

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, "Shake Rattle and Roll" may be the words of a famous rock and roll tune, but it is also Mother Nature pointing her finger and writing on the wall. Because less than just 1 week ago last Saturday, Mother Nature sent a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rolling through the western United States. Its epicenter was just about 100 miles east of Los Angeles, but this powerful quake made its way quickly to Las Vegas, derailing a train, and passing through and over Yucca Mountain, the proposed site to bury the Nation's most deadly toxic substance, nuclear waste.

Mr. Speaker, this quake shook Las Vegas with a 5.0- plus magnitude by the time it reached Las Vegas, and it was felt 100 miles away from the earthquake's epicenter. Mother Nature is pointing her finger at this country urging us to stop the nuclear waste lobbyists from sticking the deadliest wastes known to man into one of man's most seismically active areas of the country.

Mr. Speaker, this latest earthquake is yet another sign that Yucca Mountain is not the right place to store nuclear waste. Let us tell Mother Nature that we have heard her loud and clear. Let us stop the Yucca Mountain project. Mother knows best.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMERICA'S TEAM, THE ATLANTA BRAVES

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to congratulate the Atlanta Braves, America's team. I wish Bobby Cox and all the members of the Braves family the very best in their great nonviolent struggle against the New York Yankees.

I say this morning: Braves, go Braves. Go and win. You must win. When you win, America wins. Go Braves. Go Braves.

PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ALZHEIMER'S

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, have you ever put down your car keys and just 1 hour later forgotten where you left them? Have you ever forgotten the answer to the question for what you had for lunch yesterday? Well, fortunately, most everyone has experienced this very common type of forgetfulness. But imagine a person finding their car keys and forgetting what they are used for. Persons suffering with Alzheimer's Disease suffer similar memory losses. And as the disease pro-

gresses, forgetfulness can become more destructive. Alzheimer's affects approximately 4 million Americans now, and experts predict that about 8 to 10 million will suffer from Alzheimer's by the year 2020.

By stating that he was beginning the journey that would lead him into the sunset of his life, former President and Republican revolutionary Ronald Reagan announced to the world just 5 years ago that he too has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Ronald Reagan felt it necessary to share this disclosure with those he loved most, the American people. As valiantly as Ronald Reagan, my colleagues, I am sure, will promote greater public awareness about the disease of Alzheimer's.

WAR ON DRUGS IS A JOKE

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the governor of New Mexico says, and I quote, "America has lost the war on drugs. It is time to legalize drugs." Think about it. Cocaine and heroin, legal. Eleven- and 12-year-olds strung out.

This is a joke. While our drug czar worries about Olympic athletes, our borders are wide open, literally tons of heroin and cocaine flooding our streets, and now politicians are calling for legalization of narcotics.

Beam me up. This is not a war on drugs; this is absolute surrender. I yield back all the catchy, get-tough, rah-rah, gung-ho slogans of America's great charade on drugs.

DEMOCRATS TRY TO FRACTURE REPUBLICANS

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday and for the past week the folks on this side of the aisle, the Democrats, have said the Republicans are going to take money from the Social Security Trust Fund to balance the budget.

Now, CBO, of course, issued a letter to the Speaker of the House on October 1, 1999 saying this was not true. Yet we have the Democrats continuing to say the opposite.

Now we have in the Associated Press an interesting quotation. The Democrats admit a raid on Social Security. "Privately, some Democrats say a final budget deal that uses some of the pension program's surpluses would be a political victory for them, because it would fracture the GOP by infuriating conservatives." That was October 19, 1999.

The bottom line is that Democrats are using this whole thing of Social Se-

curity as a political gimmick. They are politicizing this whole process because they are trying to fracture Republicans. The bottom line is Republicans are not going to raid the Social Security Trust Fund.

APPROPRIATION BILLS NEED TO BE ON THE FLOOR

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is amazing to follow my colleague from Florida, because once again we are seeing where the Republican leadership's values are. According to the CBO, the Congressional Budget Office, they are already borrowing \$13 billion more in Social Security dollars than they have available. Thirteen billion more in Social Security dollars.

But my concern this morning is that we have not even talked about the education funding. We have not even got to Labor-HHS yet. It is estimated that education could be reduced as much as \$16 billion, and yet the Republicans are already borrowing more than \$13 billion from Social Security before we have even gotten to education.

Education is the number one issue for most people in this country. They want more money put into it, not less. Yet what we are seeing is that we have not even gotten to one of the appropriation bills on the floor and they are still \$13 billion in the hole on Social Security. That is what bothers me, and I think it bothers a lot of people in this country. I think they should get their appropriations bills all lined up so we can look at them, instead of holding education funding till the last so they can use education as an ATM machine.

PRESIDENT IS NOW ON BOARD WITH REPUBLICANS

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, we have not spent one dime of the Social Security surplus. And in Kansas, there is a saying, "Don't change horses in the middle of the stream." There is a reason for that. If one did try to change horses, he could run the unnecessary risk of falling into the river and possibly drowning.

That is exactly what the President has done. In the middle of the stream of spending bills that we have, the President has gotten off the horse he had during his State of the Union speech, where he said he would spend 40 percent of the Social Security surplus, on to the horse the Republicans have been riding when we said we will not spend one dime of the Social Security Trust Fund.

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Welcome, Mr. President. We will extend our hand so that you will not fall. Together we can take a big red pen like the one I am holding in my hand and cut wasteful Government programs, protecting the Social Security surplus.

Congratulations, Mr. President. Come on over.

REPUBLICANS USE SOCIAL SECURITY AS A PIGGY BANK

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, it is so very refreshing to see the Republicans here on the floor professing an interest in protecting the Social Security surplus.

It was only a short time ago that their majority leader was condemning Social Security as a bad deal and saying he never would have created it in the first place.

What we do know this year is, after jeopardizing Social Security with a near trillion-dollar irresponsible tax break for those at the top of the economic ladder, that the Republicans' own Congressional Budget Office has verified that they have gone \$13 billion already, if we stop right now and went home, \$13 billion into the Social Security surplus. That is without ever having come to this House floor, 3 weeks after the Federal fiscal deadline, and presented the bill to fund education and health and a wide variety of other measures.

The Republicans, if they stay on their current course, are going to dip into Social Security another \$24 billion dollars. That is without any help from anyone but themselves. Apparently, their new interest in Social Security is to use it as a piggy bank.

PRESIDENT'S TAX VETO ALLOWS "DEATH TAX" TO CONTINUE TO CLOSE SMALL BUSINESSES

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I have here a headline from the Colorado Springs Gazette newspaper. It says, "Brookhart's Lumber Business Selling to Avoid 'Death Tax,' Company Says."

I have known this company for over 30 years. I watched their struggle over this issue. This is a company that is 52 years old, locally owned, three generations. They wanted to continue to operate this profitable small business. They wanted their boys to inherit it when they are gone. But they cannot because of the death tax.

Locally-owned company sells out to a Dallas conglomerate. We lose a locally-owned company.

Be proud, Mr. President, your veto saved the Nation from this evil tax cut

that would have gotten rid of the death tax and prevented incidences like the Brookharts which are occurring all over the Nation with small farms and businesses everywhere.

In his passion for more tax dollars and for the bigger Government he so loves, he should remember that there are real-life consequences to his irresponsible actions.

Be proud, Mr. President. But I am ashamed of you and your thirst for the hard-earned tax dollars of working Americans.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). The Chair will remind Members to address the Chair, the Speaker, and not other persons.

PEACE WEEK

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Peace Week.

The award-winning Peace Week program has brought together three communities I am so proud to represent: Guadalupe, Orcutt, and Santa Maria. During the week, residents of these communities united to show their commitment to creating and building a more peaceful society.

The success of this innovative week is due in no small part to the great contributions made by Sister Janet Corcoran at the Marion Medical Center in Santa Maria.

Sister Janet started this program 3 years ago when she noticed such an increase in the number of victims of violence admitted to Marion's Emergency Room. Sister Janet saw the need for leaders throughout the community to get involved. With their leadership, Peace Week has developed into an effective series of workshops and activities to promote non-violence strategies.

It is fitting that Peace Week corresponds with our own Voices Against Violence Teen Conference here in the Capitol, which includes a young student from Santa Maria. Both are excellent examples of programs aimed at preventing violence.

Peace Week illustrates well how communities can come together and make real change. I am so proud that this is taking place in my district.

"HOUSE CLOBBERS CLINTON TAX BOOST"

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

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, let me share with my colleagues a headline from the front page of one of the leading newspapers in the country. Today the front page headline in The Washington Times says, "House Clobbers Clinton Tax Boost."

That is right. Did my colleagues know that Bill Clinton and AL GORE wanted to raise taxes again? In fact, yesterday this House voted on the \$238-billion Clinton-Gore tax increase. And even House Democrats who joined with Bill Clinton and AL GORE in 1993 giving our Nation the biggest tax hike in the history of our country voted against another round of tax increases.

The question I am asked also besides the Bill Clinton tax increases is, is it true that Bill Clinton wants to raid Social Security again? And we recall earlier in the President's budget that he submitted to Congress he called for setting aside 62 percent of Social Security for Social Security and taking the other 38 percent, almost \$340 billion of Social Security, and spending it on other things. I would point out this House has rejected that, as well.

My colleagues, we can balance the budget without increasing taxes. We can balance the budget without raiding Social Security.

REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP CLAIMS THEY ARE SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the Republican leadership is stealing eggs from the hen house while pretending to guard the door. They claim that they are saving Social Security. But their own office, their own office, the Congressional Budget Office, points out that they have already spent \$13 billion worth of Social Security money.

Their leadership budget is so full of gimmicks and budget tricks that it would make an accountant cry. In an attempt to fudge the numbers, the leadership created a 13th month so that they can crunch more numbers into the fiscal year.

But the facts are very stubborn things. The Republican leadership is not saving Social Security. They have no plans to do so. The Republican majority leader himself has called Social Security a "rotten trick" and "bad retirement." He has called for Social Security to be phased out.

Earlier this year the Republican leadership tried to spend nearly \$1 trillion of the surplus on tax breaks for the wealthiest people of this country instead of strengthening Social Security.