

prosecute the perpetrators of anti-union violence, and to provide basic internationally-recognized worker rights, I cannot vote for the agreement before us today.

HONORING THE HONORABLE  
JUDGE RUSTY LADD

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the Honorable Judge Rusty Ladd, a great man, a tireless public servant, and an advocate for the homeless. Larry Brown "Rusty" Ladd passed away Friday, September 30, 2011, and he is missed by all of us who knew him. I was privileged to know Judge Ladd, and I know the legacy he leaves behind will not be soon forgotten by his family, friends or community.

Rusty was born in Breckenridge, Texas on August 8, 1952, as the oldest son of a cotton ginner. He graduated from Lubbock Christian College in 1975 with a degree in Biblical Studies and joined the police force in 1977. In 1988, he graduated from Texas Tech Law School and started his own practice as a defense attorney in Dallas. He then moved back to West Texas as a prosecutor in Amarillo and Plainview. In 1996 he continued his practice in Lubbock as Assistant and then Deputy District Attorney at the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office.

In 1999, Rusty assumed the judge's bench of the Lubbock County Court-at-Law No. 1. When taking the bench, he said, "I'm a new judge, and in taking the bench, I'm going to be able to fulfill my oath to defend the laws of the state in an absolutely fair and impartial way." He was true to his word, serving fairly and impartially, compassionate when possible and firm when necessary.

Rusty showed kindness not only in the courtroom, but also on the streets of Lubbock. He opened his heart to the homeless in the Lubbock community, serving on the homelessness committee of the Lubbock City Council since 2010 and volunteering through Carpenter's Church. Rusty dedicated his time and effort to serving the poor and marginalized. "The thing a homeless person misses the most is not food or shelter," Ladd said in a 2010 interview, "it's a genuine relationship with somebody that's got a stable life going on." His Christ-like attitude toward the poor is inspiring, and I hope and pray we can continue the selfless acts that he carried out.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my sincere thanks to Judge Rusty Ladd, for leaving this world a better place than he found it. I am truly honored to recognize his accomplishments. He will certainly be missed, but he will never be forgotten by those who knew him and were touched by his life.

HONORING DENVILLE VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Denville Volunteer Fire De-

partment located in Morris County, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 85th Anniversary.

At a meeting of the Denville Athletic Club on June 6, 1926, a committee was formed to investigate the terms under which a fire department for the Township of Denville could be formed, to research the type of fire fighting apparatus most suitable for use and, most importantly, the costs involved in the undertaking. At this same meeting, the first officers of the Denville Fire Department were elected.

Though the founding members of the fire department were initially met with some resistance by the governing body, the persistence of its dedicated volunteers paid off. After the township passed the ordinance establishing the official status of the department, many volunteers offered their garages as home for the first fire apparatus. On New Year's Day 1927, the final push was made to finish the structure that would be the department's first official home. After furnishing the building, complete with a siren, the first meeting was held on March 22, 1927.

Through dedicated fundraising and the support of their community, the Denville Fire Department managed to keep their facility up and running and to acquire the necessary tools to keep the community safe. In July 1935, the Denville Board of Education gave the department the Old School House property on Main Street. The building was demolished to make room for a fire house and remains of the structure supplied additional material for the department's new home.

Over the years, many changes came to the Denville Fire Department. In 1940, the department formed a first aid squad. In April of 1956, it was decided that an additional fire house was needed. Construction of the Union Hill Firehouse began in early 1957 and was completed by February. In 1963 the Denville Board of Education donated a piece of land to the Department for construction of an additional firehouse. This would become the location for the Valley View Firehouse. Groundwork on the structure began on May 8, 1963. The finishing touches were made in January and February of 1964.

By the 1970s, the department boasted a 100 plus membership with five fire engines in service at three firehouses. With their ever-growing group, new construction began on a new facility for the Main Street Fire Station in 1973. By the fall of 1974 their completed, present home was open. Continuing in their growth, the department established the Junior Fire Auxiliary in 1983.

Over the last 20 years, the fire department has continued to flourish. Recently they acquired a new engine and two new ambulances. The 2009 Smeal 1,000 gallon Engine replaced a 1989 ICME 750 gallon Engine. The two ambulances replaced the ambulances at Union Hill and Valley View Fire Houses. Every year, they answer approximately 500 fire and 1,000 first aid calls and assist surrounding departments as they respond to calls in neighboring communities. In the summers, they hold the annual Denville Firemen's Carnival which brings Denville and surrounding communities together for lots of food and fun.

The past and present members of the Denville Volunteer Fire Department have gone above and beyond their call of duty. From their dedication to the safety of their community, to raising funds to maintain each fire house, their unwavering and resilient efforts

are truly commendable. With each hour of training with every call answered, firefighters give up their precious time to help and protect others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Denville Volunteer Fire Department as they celebrate 85 years of community service.

HIGHLIGHTING THE NATIONAL  
DEBT CRISIS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to highlight the National Debt Crisis. We are in the midst of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Our deficit has ballooned to the highest sum in history, 14.8 trillion. Our nation's unemployment hovers at 9.1 percent and a record 46.2 million Americans live in poverty. This problem cannot be sustained without running the risk of destroying our Great Nation.

As I stand before you, I make a plea to our spiritual leaders throughout the United States to be heard and to speak out for the gridlock that exists here in Congress. It seems to me whether we're dealing with the Koran or the Bible or the Torah, one thing that is abundantly clear is that we have a moral obligation to take care of the vulnerable among us, especially during our current economic crisis. This great nation now has broken all records in terms of our middle class actually being shrunk as people are forced into poverty. Therefore, cutting funding to entitlement programs will exacerbate this problem. Let the churches, synagogues, mosques and the temples be open so people can express themselves. Our spiritual leaders could encourage people not just to pray but to become active. So whether you're a Protestant, Catholic, Jew, Gentile, Mormon or Muslim, this is a time when America needs you.

The Congress has an obligation as well. Let this Congress attempt to be more civil and recognize that we have a responsibility that goes beyond the election. We have a responsibility to the American people and our National Debt is a priority that we must address.

Since the 1970's Keynesian economics has been the guiding principle for both parties. It stated that you should spend when times are bad to stimulate the economy and balance the budget when times are good. Therefore, the Government must increase spending to fill the void left by the private sector in a Recession. However, the Republican Party has abandoned this principle of economics in favor of "Reaganomics." The Republican Party has prioritized cutting taxes and decreasing spending. While this would make sense when the economy is strong, trying to balance the budget this way in a Recession is dangerous. The tax cuts will cost the Federal Government \$65 billion for 2011 alone. They will continue to add to the debt, while the Government struggles to raise revenue. Without revenue the Government cannot fund vital social programs such as Medicare and Medicaid, among others.

Moreover, with low revenue the Government cannot pay its bills and its debts. As a result,

the Government has been forced to borrow from countries such as China and Japan, as well as the Social Security program and the United States Postal Service. Republicans have argued that Social Security is unsustainable and is contributing to the debt; however Social Security has run surpluses for decades. The Government has used these surpluses to fund their spending, including the high spending under President Reagan. We cannot continue borrowing from Social Security. Social Security was created to last, without contributing to the debt. The program cannot pay benefits if it does not have the resources to do so. Furthermore, Social Security cannot borrow; therefore it cannot increase the federal deficit. Hence, years of tax cuts and borrowing from Social Security have pushed the program near insolvency. Additionally, borrowing from the Post Office has caused it to go broke. Republicans have called for privatizing the Post Office because it is unsustainable and cannot be subsidized by the government. On the other hand, tax cuts have forced the Government to borrow from the Post Office to make up for lost revenue. This has resulted in the devastation of the U.S. Postal Service.

The biggest amount of spending goes to health programs like Medicare, which accounts for 15 percent of the GDP alone. That is the main reason Democrats supported the health care bill. The Health Care law was meant to bring health care costs down, but Republicans seek to repeal the law. Other developed nations have managed to keep their health related costs low on a single-payer government-backed health care system. We must control the soaring health care costs if we are to decrease spending and the national debt and repealing the health care law is not the way to do it. It is abundantly clear that Republicans only seek to benefit their base of insurance companies.

Tax expenditures should also be on the table when discussing how to cut spending. They include tax breaks on mortgage interest and employer-provided health insurance. Tax expenditures add hundreds of billions of dollars a year to our debt. They decrease the amount of taxes individuals and businesses pay, thereby decreasing the amount of revenue the Government takes in. Moreover, tax credits are also a form of spending, which "fiscally conservative" Republicans claim they want to cut. However in 2009, House Republicans introduced new housing subsidies that gave a \$5,000 credit to Americans that reliance their homes and \$15,000 in credits to those buying homes. These tax credits are a form of spending that Republicans do not have a problem with. If we are serious about cutting spending than we must look at these tax expenditures, which account for more than the total cost of all non-defense programs, excluding Social Security and Medicare. So when we consider cutting spending on programs that benefit the poor and elderly, we should also take a look at tax expenditures, which help the middle class and wealthy.

Democrats and Republicans alike should make a valiant effort to work together in other to save our beloved country. We must look at cutting spending on all programs and not excluding tax expenditures from the list. Moreover, we must increase taxes on the wealthy, so we can stop borrowing from Social Security and effectively bankrupting the program. In

order to balance the budget and decrease the debt, the government must receive revenue. This revenue can only come from increasing taxes. Spending cuts alone will not help this country recover. In fact, sharp cuts can force us back into a recession and will stunt our economic recovery. Therefore the best option is to cut spending gradually, not rapidly like Republicans propose and to increase taxes. Most economists agree that this is the best method to improve our economy and to decrease our debt.

Democratic and Republican voters are in agreement on programs that should be cut and where spending should be increased. Democrats and Republicans support cuts for the highway system, air travel and railroad, medical research, subsidies to agricultural corporations with large farms and defense spending. However, both voters support spending increases for job training, energy conservation and renewable resources, elementary and secondary education, higher education and agricultural subsidies to small farmers. It seems like the electorate is much less polarized than the government.

Mr. Speaker, if Democratic and Republican voters can agree on where spending should be decreased and where it should be increased, than why can't we? At the end of day, we must work together to ensure America's prosperity and the well-being of our nation. This is the only way to get us out of the current economic crisis we are in.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY LOCATED IN BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

**HON. ALLEN B. WEST**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. WEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Florida Atlantic University (FAU) as it marks the 50th Anniversary of its establishment in 1961. FAU is Florida's fifth largest public university.

Through the last five decades, FAU has pursued a mission of delivering top-quality higher education, research, creative activities and civic engagement. Today FAU provides a national model of excellence in serving students across a very large geographical region through a well-developed distributed campus system.

From its humble beginning on an abandoned World War II-era United States Army airfield in Boca Raton, FAU has expanded to include campuses and sites in Davie, Fort Lauderdale, Dania Beach, Jupiter, Port St. Lucie and Fort Pierce.

The university is currently serving a record-high student body of more than 29,000 individuals including the founding class of the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, America's newest medical school.

FAU takes special pride in the fact that its student body ranks as the most racially, ethnically and culturally diverse among the 11 institutions in Florida's State University System. Forty-six percent of students classified as minority or international.

In the last 50 years the university has awarded degrees to more than 120,000 alum-

ni. The University and the alumni is a strong engine of economic growth and FAU generates an estimated \$2 billion annually in its six-city service region.

FAU's 10 distinguished colleges offer students the opportunity to pursue more than 170 degree programs on the undergraduate and graduate levels. The students are taught by a faculty of 1,500 skilled and dedicated men and women who possess expertise in their fields and a true passion for passing on their knowledge to the next generation of leaders. Areas in which FAU has earned national recognition include ocean engineering, marine science, business, accounting and public administration.

Long recognized as an outstanding teaching institution, FAU is now claiming a place among America's great research universities. FAU researchers are at work in a host of essential areas, ranging from discoveries in the life sciences to new engineering technologies.

In 2010, the United States Department of Energy awarded FAU's Center of Excellence in Ocean Technology the broader designation of the Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center. Researchers at this interdisciplinary center are working to address our nation's energy needs through the development of technology to generate energy from Florida's strong offshore currents. FAU is ranked as a "High Research Activity" university by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

While FAU excels in the sciences, FAU is also a vibrant center of the arts showcasing faculty and student presentations of many kinds, including lectures, plays, concerts and exhibitions. The university also recognizes its role in the community by offering South Florida's retired citizens the opportunity to take a wide variety of interesting classes through the FAU Lifelong Learning Society which happens to be the largest and most successful program of its kind in the nation.

FAU's students, alumni, faculty, administrators and staff can take pride in all that their university has accomplished during its first 50 years as they look forward to even greater achievements in the next decades to follow. This institution is an asset of great value to all Americans and to all Floridians deserving recognition and commendation during their Semicentennial.

RECOGNIZING THE OBJECTIVES OF FINANCIAL AID DAY

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the objectives of Financial Aid Day (FAD). FAD reserves the third Wednesday in October to honor the role financial aid professionals across the United States play in helping students realize their dream of attaining a college education.

Today, student aid is under attack, despite the fact that millions of students rely on and benefit from federal student aid each year. In fact, the number of students applying for federal financial assistance increased to approximately 19.5 million in 2010-2011, up by nearly seven million students since 2006-