

just how important radio is in keeping us informed. He filed with the FCC to open a radio station but joined the Army shortly after to serve his country in the Pacific. Before leaving, he gave his application to his father and said:

If I'm lucky enough to get back, I'll want that radio station for Columbia.

Mr. McKay returned home in 1946, and started WKRM. Its success allowed him to open three more stations.

In addition to broadcasting, Mr. McKay chaired the Maury Regional Hospital Board of Trustees, was a founding member of the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters, and served on the boards of numerous charities in Columbia. He retired in 2008 after 62 years in the broadcasting industry. In his work and personal life, he has always followed the highest Christian principles.

#### PREVENTING STUDENT LOAN INTEREST RATE INCREASE

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in less than 3 weeks, student loan interest rates will double for millions of the country's neediest students, going from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent, unless Congress takes decisive action to maintain the current interest rate.

The rising cost of a college education is driving many young Americans to assume historically high levels of student debt. With college tuition growing rapidly, the doors of opportunity are closing on today's students. The problem will only get worse if Congress does not act soon.

With the job market still recovering, we should not be asking students with the greatest need to be burdened by higher loan costs. Making college more affordable is one of the best investments our Nation can make in America's economic future. We must craft a long-term solution for student debt—and it must be now—as part of a comprehensive approach at lowering the cost of college, but time is running out to block the July rate hike. We don't need the sham that we passed a few weeks ago that makes the situation worse.

Providing affordable education should not be a partisan issue. This is a student issue, and it affects young people across this Nation of all political persuasions and in all congressional districts.

#### CONGRATULATING SERVICE ACADEMY APPOINTEES

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate

an extraordinary group of 21 students who have been chosen as future leaders of our Armed Forces. These students have received appointments from the prestigious United States service academies.

Eight received appointments from the Air Force—my personal favorite; four from the Naval Academy; another eight from the Military Academy; and one from the Merchant Marines.

I am proud of this group. They will get one of the finest educations available and really learn the meaning of duty, honor, commitment, and sacrifice to this great Nation. America has the finest fighting men and women in the world, and these students who are the best and the brightest are needed now more than ever. I'm confident they'll represent the Third District of Texas well.

I salute each one for the endeavor they are about to undertake. God bless them and God bless the United States of America.

#### ENSURING FOOD SECURITY

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I represent the San Joaquin Valley of California where our business is growing healthy, safe foods. It's the breadbasket of America.

But even in our agriculturally rich region, many of the same families who labor to produce these crops struggle to feed their children. This is part of the tragedy of hunger in America.

I have witnessed firsthand the challenges these families face living on the average SNAP benefit, which is \$4.50 per day.

While I am a strong supporter of passing a farm bill, I have serious concerns about what the proposed cuts mean for 16.2 million children nationwide who are faced with hunger. We must and we can do better. I hope we pass the farm bill in the House next week. And if so, I will be fighting to make sure that these children have a seat at the table when we go to conference with the Senate.

Budget choices are a reflection of our priorities. In a time of such economic hardship, we can and we must make sure that those most vulnerable in our society are fed properly.

#### WASHINGTON BOOMS AT COUNTRY'S EXPENSE

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, as I travel my district back home, folks tell stories about how the Obama economy is failing families, young people, seniors, workers, and future generations. Too many western Pennsylvanians are unemployed, underemployed, or have given up looking for work.

Just last week, we learned that a Pennsylvania coal company was forced to lay off over 100 miners and other employees. These hardworking men and women are mothers and fathers. They have fallen victim to the stagnant economy and President Obama's war on coal.

While the rest of the country is struggling, however, Washington, D.C. is booming. In fact, the suburbs here surrounding our capital include seven of the 10 richest counties in the country. It's easy for politicians and unelected Federal elites to spend recklessly and regulate carelessly when they are safely ensconced here in Washington. Their wasteful spending and onerous regulations have created a boomtown bubble and left the rest of the country behind.

It's past time for this to change. Hardworking Americans need Washington to stop booming so the rest of the country has a chance to grow, prosper, and add jobs.

#### NO BUDGET, NO PAY

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

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, last year, I ran for Congress on No Budget, No Pay: the concept that if Congress does not pass a budget and do its job, we should not be paid. In so doing, I joined my Republican colleagues here in the House in being critical of the Democrats in the Senate who had not passed a budget for 4 years. As a result of our actions, we forced the Senate to pass their budget, and we in the House have passed our own.

Now, according to our rules and centuries of practice, we are supposed to have a conference to reconcile the Senate and House budgets so we can approve a compromise and forward a congressional budget to the President for his signature.

When I go home, I hear a sense of urgency from San Diegans about balancing the budget and ending the sequester. But too many in Washington, D.C., who are well paid and comfortable seem to care more about politics than about helping the American families and businesses that are struggling. Now is the time to honor the American people by doing our jobs.

Mr. Speaker, please appoint conferees now so we can pass a Federal budget and get on with our work.

#### MEDICARE PART D

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of this Chamber to a government program that is under budget and immensely popular. In 2003 when Medicare part D