

Wisconsin, which is why I was honored that Farm Technology Days decided to hold their annual event in Kewaunee County at Ebert Dairy Enterprises, an impressive sixth-generation family farm in Algoma.

Farm Technology Days is the largest agricultural show in Wisconsin, and one of the largest in the Nation. The 3-day event showcases the latest improvements in production agriculture, recent research findings, and technological developments.

Mr. Speaker, 15,000 hamburgers and 11,000 bowls of ice cream later, the event was a huge success for our local ag economy. The first day alone saw an attendance of over 10,000 people.

Because of the hard work of the Ebert family and the nearly 2,000 volunteers who pitched in, northeast Wisconsin was able to demonstrate the powerful role we play in Wisconsin's agriculture industry.

#### AVERTING A CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to defend the Constitution and avert a constitutional crisis.

I rise, Mr. Speaker, to defend democracy. I rise to protect the Republic. I rise to prevent a constitutional crisis that would be created, should any rogue President attempt to pardon himself.

Let me be clear, Mr. Speaker: I do not believe that a President can pardon himself. The ability to pardon is the ability to forgive. I do not believe that a President can forgive himself for crimes committed. I do not believe that the Constitution allows a President to forgive himself for the most egregious crimes barred by our laws.

I do not believe that a President could pardon himself or forgive himself for the crime of treason. I do not believe that this country would allow such a thing to exist, and if a President attempted to do it, we would have a constitutional crisis.

So I rise today to prevent a constitutional crisis. I don't believe that the Constitution would allow it, but I want to prevent the crisis, should some rogue President attempt it.

So, Mr. Speaker, I have a simple amendment to the Constitution that would avert this crisis. It reads: The President shall have no power to grant to himself a reprieve or pardon for an offense against the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the great and noble American ideals that we hold dear and that we protect with everything that is near and dear to us. We use our very bodies to protect it. Our men and women will go to distant places to protect these noble and great ideals, and many don't return the same way they left.

These ideals would be put at risk if some rogue President decided to par-

don himself. We would have a constitutional crisis.

I am honored, Mr. Speaker, to say that this amendment will be filed later today, and there are two other Members of Congress that I am proud to have associated with me on this amendment. They are the Honorable BRAD SHERMAN and the Honorable SETH MOULTON.

We are filing this amendment not because we believe that a President can self-pardon, but if some President attempted to do it, this amendment would be there for us to act expeditiously and prevent it.

Mr. Speaker, this is the solution that I hope we never have to use. I pray that this amendment never has to be pushed through, but I am so proud to have it there, in the event it is needed.

#### POW/MIA SELECT COMMITTEE

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, the fourth line in the Warrior Ethos reads: "I will never leave a fallen comrade." Every soldier who passes through Army basic training knows this motto, and truly it is the spirit of our entire military.

Currently, more than 75,000 Americans are unaccounted for from conflicts ranging from World War II to the war on terror. We must continue to vindicate the spirit of the Warrior Ethos and aid our military to make sure that we never leave any servicemembers behind, which is why I am cosponsoring a resolution for the creation of a Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs in the House.

This select committee will be responsible for investigating these unaccounted for servicemembers and finally bring peace of mind and closure to their families.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we not abandon this obligation and that we help our brave servicemembers never leave behind a fallen comrade.

#### ENDING UNNECESSARY SHARK FINNING

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, sharks are being killed 30 percent faster than they are able to reproduce, which is having a serious impact on our ocean's ecosystem. One contributor to this decline is an inhumane practice that is known as "finning."

Finning is the removal of the fins from a shark and, often times, is done while the shark is still alive. These fins are mostly used for shark fin soup, which is a traditional soup seen in many Asian countries. After harvesting the fins, these sharks are thrown back into the ocean, where they are left to die from suffocation, blood loss, or be killed by other predators, since they have no way of having an opportunity to defend themselves.

That is why I am cosponsoring the Shark Fins Elimination Act, which

will make it illegal to possess, buy, or sell shark fins, unless the shark was lawfully taken with a license or permit. This bipartisan effort will protect the fragility of our ocean wildlife and prevent these cruel practices.

□ 1100

#### TRUMPCARE AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) for 5 minutes.

The gentlewoman will suspend.

The Chair would advise the gentlewoman to remove the chart from the well.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, would the Chair tell us why.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is the determination of the Chair that it is a breach of the decorum of the House.

The gentlewoman may proceed.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was the 27th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is a day to reflect on how people with disabilities are treated in our society.

Our President indicated to us what he thinks about people with disabilities long before he was elected when he mocked a disabled reporter. Mocking the disabled is rude and insensitive, and it sends a terrible message to our children.

Who are the disabled people who were mocked that day? They are veterans who lost a limb or suffered a traumatic brain injury while courageously serving our country. They are children who were born with serious medical conditions like autism, Down syndrome, and cerebral palsy. They are victims of workplace accidents and car accidents. They are victims of mass shootings and terrorist attacks. They are senior citizens in nursing homes. They are our mothers and fathers, our brothers and sisters, our friends and neighbors, and our children.

They might be with us today or they may be with us a year from now. They deserve to be treated with respect, and they deserve quality healthcare.

Given that we already know about the attitudes that have been displayed against them, it should come as no surprise that TrumpCare would have a devastating impact on people with disabilities.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has scored several versions of TrumpCare. Most would cause at least 22 million people to lose their health insurance. The so-called repeal only bill, which repeals the Affordable Care Act and does not replace it with anything, would cause 32 million people to lose their health insurance. Even the so-called skinny TrumpCare would cause 16 million people to lose health insurance and increase premiums by 20 percent.

When people with disabilities lose their health insurance, they cannot get affordable treatment for their medical conditions; and when healthy people lose their health insurance and then become disabled, they, too, will not be able to find affordable treatment for their injuries. Furthermore, when they try to find a new health policy, their disability will be considered a pre-existing condition.

TrumpCare cuts more than \$700 billion from Medicaid. According to an analysis by the Center for American Progress, more than 15 million children and adults with disabilities rely on Medicaid for their health coverage and could lose it if TrumpCare became law.

The President's budget would also have a very devastating impact on all people with disabilities. Trump's budget cuts \$50 billion over the next 10 years from benefits earned by American veterans who are unable to work because of a service-connected disability.

His budget cuts billions from Social Security Disability Insurance, which provides earned benefits to workers who become disabled after years of paying Social Security taxes on their earnings.

His budget cuts billions from Supplemental Security Income, which protects vulnerable people with disabilities, including 1.2 million children who suffer from conditions such as Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, autism, intellectual disabilities, and blindness.

His budget cuts funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act by \$113 million, jeopardizing special education services for students with disabilities.

His budget cuts funding for housing for persons with disabilities by 20 percent.

His budget eliminates the Limb Loss Resource Center and the Paralysis Resource Center, which cuts support for people with traumatic brain injuries by 67 percent and cuts funding for the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities by 26 percent. It even eliminates Special Olympics Education.

In conclusion, people with disabilities deserve better. That is why we must raise our voices to support them, oppose these budget cuts that target them, and protect their healthcare.

Stopping TrumpCare is not about politics. It is a matter of life and death, and this is especially true for people with disabilities.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF STEVE ROCKFORD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of my friend, Steve Rockford, who passed away last week following his 5-

year battle with ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease.

I first met Steve when he came here to Washington, D.C., to advocate on behalf of more funding for ALS research, and I was really struck by his courageously uplifting demeanor in the midst of a very dark prognosis.

Steve came to my office, was all smiles, brought me this pack of cards where his card was on the top. As you can see right here, Steve leaves behind his wife, Tammie, and his five children.

While this terrible disease attacked Steve's body, it really never touched his resolve. He held a positive and inspirational mindset throughout not only the diagnosis and his treatments, but throughout his fight against ALS. He never let Lou Gehrig's disease bring him down.

Steve actually sent me text messages every day, and it is sad that I don't get them anymore, and we know why. His text messages would have Biblical verses, inspirational messages from a man who was fighting a disease that he knew he was not going to live through.

That tells you a lot about Steve Rockford, a former wrestling coach at Southeast High School in Springfield, Illinois. He is somebody who taught others how to lift themselves up. And while he was fighting the fight of his life, he taught me what it was like to be lifted up by someone so special.

ALS is a devastating disease. It attacks the body. It never stops relenting. It is estimated that 20,000 people have this disease at any given time, and only 20 percent of those affected with ALS live more than 5 years after diagnosis.

We must follow Steve's request to fund research at the National Institutes of Health to ensure that diseases like ALS are eradicated and that those afflicted with the disease have access to home health services and rehabilitation equipment.

While facing a debilitating disease and diagnosis, as you can tell, Steve did not despair, falter, or surrender. Steve Rockford is a hero to me. He is a hero to many in his hometown of Springfield, Illinois. I am a better man for knowing Steve Rockford.

Please continue to keep his wife, Tammie, and their five beautiful children right here in this picture, please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Steve, we are going to miss you. I am sure you are having fun up there.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 8 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

#### PRAYER

Dr. George Dillard, Peachtree City Christian Church, Peachtree City, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we humbly come before You as leaders in a nation that seems to have lost its way. We seek Your help this day and in the future, Your guidance to help us return to a place where liberty and justice is for all. Remind us that liberty and justice go hand in hand and that liberty cannot exist if there is not justice for the innocent.

Teach us to protect life, to be a refuge for immigrants, the unborn, the aged, the orphaned, the widows, the homeless, the family, the oppressed, those in danger, every race, and our veterans.

Help us to see that unity is stronger than division.

Remind us that consensus without truth is confusion and that power without control is destructive. Remind us again that out of the many should come the one. Give us compassion, strength under control, humility and grace.

Lead us, Father, through this valley that we might stand on the mountain proclaiming with one voice that we are the united people of America.

In Jesus Christ's name.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. FASO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FASO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### WELCOMING DR. GEORGE DILLARD

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. FERGUSON) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. George Dillard, whose leadership and guidance have made him a valuable member of the community in Peachtree City and Georgia's Third District.