

are no longer with us. God bless our country.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, last month, two scientists from Oregon State University, Shawn Marcott and Alan Mix, published a peer-reviewed study in collaboration with scientists at Harvard reviewing 11,300 years of global temperatures. They found that the range of temperature change in the last 100 years is equivalent to the temperature change over the previous 100 centuries.

Climate change is real, it is devastating, and it is accelerating. Most focus is on the terrestrial effects. Other research points to rapid and devastating changes in our oceans—again, a study done by Oregon State University.

Burke Hales, an OSU chemical oceanographer, coauthor with Alan Barton, who works at the Whiskey Creek Shellfish Hatchery, looked into the fact that oysters were failing at an incredible rate to spawn and reproduce. Their study linked the production failures to the CO₂ levels in the water. That has incredible implications for the future of not only the shellfish industry, an important industry in the Northwest and other parts of the country, but also for the whole ocean food chain.

The ocean chemistry is also threatening something called pteropods, who are tiny sea snails, and they're very much at risk. They happen to be a food source for zooplankton, whales, and of course our salmon, who already have a host of problems in terms of their future.

Then from the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme, the Arctic seas are becoming rapidly more acidified. It turns out that cold water is especially susceptible, and as the sea ice in the summer recedes, more and more of the Arctic Ocean is exposed to the increased levels of carbon dioxide, and it is rapidly acidifying, in addition to which the melting of the ice in Greenland and elsewhere is adding fresh water, which further degrades the capabilities of the oceans to deal with the carbon dioxide.

Finally, research in the Northeast shows that the surface temperatures in the northeast Continental Shelf in 2012 were the highest recorded in 150 years of record-keeping. They found that over the last four decades many species of fish stocks have been moving north to escape the warming waters, but there are many species that cannot move or evolve that rapidly, which portends for more disasters.

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Back in 1973, there was a science fiction movie called "Soylent Green," sort of a mystery movie, but it was about an overpopulated and polluted

world, and the final devastating blow was that the oceans were dying. Now we have evidence that our oceans are very, very much at risk from CO₂ and climate change.

The House Republicans are using their leadership here to stymie efforts to even research and document climate change, let alone just totally denying that it's a problem. Time and time again, they voted to know nothing and do nothing about climate change. They voted to block action on climate change no fewer than 50 times in the last Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it's time to listen to the scientists and get serious about climate change. The evidence is in. The only question now is whether Congress will listen and act.

JOB AND SEQUESTRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about jobs.

I've served almost 5 months in the Republican-controlled House of Representatives, and I've heard a lot of my colleagues talk about jobs, but we've had little opportunity to actually vote on legislation that would create American jobs.

Just this week, the Albuquerque Journal reported on the unbelievable difficulty that many New Mexicans are having in finding a job. The headline says it all. According to the article, when the Downs Racetrack and Casino in Albuquerque held a job fair last week to fill 400 openings, 6,400 job seekers showed up.

One young man interviewed said, "I've put in 60 applications in the year I've been unemployed and haven't had a single callback."

Another job seeker noted, "This is the first time in my life, in 49 years, I've been without a job. You read about it, you think about it, and then when it happens it's a real awakening."

But instead of creating an environment that would foster economic growth, Congress has done the exact opposite by allowing the indiscriminate, across-the-board budget cuts, known as "sequestration," to take effect. According to the Director of the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, sequestration could result in a loss of 750,000 American jobs this year alone.

If there is one State that cannot afford to lose any more jobs, it's New Mexico. Our State's economy has been barely crawling along since the Great Recession of 2008. Last week, however, we finally got some good news. New Mexico's Department of Workforce Solutions reported that our State's employment growth in April was the best it has been in 5 years. A Department of Workforce Solutions official said, in fact, "The economic recovery in New

Mexico may be gathering momentum as we start a sustained recovery."

Now, just as New Mexico finally appears to be on the way to the economic recovery our families and businesses so desperately need, the sequester threatens all of this progress; and this week, New Mexico got some really bad news. The Department of Defense announced plans Tuesday to furlough about 680,000 of its civilian employees, including 7,000 New Mexicans, for 11 days through the end of this fiscal year. Some might think that 11 days doesn't sound like much, but let's take a closer look at what 11 days without pay means to individual families.

When furlough notices begin going out at the end of this month, 7,000 hardworking New Mexicans will find out that they will be losing about 20 percent of their salaries for the rest of the fiscal year. Now, these families are trying to pay their mortgages, make their car payments, and put their kids through college. Families are already living paycheck to paycheck and are struggling just to get by. Can you imagine what losing 20 percent of a paycheck means to them? It's devastating. Although New Mexicans may feel the worst of the consequences of the sequester this year, sequester is not just a 1-year problem. It will negatively impact our Nation's economy for the next 9 fiscal years.

We all agree we need to reduce our long-term deficit, but we need a balanced approach that will create jobs. On May 14, the CBO released new projections that the deficit will fall by an extra \$200 billion this year than previously expected. The CBO now forecasts that the deficit will shrink to 2.1 percent of the GDP by 2015 from a high of 10 percent of GDP in 2009. The International Monetary Fund has called the pace of deficit reduction "overly strong," arguing that Washington should focus on job creation in the short term and develop a long-term strategy for future deficit reduction. The IMF added that this year's \$85 billion in sequester-mandated cuts will negatively impact growth this year and beyond.

It's true that you can't tax your way to prosperity, but you can't cut your way to prosperity either, and draconian, across-the-board budget cuts aren't going to create jobs. I agree with those who say we need to get our fiscal house in order, but to do that we first need to solve the unemployment problem that is plaguing small towns and big cities throughout the Nation. More than half of the deficit stems from a sluggish economy and an unemployment rate that is above 7 percent.

Mr. Speaker, we need more Americans to get back to work. We need more Americans to get back to work so that fewer Americans will need to rely on social safety net programs in order to survive. We need more Americans to get back to work so that they will have more money to spend on goods and services, which will create even more jobs.

It has become clear that the House Republicans' so-called "plan" to create jobs was just empty rhetoric, a hollow promise to the American people. If House Republicans were serious about creating jobs, they would vote on the updated Van Hollen substitute—a real plan to replace the sequester with a sensible, balanced approach to deficit reduction that puts job creation first.

IN MEMORY OF ALMERINDO "AL"
CARVALHEIRA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the passing of Almerindo "Al" Carvalho, a Vietnam veteran who lived an extraordinary life of service to his country and to his fellow veterans. Al succumbed to cancer on January 21, 2013, at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Northport, New York.

Al was born on October 21, 1947, in Portugal. His family immigrated to the United States when he was 10 years old and settled in Nesconset, New York. Al proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and received numerous awards and decorations, including two Purple Hearts, the Bronze Star Medal, and the Air Medal.

Honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant in December of 1969, Al returned to his home on Long Island where he pursued a career in nursing and was hired by the Northport VA Medical Center in 1977. There he dedicated himself to the care and treatment of his fellow veterans as a VA registered nurse and nurse leader for nearly four decades.

Al was known as a highly effective and empathetic caregiver who was never too busy to spend time with his patients, especially the most challenging among them. His own experience gave him a unique understanding of what his patients had endured in combat. In discussions with them, he often cited his favorite book, "The Things They Carried," written by fellow Vietnam veteran Tim O'Brien.

Soon after the start of his career at the VA medical center, Al was promoted to nurse manager, which gave him the supervision of all inpatient psychiatric units and the outpatient treatment program. In addition to these significant responsibilities, Al trained and developed staff in crisis intervention and implemented a crisis response team for the safety of VA patients and staff. In order to provide veterans the best care possible, Al found the time to earn a master's degree in nursing from Stony Brook University.

Dear to Al's heart was the Suffolk County, New York, chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America, to which he devoted 38 years of service, working day in and day out taking care of "his boys," advocating for the needs of all

veterans and raising awareness of the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's veterans and their families.

In May of 2009, I had the great pleasure of working with Al and his friends and fellow Vietnam veterans Richie Kitson and Clarence Simpson to rename the Riverhead, New York, Post Office in honor of Suffolk County's only Vietnam War Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, PFC Garfield M. Langhorn.

That same year, Al took the lead in the construction and dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Garden on the grounds of the Northport VA Medical Center, which recognizes and honors the sacrifices of our Nation's servicemen and -women. The memorial garden's dedication ceremony was held in October 2010 and was attended by more than 300 people.

In 2011, Al and members of the VVA were inspired by Dignity Memorial's replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall to expand the Northport VA Medical Center's Vietnam Veterans Memorial Garden for the inclusion of a permanent war memorial known as The Wall of Wars.

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It was during this time that Al was diagnosed with cancer. Although Al will not be present at the VA's Veterans Day dedication of the The Wall of Wars, his legacy as a war hero, a VA nurse, and a veterans advocate is and will be forever present on the grounds of the Northport VA Medical Center and throughout Suffolk County's veteran community.

On January 25, 2013, Vietnam veteran and U.S. Army Sergeant Al Carvalho was laid to rest with military honors at Long Island's Calverton National Cemetery. Al is survived by his beloved wife of 40 years, Geraldine, and their two sons, Almerindo and John, as well as six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's First Congressional District and a grateful Nation, it is my honor and privilege to recognize Almerindo "Al" Carvalho for his distinguished service and many contributions to our Nation and his fellow veterans. He will always be remembered with our love and appreciation.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, recently research has shown that fish populations are not waiting for climate change to make their habitat impossible for them to live. They're moving. That's right: fish all over the globe are migrating to cooler climates.

In a process that's been taking place for decades now, fish are sorting themselves out and leaving areas that no longer sustain their quality of life,

their ability to reproduce and to thrive. They've steadily been moving to areas where the effects of climate change are not so pronounced.

Isn't it interesting that fish, without fancy scientific instrumentation or computer analysis, have reacted to the facts in the sea and moved where they can function, where they can live and where they can, at least for the time being, escape the impacts of climate change?

They're also escaping from people who depend on them in their previous habitat to fish, but that's another story on the consequences of climate change and global warming.

Isn't it time that the political process starts responding in ways that even fish can? One would hope. But, instead, today on the floor of the House, we're going to return to debate the Keystone pipeline that would carry oil extracted from Canada's tar sands to the U.S. gulf and short circuit Presidential review.

Given the potential negative environmental impacts, the repeated efforts by some to rush the environmental and public safety review process, the overwhelming number of comments and concerns received from the public and the recent news about the atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide that have reached 400 parts per million, an amount not seen in at least 3 million years, I'm concerned that this sideshow over the Keystone pipeline will make our climate problem worse, rather than better, and poison the ability to make progress in the future.

The simple fact is that this pipeline would facilitate the exploitation of one of the dirtiest sources of energy—tar sands oil—that poses public, safety, and health risks.

In addition to possible worsening of the effects of global climate change, there are serious questions that remain about pipeline safety, spill prevention, and protecting the public from potential health impacts in the wake of the spills that are inevitable.

Tar sand developers are amazingly exempt from paying into the oil spill liability trust fund, making American taxpayers liable for the cost of any spills from the Canadian tar sands oil. This places, I think, an unacceptable and unnecessary risk on American taxpayers, one that we can ill afford to assume today.

This will be the seventh time that we voted and that I will vote against proposals to streamline the building of the Keystone pipeline as some Members of the House continually and repeatedly attempt to circumvent the legislative process and rush its proposal.

The only positive of this project is creating several thousand temporary construction jobs and a few dozen permanent jobs. That's no reason to short circuit the review required by law.

The potential environmental harm done by the pipeline—both from the threat of oil spills to the precious aquifer that it will be passing over and because tar sands emit three times more