

FLAT STANLEY

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome a distinguished visitor to the House floor today.

Flat Stanley is visiting Washington, D.C., this week from Miss Martin's second-grade class at Clemmons Elementary in Clemmons, North Carolina. Through Flat Stanley's adventures, the students in Miss Martin's class are learning about geography and maps.

It has been more than 50 years since Stanley Lambchop was first flattened by a bulletin board in Jeff Brown's 1964 children's classic. Today, the Flat Stanley Project is a global literacy activity that engages hundreds of thousands of children and includes more than 6,000 schools registered in 88 countries around the world.

It has been my pleasure to show Flat Stanley around the U.S. Capitol. I hope he has a safe trip back to North Carolina's Fifth Congressional District and that Miss Martin's class enjoys learning about his visit to Congress.

INCREASE HARBOR MAINTENANCE FUNDING

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call on Congress to keep its promise to invest in our Nation's ports.

The harbor maintenance tax collected at our ports should be returned to our ports, not stockpiled or diverted to other spending.

For years, only about 50 percent of the tax was returned to our ports. The harbor maintenance trust fund now has a surplus of approximately \$9 billion.

Last year, with bipartisan support, we passed the Water Resources Reform and Development Act, which set targets for annual increases in usage of the trust fund, leading to 100 percent use by the year 2025.

I have offered an amendment to the budget resolution to meet that target funding level for 2016 established in WRRDA, and I am disappointed that the Rules Committee did not rule it in order.

To keep our United States ports globally competitive, we should fully use the harbor maintenance trust fund to maintain and improve our harbors and navigation channels.

ARKANSAS RUN FOR THE FALLEN

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the fourth annual Arkansas Run for the Fallen. Congratulations too to run organizer Chief Master Sergeant Bubba Beason.

Several years ago, to honor Arkansas' fallen heroes, the Arkansas Run for the Fallen was created.

This year's run started in Ozark, Arkansas, last Friday and concluded at the State capitol in Little Rock on Sunday afternoon.

A team of Active Duty and Reserve airmen, soldiers, marines, and Arkansas State Police embarked on a 146-mile memorial run to honor every Arkansan who has died since the attacks on September 11, 2001.

I had the honor of attending the final ceremony on Sunday afternoon and was deeply moved to be in the presence of approximately 30 Gold Star families that were in attendance.

These men have served their country bravely, and their example and sacrifice are ones all Americans and Arkansans can admire.

JUST THE FACTS

(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, as Congress debates how to best craft the 2016 budget proposal, I hope that heavier consideration will be given to reality over ideology.

Let's look at the facts of what has actually worked in the past and what has not. Because in real life, the facts show that Democratic administrations have outperformed the Republican administrations in creating jobs by a significant margin.

The most recent jobs report, for instance, showed that the economy added another 295,000 jobs in February. That is the 60th consecutive month of private sector job growth, and the longest streak in history that has been recorded.

Over the past 5 years, the American automobile industry added over 500,000 jobs due to the Democratic-led restructuring.

And during the past 4 years, while our friends on the other side of the aisle predicted hyperinflation, the collapse of the dollar, and worse, we put more people back to work than all other advanced economies combined.

Let's face the facts and consider what has worked in the real world in creating jobs.

CELEBRATION OF U.S.-TAIWAN RELATIONSHIP

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to celebrate the strong relationship between Taiwan and the United States. With the 70th anniversary of the ending of World War II this year and the 36th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act on April 10, we can reflect how this relationship has been beneficial for both countries.

Prior to World War II, America recognized the importance of protecting the Chinese people from invaders. In

1940, the U.S. operated a clandestine air support mission to protect the citizens of the Republic of China, carried out by a courageous volunteer group of pilots. Known as the Flying Tigers, this group became the 14th Air Force and included my father, the late First Lieutenant Hugh Wilson.

America is eternally grateful that the Chinese military in 1942 rescued most of the crews after 15 U.S. planes crashed in China following the Doolittle Raid, which had been formed at Columbia Army Air Base, South Carolina.

Today, I am encouraging everyone to recognize the critical importance of the U.S.-Taiwan relationship and its continuation.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President by his actions never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

VETERANS EDUCATION TAX SECURITY ACT

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

Mr. GALLEGOS. Mr. Speaker, today, veterans who are disabled can get their Federal student loan debt discharged. But, unfortunately, the Department of Education reports discharged debt to the IRS, where it is considered as income for Federal and possible State tax purposes. In many instances, having Federal student loan debt discharged results in a substantial tax liability.

That is why I am introducing the Veterans Education Tax Security Act—the VETS Act. This bill will ensure that disabled veterans, deceased veterans, and deceased members of the Armed Forces are not financially penalized when their Federal student loan debts are lawfully discharged.

As veterans ourselves, Congressman ZINKE and I both understand the importance of putting politics aside to support our soldiers and veterans who have risked their whole lives and their families to defend our country. They, or their families, should not be penalized when Federal student loans are forgiven because of death or disability.

I thank Congressman ZINKE for his support on this issue and look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to champion fairness for our veterans.

FIGHTING FOR OUR FISHING INDUSTRY

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

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of one of New Hampshire's most vital industries—the fishing industry.

For nearly 400 years, our fishing industry has helped sustain and build our local economy in the seacoast region of