as the soundtrack of some of the most famous play calls, highlight reels, and moments for UGA that will simply never be forgotten.

Whether it was his describing the "sugar" falling out of the sky, or begging others not to hunker down one more last time, Larry Munson had an unmatched ability to find words for feelings that just could not be spoken. To call him an iconic play-by-play announcer at the University of Georgia football team would be a vast understatement. He was a classic city treasure, an Athens legend. And for 42 years, Larry Munson breathed life into the Sanford Stadium and made the Dawgs dance.

He was different from all other sportscasters. Larry Munson was very authentic. He always told it like it was, even when he had given up on a red and black win. He didn't care about political correctness, and he wasn't afraid to scream about stepping on Tennessee's face with a hobnailed boot or breaking his chair—his metal, steel chair with a five-inch cushion—when Georgia beat Florida in 1980 and then went on to win the national championship. He loved Georgia football, and Georgia football loved Larry Munson just right back.

His memory will live on forever in the body of the Bulldog Nation, in the hearts of all Dawg fans, and will live on between the hedges every game day.

On behalf of the United States Congress, here's to you, Larry, one of the best Dawgs that Georgia has ever known. And we'll never forget. We'll miss you greatly, Larry.

Go Dawgs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, before we adjourn for the year, there are a number of important items that we must address. The most pressing is the expiration of unemployment benefits at the end of December.

Should Congress fail to act, millions of Americans who rely on emergency unemployment compensation will begin to see their payments disappear starting in January. 2.1 million of our fellow Americans will have lost their benefits by the middle of February, and over 6 million by the end of 2012. However, we have the power to prevent that from happening by extending those benefits.

These emergency benefits were put in place at the start of the recession in December of '07; and with so many Americans still out of work, now is certainly not the time to let them come to an end.

The number one challenge we must address in the Congress remains job creation. Americans out of work have been doing their part to find jobs. Congress must do its part as well. Some Republicans have unfairly and incorrectly blamed those who have been laid off for their continued difficulty in finding jobs. However, there are over four people looking for every one job that is available. At the same time, there are nearly 7 million fewer jobs today than there were in 2007.

Instead of blaming the victims, we ought to work together, Democrats and Republicans, to find solutions. Congress has a responsibility to extend emergency unemployment benefits to lapse with our jobless rate anywhere close to where it is today. If it did, over 17,000 people in my State of Maryland would see their lifeline cut off by February. In Ohio, Speaker BOEHNER's State, 80,000 people are at risk.

Among African Americans, Latinos and other minorities, a disproportionate number have been affected by long-term unemployment and are especially vulnerable if these benefits were to end. Every State would see more unemployment among workers of color slip into poverty. Local communities would be affected, too, with residual job losses.

The Economic Policy Institute has estimated that allowing these benefits to expire would cost us another 500,000 jobs—a half a million.

I sincerely hope that Republicans will work with us to find a solution that allows so many Americans from being left out in the cold as they continue to seek jobs but can't find them. It's long past the time that they start working with us to pass a real jobs plan to get Americans back to work and grow our economy.

The President put a jobs bill on our desk in September. It is now December. We've yet to see that bill or any other job's bill put on this House floor by the Republican leadership. Democrats have multiple jobs plans on the table—the President's American Jobs Act and the House Democratic Make It in America plan. Both will help create jobs right away and invest in long-term economic competitiveness.

If Republicans continue to be unwilling to work with us on a plan to create jobs, I hope they will at least work with us to pass a measure that will prevent further job losses as a result of expiring unemployment benefits. I strongly urge my Republican friends to help us stop the looming and entirely preventable disaster of millions having no support. It is the responsibility we have to our constituents and to those looking to us for leadership during this challenging time.

Let us not go home. Let us not celebrate Christmas or other holidays without ensuring the extension of unemployment benefits for those Americans who cannot find jobs, notwithstanding the many remaining for those jobs. They're counting on us. Let's be sure that their reliance was well placed.
that’s right on the Pacific Ocean. Then I went to Idaho and looked at the Idaho National Labs and the nuclear waste stored there. Today, we go to Massachusetts.

The point being, there is high-level nuclear waste stored all over this country, and a single repository at Yucca Mountain makes sense for all of the right reasons: it’s over 100 miles from the largest city; it’s in the desert; it would be underneath a mountain. There is no more safe, secure location.

Why are we not moving forward? Because this administration has decided not to spend the money needed to finish the final environmental study through the National Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

So where are our Senators on this position? I’ve been bringing this down to the floor through all these States. We need 60 votes in the Senate to secure America’s nuclear waste. Right now, through the States, based upon the States we’ve identified, there are 20 “yeses.” We’ve got over seven who are relatively new. We don’t know their positions. Of course, we have established five who are “noes.” There are some in the New England States that I mentioned:

SUSAN COLLINS voted for Yucca Mountain in 2002. OLYMPIA SNOWE voted for it in 2002. Senator KERRY voted against it. Now, Pilgrim is in the State of Massachusetts. Based upon his statement, I guess Senator KERRY feels that Pilgrim is a more safe and secure location than Yucca Mountain. SCOTT BROWN has no position yet. Senator AYOTE has no position. Senator SHAHEEN has no position. Of course, the Independent from Vermont has voted “no.”

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE EXTENSION**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MOORE. Recently and even today, we’ve heard a lot from both sides of the aisle about the extension of unemployment insurance; but I think the voices that we need to be listening to are the voices of the American people. So, if you would indulge me, Mr. Speaker, I would like to read a letter from my constituents:

“Ms. Moore, I am writing you today to request that you pass the extension for unemployment insurance benefits. I am a single mom and experienced a layoff at my job this past summer. My benefits are about to run out, and I am still looking for a job. Last week alone, I applied to over 20 jobs online, and received only one call-back for an interview. I have $600 left to claim on unemployment, but I do not know what I am going to do. I pray every day that this extension will go through before the holidays. That is all I want for Christmas.

□ 1020

“Being unemployed has left me with a sense of low self-worth. And I find that I cry all the time. I hope that my interview next week is successful. Nonetheless, I am trying to be proactive on the job hunt. I have a webinar scheduled today for successful interviewing skills. And I am hoping to apply those skills in my interview next week. I just want the peace of mind that I will continue to receive the extension before the holiday.”

Sadly, this young woman is just one of 58,000 Wisconsinites who will lose benefits if we don’t extend the unemployment insurance. Of course, there are millions of stories like this across the country, hardworking Americans, Mr. Speaker, who just want the opportunity to have an opportunity.

And as the holidays approach, the harsh realities of our failed economy become more and more prevalent. I, along with all of my Democratic colleagues, have been calling for the passage of an extension of UI benefits for what seems like an eternity. Yet some members of Congress continue to work in the best interests of their fellow Americans during the holidays and in these most trying of economic times.

Like the Grinch who stole Christmas, the Republican majority with devilish grins are tipping through Whoville or, in this case, across the country attempting to steal the holiday cheer from hardworking Americans with these tortured rationales as to why they oppose these much and desperately needed benefits, while continuing simultaneously to work to ensure that the rich get richer through maintaining tax cuts.

The Unemployment Insurance Program serves as a lifeline for millions of unemployed Americans and their families, their children, who are now at the mercy of the worst job market since the Great Depression. Millions of hardworking Americans, nearly 2 million in just January alone and over 6 million in 2012, will be cut off from the emergency lifeline of unemployment insurance unless Congress acts.

Mr. Speaker, these are Americans who have been laid off and are desperately searching for work. But the jobs just are not there. That is why we must pass the Doggett-Levin Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act. The Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act is just common sense, and it will continue the current Federal unemployment programs through next year. This extension of benefits will not only strengthen the safety net for the unemployed, but it will, most importantly, promote economic recovery by preventing the loss of a half-million jobs.

Additionally, relieving insolvent States from interest payments on Federal loans for 1 year will help the States, including Wisconsin, which were forced to borrow funds from the Federal Government in order to pay for unemployment benefits for the thousands of unemployed or laid off.

Never, never before now has this been a partisan issue where Congress, controlled by either party, has denied this life-sustaining unemployment benefit. Right now we need a holiday miracle. We need a miracle to help these grinchies grow hearts and vote immediately to extend the Unemployment Insurance Program.

To my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to come together this season and bring some holiday cheer back to the American people.

**HONORING TOM MELLON**

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the Bucks County Bar Association’s most ardent supporters, my dear friend, Tom Mellon. Tom is known by many around the country for his passion and commitment to the law and, unknown to many, he is also one of the friendliest people you will ever meet. He has a genuine personality and a warm welcoming demeanor, which have served him well throughout his career.

Tom always seems to carry with him an inner Irish spirit. From day one he has championed the underdog and the downtrodden, which is truly an admirable quality. Throughout the course of his legal career, Tom has been the David to many a corporation’s Goliath, taking on Big Tobacco, multiple pharmaceutical companies, and even global terrorists. He never waivers in his dedication to his clients or to his cause. His cases are taken not necessarily because he knows he can win, but because morally they are the right thing to do. Tom is truly an inspiration to many young, aspiring attorneys who want to change the world. He has been to me.

As Tom sees it, his life duty is to help those who cannot help themselves. He launched his legal career representing the interests of victims of crime in the United States Attorney’s Office, and he has never looked back.

Today he continues his representation of the less fortunate, proudly serving as a trial attorney in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

After 9/11 Tom served as a lead counsel among a national consortium of attorneys who were retained by the families of the victims of the terrorist attacks in order to pursue litigation into the involvement of Iran and al Qaeda. In 1999 Tom arranged for the first group of American lawyers to