

Clinton and George Bush, and a founding board chair of an organization called Wholesome Wave, passed away unexpectedly last month.

A few days before his death, he had come to our office offering his help to the Congress on the new farm bill. He cared so much about people. He cared so much about nutrition. He understood the foundational power of agriculture in our Nation, so blessed with the resources to feed ourselves and the world if we put our shoulder to the wheel.

Simply, Gus loved and lived agriculture. He had experience from the time he was a child that directed him toward farming and all of its array. The farmers market was in his DNA.

He was born in Massachusetts on a farm in Lexington and bridged the divide between city and rural dwellers. This approach was the American way, the American family way. His grandfather and great-grandfather farmed, get this, in New York City, where they grew vegetables in enclosed greenhouses and sold what they grew at city markets. He knew agriculture from the inside, even inside a place like New York City, where now, with modern technology, we are growing lettuce on walls as high as the ceiling of this Chamber in which I speak.

When Gus was young, he was loading up his brother's truck, and a box of pears fell off the truck and scattered all over the ground. Two young boys and their mother ran up, and they began picking up the pears. The mother explained that she was on food stamps and unable to afford fresh produce for her kids. Gus' heart broke, and his life's work began and he never stopped.

Gus worked tirelessly to support local farming and local agriculture, and I cannot underline local, local, local enough. He became an American force in the farm-to-table movement, encouraging restaurants and stores to buy produce locally. He saw communities shattered across our country when that local production food chain was broken, and he used his last ounce of strength to reconnect it.

Most recently, in preparation for the upcoming farm bill, he selflessly helped create provisions in H.R. 3699, the new Urban Agriculture Production Act, a bill that really focuses on producing, in some of the most forgotten places, with innovative farming practices, including in urban food deserts. He never stopped trying.

I loved him because he loved farmers markets, and I love farmers markets. Nothing creates community more than growing and feeding the local population. As we move to such large institutions that seem almost unapproachable by the average American, Gus was always bringing power back to people.

He expanded programs to include veterans, including the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as we attempt to pass a new farm bill, making

sure that our veterans are included in that extraordinarily popular coupon program.

Gus was humble, kind, visionary, passionate, compassionate, generous, and dedicated, and a man for all seasons.

In closing, let me say Gus Schumacher will always be remembered as a gentle giant who packed a powerful punch. His impact will not be forgotten, and his legacy will live on and carry his dreams forward. Mr. Speaker, I will tell you, I am going to devote every ounce of energy I have in the new farm bill to making his dreams come true.

STEVE TAZZA AND THE VETERAN OPPORTUNITY PARTNERS ARE DEVOTED TO SUPPORTING VETERANS

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Steve Tazza and the Veteran Opportunity Partners for their devotion to supporting the veterans of my district. By encouraging the growth of veteran-owned businesses, Veteran Opportunity Partners provides an example for us all about the importance of serving our Nation's heroes.

Veteran Opportunity Partners and Steve Tazza began providing services to the residents of my district and career opportunities to our veterans in the spring of 2017. They plan to expand the geographic reach of their service to our vets, while creating hundreds of careers for our veterans, in the years to come.

The work that Mr. Tazza and those at Veteran Opportunity Partners do for our veterans is not only worthy of our recognition, Mr. Speaker, but it is also worthy of our support. We are so proud of all they do to serve our Nation's heroes.

FIRST ROBOTICS IS COMMITTED TO INSPIRING YOUNG LEADERS

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize FIRST Robotics and their student mentoring program for its commitment to inspiring young leaders in our Nation and in my district. FIRST Robotics, through their competitions and mentor-based programs, engages young people to help foster an understanding and appreciation for science and technology.

FIRST Robotics competitions take place across the world. From as young as 6 to as old as 18, students can get involved in technology and robotics challenges like the FIRST Robotics Competition.

The FIRST Robotics Competition asks high school students to design, build, and test robots over the course of 6 weeks. Students fundraise the entirety of the money they need for these robots, which can cost thousands of dollars to build, by partnering with local businesses or applying for grants.

By taking part in these competitions and working with older mentors, students learn invaluable skills, like technological research, to help them develop into well-rounded individuals.

I am proud to have 26 FIRST teams in my district. The young people involved in these leagues and competitions, including those who mentor them, show the leadership and inquisitive spirit necessary for our future technological innovators.

THE ART OF THE TAX DEAL

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

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I proudly present the art of the deal:

In the tax deal before us, we provide permanent tax cuts for individuals who are multimillionaires and billionaires. With this deal, all middle class families will eventually face a tax increase since tax relief for them expires.

All taxes, of course, go up on folks earning as little as \$10,000 a year almost immediately. After all, Mr. Speaker, somebody's got to pay for the wealthy's permanent tax cuts.

Now, how do we get buy-in from the middle class, you ask. Well, here is the beauty of the deal, Mr. Speaker. We will trickle down a few crumbs from the master's table to get some of them through one or two Christmas shopping seasons; and let's tell them that they can do their taxes on a postcard and that they will just love that they won't have to go through all the tedious math work of receiving thousands of dollars in personal exemptions and State income and local tax relief.

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They won't have to do all of that subtracting of medical expenses and student loan interest from their tax obligations.

We will promise them jobs. Hey, yeah, let's do that through dynamic scoring, trickle-down and voodoo economic growth like we did during the Reagan and Bush years, back when we gave trillions of dollars in tax cuts to the wealthy and created the deficits that are now dragging on our economy.

Mr. Speaker, people are so desperate that they will believe us. Of course, we will have to cut \$25 billion out of Social Security immediately to meet budget rules, or maybe we can just cut some veteran benefits from mandatory spending. We are targeting \$1.5 trillion in cuts to Medicaid and Medicare, but don't worry, Mr. Speaker, we will just defame recipients of these benefits as unworthy welfare cheats and the general public will go for our deal.

Mr. Speaker, let's adopt a better deal. Let's pursue a commonsensical means of growing the economy, like spending these trillions of dollars on infrastructure instead of a giveaway to the wealthy, by providing postsecondary opportunity and skill development to our next generation of

innovators and workers instead of taxing our students into an abyss of debt.

Let's fund research on medical cures instead of burying the infirm into early graves. Let us reject this abomination of a tax bill.

STOP GOVERNMENT SPYING ON AMERICANS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, most Americans may not be aware of what is taking place by our government. Our government is spying on Americans and I think it is in violation of the U.S. Constitution.

In all of the talk that we have been having the last few weeks, we are missing one of the most basic issues that we hold dear: the right of privacy.

Let me explain how it is taking place.

Go back to Snowden. We didn't know about all of the spying going on in America until Snowden revealed that. I am no fan of his. I think he ought to be prosecuted, but we know information about our government spying on our Americans because of his disclosures.

Let me talk about specifically the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

What is that?

FISA allows our government to spy on foreign agents, which includes terrorists, primarily overseas. So what happens is the government goes to a FISA court.

What is that?

It is a secret court that operates in secret that issues secret warrants.

I personally have an issue with that because it reminds me too much of the Star Chamber in England where they operated in secret and tried people in secret.

As a former judge, I am very concerned about the loss of our Fourth Amendment right of privacy in the United States based on this law. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act courts operate in secret and issue warrants to go after bad guys overseas. So they seize that information and they put it in a database.

Here is what happens: while seizing that information of communication—maybe an al-Qaida guy talking to another al-Qaida guy—they put that information in a database, but also that information is seized on Americans. Incidental is what they call that. That may be a communication with an American that has nothing to do with terrorism. It could be something else. So that information is seized on Americans based on this warrant by a FISA judge on foreigners. The information is put in the database.

Here is what happens: occasionally, the government decides to go into that database that was seized without a Fourth Amendment warrant and see how many times a name comes up. They call it a query. That is another fancy name for a search. So they

search that database to see how many times Bobby Oglethorpe's name pops up. Then they go to their administrative folks and get a piece of paper that allows them then a second search.

They search that database to see if Bobby Oglethorpe is committing crimes in the U.S., having nothing to do with terrorism. Maybe it is bank robbery, maybe it is IRS fraud, maybe it violates other laws in the United States.

So then they seize that information, and we don't know how many times they do that. The Judiciary Committee has asked the Justice Department: How many times have you done that?

They refuse to tell us.

Suspicious, isn't it?

I will tell you how many times it is. According to The Washington Post, 90 percent of the account holders whose communications were collected were not the targets, the bad guys overseas. Ninety percent of them. Many of them were Americans. Nearly half of the surveillance files contained names, email addresses, and other details that the NSA marked as belonging to U.S. citizens or residents.

So what information are they getting?

Emails, communications, text messages. They seize that, then they go through that database to see if Bobby Oglethorpe is a bank robber or whatever, and all of that is done in secret. Remember, secret courts issuing secret warrants, and they don't tell anybody about that. That is a violation of the Fourth Amendment on Americans.

Let me read the Fourth Amendment: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

Mr. Speaker, the Fourth Amendment is sacred to this country, and I include in the RECORD the Fourth Amendment.

AMENDMENT [IV.]

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Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in this situation, government seizes the information without a probable cause warrant. Then they search the information to see how many times Bobby Oglethorpe maybe has violated other laws, and they do it without a probable cause warrant.

That is allowed under 702 of the FISA legislation. We are getting ready to reauthorize FISA. This 702 provision should require a warrant to search that information, a warrant to take the content of that information and make it public, and file on Bobby Oglethorpe.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must set the standard for privacy, not the courts; and we are called upon to fix this spying on Americans and not allow it.

And that is just the way it is.

OPIOID CRISIS AND EFFORTS IN ARKANSAS

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, this morning I rise to express my concern about the opioid epidemic that is plaguing our Nation, hurting our families, reducing productivity, and, really, one of the most shocking things that we have been experiencing across this land.

I want to recognize some people in Arkansas who are making a real difference. In 2015, 392 Arkansans lost their lives to drug overdose. This crisis is terrifying and is killing our young adults and breaking up our families. They have lost acquaintances, friends, classmates, and family members to the grip of prescription drugs and illegal substances.

In Arkansas, Drug Director Kirk Lane is facing this issue head-on, coordinating the State's drug and alcohol prevention, treatment, education, and law enforcement efforts.

Curt Bradbury, who lost his son to substance abuse in 2010, has been out front and a tremendous ally in the fight to curtail the abuse of controlled substances. His contributions helped start the Arkansas Prescription Monitoring Program, a database that tracks the prescription of controlled substances across our State.

Jerry Jones' tremendous advocacy efforts in Arkansas led to the passage of Arkansas Act 820, requiring prescribers to check the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program every time they prescribe a Schedule II and Schedule III opioid.

I am proud to recognize these three individuals this morning for their positive efforts at tackling this devastating epidemic affecting our families.

HATE CAN'T WAIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this morning, to quote a great American poet and civil rights leader, a great writer, a noble American, "And Still I Rise."

And still I rise, Mr. Speaker. I rise to take a stand on behalf of the many people who suffer harm as a result of those who incite hate. Anyone who incites hate is a person that ought to be called upon to either stop it or be removed from a position such that they can harm society.

So I rise today to take a stand against those who would incite the bigot to practice bigotry, those who would incite the racist to practice racism, the sexist to practice sexism; the