioxide levels have been higher than at any point in the last 800,000 years. So there's more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere today than since the dawn of civilization.

This month, the amount of carbon is close to reaching 400 parts per million, a new record. And as a result, extreme weather events are going to be evermore frequent and more damaging.

We must act before it's too late. Our window to address the threat of climate change is closing. It's time to stop the denials and to start acting proactively.

#### SERVICEMEMBERS' TELEMEDICINE AND E-HEALTH PORTABILITY ACT IMPLEMENTATION

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, I worked with the Congressional Armed Services Committee to include the Servicemembers' Telemedicine and E-Health Portability Act, or STEP Act, as part of the 2012 National Defense Authorization Act.

The law expands telemedicine at the Department of Defense by allowing credentialed care professionals to perform telehealth consultations across State lines, which is great news for our servicemembers, especially those facing mental illness. Instead of waiting weeks for consultation, these men and women can now access care without delay while avoiding the stigma that is oftentimes associated with seeking treatment.

Last year, the DOD issued a waiver to expand telemedicine and begin implementation. In 2012, the Army was able to perform nearly 36,000 teleconsultations.

Despite progress, TRICARE providers were not included in the waiver, limiting thousands of professionals from providing services. Second, the waiver

does not allow servicemembers to use telemedicine from their homes, but what better way to avoid the stigma of seeking treatment than to access care from the privacy of one's home.

For our servicemembers to reap the STEP Act's full intended benefit, the Pentagon must fully implement this law.

#### HONORING FALLEN SERVICEMEMBERS

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

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize five servicemembers who died last Saturday in Afghanistan. First Lieutenant Brandon Landrum; Staff Sergeant Francis Phillips; Specialist Kevin Cardoza; Specialist Brandon Prescott; and Specialist Thomas Murach were killed by an IED while on patrol in Kandahar province. All five had been awarded both a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart, and all five were stationed at Fort Bliss in the district I represent.

Since 2011, Fort Bliss has lost 83 soldiers in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. This incredible loss of life has deeply impacted the families, friends, and fellow soldiers of the fallen, as well as the Fort Bliss and El Paso communities.

Each casualty reminds us of the ongoing human toll of the Afghanistan war, now going into its 12th year, and increasingly out of sight for many Americans. The terrible loss of these five soldiers reminds us of our solemn responsibility to our servicemembers, not only to be cautious when sending them into harm's way, but also knowing when it is time to bring them home.

#### SENATE IMMIGRATION BILL THREATENS NATIONAL SECURITY

(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, the Center for Immigration Studies has analyzed the Senate immigration bill and found that it threatens our national security.

For example, it allows examiners to grant asylum on the spot to arriving claimants without giving them background checks. It prohibits the prosecution of claimants for any criminal passport or visa fraud violation if they have a pending claim for asylum, whether or not it is frivolous. The bill fails to create an entry and exit tracking system at land ports where most foreigners enter. It waives existing grounds of ineligibility for illegal immigrants seeking amnesty, including bars for terrorism risks. So it appears that even the 9/11 terrorists could qualify for legalization under the Senate immigration bill. Incredibly, it even al-

lows the reentry and legalization of those from terrorist-sponsoring countries who have been deported.

How bad does it have to get before there is a popular uprising to oppose this bill?

#### DECENT PAY AND BENEFITS FOR CONTRACT WORKERS

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday low-income workers in Federal buildings held an impressive rally and press conference at Union Station. They serve the public and the Federal Government under contracts in Federal buildings nationwide, like the Ronald Reagan Building, often without benefits and a living wage. Despite their hard work, their employers, who are Federal contractors, off-load the cost of benefits they should provide, such as health care, onto the taxpayers. It is a zero-sum game.

These working poor do not earn enough to live on, and taxpayers often pick up the tab with food stamps and health care that employers who pay a decent wage shoulder themselves.

This is why we need administrative action to ensure that retail and commercial vendors who enjoy the prestige of contracts with the Federal Government at sites like the Smithsonian offer decent pay with benefits, putting everybody ahead—yes, the workers, but also the taxpayers and the economy alike.

#### LEFT BEHIND

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Benghazi whistleblowers have spoken publicly: the administration failed before, during, and after the terrorist attack in Benghazi.

Head of diplomatic security in Libya, Eric Nordstrom, testified his calls for more security before the attack were dismissed by a negligent State Department.

During the attack, counterterrorism official Mark Thompson said that the rescue team was told to stand down instead of trying to save Americans under attack.

Deputy chief of missions in Libya, Greg Hicks, said in his chilling testimony that when Ambassador Stephens frantically called him, they both knew this was a terrorist attack.

The information was reported to Washington; but back on the ranch, the administration ignored the obvious terror attack and blamed the situation on a video. What a yarn. The Libyan President even told our government that this was a terrorist attack, and he was ignored.

The result: four Americans murdered; an administration missing in action

that didn't attempt to rescue Americans; a bungling State Department that misled us; and a Secretary of State testifying, What difference does it make?

The difference it makes, Mr. Speaker, is four Americans were left behind. Shameful.

And that's just the way it is.

#### TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

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

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, this week is Teacher Appreciation Week. I rise to appreciate teachers, especially my wife, who is a high school math teacher; and my sister, who teaches gifted and talented students and English as a second language.

But mostly, I arise to really appreciate our teachers. I have three daughters. They have all received great educations, and it's thanks to the teachers who spend so much time, who care about our kids. And the investment we are making in our children through our teachers is the best investment America can make. We have to continue to build our education system and make it the best in the world and keep it that way.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank all of the teachers out there for the hard work that they do every day on behalf of our country, but especially our kids.

□ 1230

#### THE APPS ACT

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of consumer protection and privacy on mobile devices.

Every day, millions of Americans use mobile applications to help us get through the day, but many consumers do not know that their data is being collected. This privacy breach is just not ones and zeros. It's personal information, including our location at any given moment, our photos, messages, and many of the things meant only for our friends and loved ones; yet we lack basic rights to control how and how much of our data is collected on our phones, iPads, and tablets.

Data has become the oil of the 21st century and, like any other resource, there must be commonsense rules of the road for this emerging challenge. Today I'm introducing the APPS Act, a commonsense approach to this urgent challenge. The APPS Act will protect consumers without disrupting functionality or innovation.

Privacy is an issue that should unite us, not drive us apart. I ask that my colleagues come together and support this bill, creating transparency and trust in the mobile marketplace.