

Four to six million low income Americans, including low income children, seniors, and the disabled, will lose their food assistance as a result of these cuts. These cuts would come in addition to a benefit cut already scheduled to take place in November.

The SNAP program is a promise our government made to Americans to ensure there would be assistance for both the working poor and those individuals out of work—including parents and their children—so they can afford food. It also helps low income working families whose wages are not sufficient to make ends meet.

I am particularly concerned about the negative impact the cuts will have on the nutritional needs of children. If children go to school hungry and malnourished, learning becomes even more difficult. The worst possible thing we could do is deny healthy meals to needy children at a time when they need all the help they can get to succeed in the classroom and begin to build productive lives.

We have seen in recent years that families continue to face a shortage of jobs or are being paid wages too low to lift them out of poverty. This legislation does nothing to help this group of Americans and will lead to even greater costs in the long run.

One thing we should all remember is that increasing hunger is not the answer to reducing the deficit.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICERS AND THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITH 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE AND RECIPIENTS OF THE HOUSE EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 20, 2013

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Ranking Member ROBERT BRADY and I rise today to congratulate and recognize the outstanding employees of the Officers (Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer) and the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the recipients of the House Employee Excellence Award.

The House's most important asset is its dedicated and exceptional employees, whose work, which is often behind the scenes, is vital in keeping the operations and services of the House running smoothly and efficiently. The employees we recognize today are acknowledged and commended for their hard work, dedication, professionalism, support of House Members and their staffs and constituents, and for their contributions day-in and day-out to the overall operations of the House. These employees have a wide range of responsibilities and skills that support the legislative process, ensure the security of the institution, maintain our technology and service infrastructure, and contribute to a more effective and efficiently operating House support structure. They have accomplished many great things in a wide range of activities, and the House of

Representatives and its Members, staff, and the general public are better served because of them.

We recognize and honor the individuals named below for 25 years of dedicated service to the House. Collectively, this group has provided three hundred twenty-five (325) years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives:

Roger Addison—Office of the Clerk; Camilla S. Arthur—Office of the Chief Administrative Officer; Troy D. Buckler—Office of the Chief Administrative Officer; Susan Greenlee-Lowe—Office of the Sergeant at Arms; Karen L. Haas—Office of the Clerk; Kerri L. Hanley—Office of the Sergeant at Arms; Denine Hobbs—Office of the Chief Administrative Officer; James Jenkins—Office of the Chief Administrative Officer; James J. Kaelin—Office of the Sergeant at Arms; Regina A. Schmitt—Office of the Chief Administrative Officer; Mark W. Thompson—Office of the Chief Administrative Officer; Andrea L. Weadon—Office of the Chief Administrative Officer; Laura B. Whitaker—Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

We also recognize and congratulate four House employees for receiving the Employee Excellence Award. This is a merit-based award, given to one employee from each House Officer organization, and the Office of Inspector General. Selected employees exhibited outstanding overall job performance and displayed a willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty for their organization throughout the last year. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this prestigious award:

Douglas J. Carney—Office of Inspector General; Karen A. McKinstry—Office of the Clerk; Anthony L. Titus, Jr.—Office of the Sergeant at Arms; Robert T. Turney—Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend our congratulations and once again recognize and thank these employees for their professionalism and commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives as a whole, and in particular to their respective House Officers and the Inspector General. Their long hours and hard work are invaluable, and their years of unwavering service, dedication, and commitment to the House set an example for their colleagues and other employees who will follow in their footsteps. I celebrate our honorees, and I am proud to stand before you and the nation on their behalf to recognize the importance of their public service.

HONORING: LST-325

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 20, 2013

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the homecoming of the WWII naval vessel, the LST-325, to Evansville, Indiana. The Evansville shipyard has a proud history of manufacturing Landing Ship, Tank vessels for use in WWII. These ships were designed to land battle ready tanks, vehicles, soldiers, and supplies directly onto enemy beaches.

The LST-325 was launched on Oct. 27, 1942 and commissioned on February 1, 1943,

and, most notably, participated in D-Day at Omaha Beach, Normandy.

Today, I am honored to welcome home such an important piece of American history. The LST-325 has been a part of the Evansville community for the past eight years, and we look forward to welcoming it home for many years to come.

Boulder Crest Retreat for Wounded Warriors

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 20, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, I had the privilege of attending the opening of the Boulder Crest Retreat in Bluemont, Virginia.

At the opening, I was joined by dozens of Wounded Warriors, including two wounded skydivers who jumped in with an American flag, 1000 spectators, 100 volunteers and senior military officials, including Admiral James Winnefeld, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

This new facility will provide our nation's Wounded Warriors and their loved ones a place to get away from hospitals and rehab centers and reconnect as families. The 37-acre retreat is nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains nearly 55 miles from Washington and the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

In addition to beautiful cabins to accommodate guests and a lodge where families can gather together, Boulder Crest offers extensive outdoor amenities, recreational programs and healing activities. Some of these activities include archery, nature walks and fishing as well as yoga, meditation and canine and equine assistance therapy.

I want to congratulate Retired Navy Master Chief Ken Falke and his wife Julia who came up with the idea for the retreat after many visits to Walter Reed. The Falke's donated the property and have worked tirelessly for nearly three years to make the retreat a reality. I also commend the volunteers and donors for their efforts on behalf of this notable cause.

I am proud to have this remarkable facility in my congressional district and I submit the following American Forces Press Service article on the opening of Boulder Crest Retreat.

[From the American Forces Press Service, Bluemont, Va., Sept. 6, 2013]

VICE CHAIRMAN JOINS IN OPENING WOUNDED WARRIOR RETREAT
(By Amaani Lyle)

BLUEMONT, VA.—On a sprawling, tree-framed landscape, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff joined about 400 guests today for the official grand opening of Boulder Crest Retreat for seriously wounded service members, veterans and their families.

Navy Adm. James A. Winnefeld Jr. commended retired Navy Master Chief Petty Officer Ken Falke and his wife, Julia, who donated the land and realized their vision of providing free use of a lodge, cabins, activities and programs that provide respite and aid in reconnection, recovery and rehabilitation.

"As more than 12 years of war come to a close for the magnificent men and women who have been fighting it, our collective obligation to take care of them will not end,"