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Dear Patriot,

Greetings to our constituents, fellow Floridians, and all Americans, it is time again for our weekly update report. We are in the month of October and I first want to say I hope the Jewish community had a deep and meaningful Yom Kippur. To our American-Italian community, I wish you all a happy Columbus Day.

As we enter October, the Budget Control Act of 2011 mandates that we shall have a House and Senate vote on a balanced budget amendment before the end of the year. It has been almost 16 years since we had a vote on this important amendment. The last time this happened, the amendment to our Constitution fell one vote short in the Senate and precluded it going to the states for ratification.

With every speech from the President, it becomes more evident that there is an incredible ideological divide in our nation's capital and across America. There are those who truly embrace the misguided theory and belief that government creates wealth and jobs. These are the same people who promote the growth of the bureaucratic nanny-state and a centrally planned and executed economy.

We are still suffering from the first stimulus package, which left the American people with unfilled promises, yet these individuals believe another "mini-me" stimulus is the right medicine. Obviously they failed to learn from Japan's venture into stimulus spending in the 1990's.

We keep hearing the liberal progressives ask, "Where is your plan?" My response is that my plan is to trust the American people- the job creators, the small business owners and the American entrepreneurial spirit. My plan is to create tax and regulatory policies that will promote long term economic and job growth in America, which is exactly what is sitting on Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's desk.

Instead of blaming House Republicans, the President should ask why Senator Harry Reid recently stated, regarding the Jobs Bill, "right now is a relative term." Perhaps the President should further ask why he does not have a single Democrat cosponsor of his legislation in the House of Representatives.

Seems to me this is déjà vu of the 0-97 vote on President Obama's Fiscal Year 2012 budget that took place this last summer.

The September jobs report reminds us we are in a state of stagnation and the

## Video Highlight



10/4: C-SPAN's Washington Journal

## Article of the Week

Congress's Dirty Trick: Pass a Law, Then Repeal It

By ERIC PIANIN and JENNIFER DEPAUL, The Fiscal Times  
October 6, 2011

Could Congress and the Obama administration be losing their nerve? After striking a deal this summer that would automatically trigger deep [cuts in defense and domestic spending](#) unless a new bipartisan "Super Committee" agrees to a plan for achieving major deficit reduction, some lawmakers and Pentagon officials already are talking about gutting the deal if it means additional deep cuts to the Pentagon budget.

**The Fiscal Times:**  
**Congress's Dirty Trick**

## Service and Sacrifice

solution is with the American people, not in Washington. We learned this week that we now have 48.5% of Americans on some form of government aid. We are creating victims and growing a dependency class in America, which is anathema to the flame that is America.

I truly believe President Barack Obama does not comprehend American exceptionalism. He does not fathom that in America the station of your birth does not determine the station of your outcome. America is not about class or caste, it is about rewarding individuals for their drive and determination, for their hard work and ideas.

America is about the individual and not about a collective. We are not like "The Borg" of Star Trek.

Liberal progressives do not want to unleash our individual strength, they prefer to foment collective divisiveness, which is exactly what this "Occupy Wall Street" movement is about.

Never forget that every time in the history of the world that a national leader has demagogued and demonized a targeted segment of society, it has ended up horribly for that country.

In closing, this past week we remember the 10th Anniversary of the commencement of combat operations in Afghanistan. I had the privilege of serving two and a half years in Afghanistan as a civilian-military advisor to the Afghan Army. This past summer I returned to Afghanistan as part of a Congressional delegation. We have not had perfect execution in this theater of operation, but no war is ever perfect. However, we have been successful in denying a sanctuary to the radical Islamic terrorist enemy. We must now move away from nation building occupation - style warfare and capitalize on our strategic and operational mobility. This will allow us to conduct more enemy-oriented strike operations and utilize the full arsenal of our lethal and non-lethal assets. For more on my thoughts, please read my entire statement on the 10th Anniversary of the War in Afghanistan, [here](#).

As we reflect on Afghanistan, let us not forget the new "Greatest Generation" of American heroes- our men and women who, regardless of our strategic blunders, always answer the call to arms.

Steadfast and Loyal,



### Legislative Update

- Continuing Resolution — On Tuesday, the House approved H.R. 2608, a Continuing Resolution (CR) to provide short-term appropriated funding for discretionary government operations through November 18, 2011, by a vote of 352-66, I VOTED YES. H.R. 2608 would provide \$1.043 trillion in appropriated funding for government operations. This is the same funding level required under budget caps contained in the Budget Control Act and represents a 1.5 percent cut from Fiscal Year 2011. Compared to 2010 spending levels (\$1.089 trillion), this CR would represent a cut of \$46 billion. The bill would provide \$2.65 billion for FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) in 2012. H.R. 2608 would require the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide a full accounting of disaster



**Sergeant First Class Sean Johnson**

**Age:** 29

**Hometown:** Boca Raton, FL

**MOS:** Army Infantry,  
National Guard Special Forces, Engineer  
on Army Special Forces Team

**Afghanistan Deployments:**  
'04, '10

**Stationed:** Fort Bragg, NC

**Proud Mother:** Linda Johnson:  
*"I make it through each day with lots of prayer!"*

### Photo of the Week



With inspiring young Patriots from Everest University, Pompano Beach

\*All of my great photos, [here](#)

### Upcoming Events

relief funding requirements for Fiscal Year 2012 no later than 15 days after the date of enactment of the legislation.

- Cement Sector Regulatory Relief — On Thursday, the House approved H.R. 2681, the Cement Sector Regulatory Relief Act of 2011, by a vote of 262-161, I VOTED YES. The bill would provide a legislative stay of three Environmental Protection Agency emissions standards that apply to cement manufacturing plants. These rules have been referred to as the “Cement MACT rules.” A recent study by the Portland Cement Association concluded that the EPA’s new Cement MACT regulations threaten to shut down 18 plants – almost 20 percent of the domestic industry. According to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, increased construction costs resulting from rising cement prices could lead to the loss of 12,000 to 19,000 construction jobs. H.R. 2681 would also allow for the implementation of effective regulation that protects communities both environmentally and economically through new rules that would be both technically and economically achievable – to prevent plant shut downs and job losses.

### Upcoming Week

- EPA Regulatory Relief — The House will continue consideration of H.R. 2250, the EPA Regulatory Relief Act of 2011. The bill would provide a legislative stay of four interrelated Environmental Protection Agency rules, commonly referred to as the “Boiler MACT rules,” that govern emissions of mercury and other hazardous air pollutants from approximately 200,000 boilers and incinerators nationwide. EPA officials have estimated that the capital cost of implementing these rules will be \$9.5 billion, but a recent study prepared by IHS Global Insight puts the figure at \$20 billion.

- Free Trade Agreements — The House is expected to consider the three long-pending, job-creating free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea. These agreements would increase exports, lower the trade deficit and stimulate much-needed U.S. economic growth. Passing all three pending trade agreements would directly benefit small and medium-sized enterprises and the U.S. jobs they create.

- Other trade programs — The House is expected to consider H.R. 2832, which would extend the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA). The GSP program is the largest U.S. trade preference program and provides trade preferences to over 130 countries. Many U.S. companies source raw materials and other inputs from GSP countries, and the duty-free treatment of these imports reduces the production costs for these U.S. manufacturers, making them more competitive.

- Federal funding of abortion — The House is expected to consider H.R. 358, which would amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) to incorporate permanent, bill-wide statutory language to prevent federal funding for abortion or abortion coverage through any program authorized or appropriated by the PPACA. The bill would also protect the right of conscience for health care professionals by codifying and ensuring that private insurance companies are not mandated to cover abortion.

- Coal Ash — The House is expected to consider the Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act of 2011. The EPA has proposed rules to regulate coal combustion residuals (CCR) as hazardous waste, placing excessive uncertainty on the coal ash recycling industry when these materials do not even meet EPA’s own standards for toxicity. This overregulation would destroy jobs in the emerging byproducts industry and a potential 25 percent increase in costs to consumers.

OCTOBER 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**Tuesday, Oct. 18th**

Palm Beach County Town Hall  
10:00 am - 11:30 am  
Bethesda-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church  
Parish Hall  
141 South County Road  
Palm Beach, FL

Broward County Town Hall  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Jarvis Hall  
4501 North Ocean Drive  
Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, FL

## War in Afghanistan



(WASHINGTON) --- Congressman Allen West (FL-22) released this statement Friday on the 10th anniversary of the start of the war in Afghanistan:

"Ten years ago today, our nation went on the offensive against Islamic Totalitarianism, radical Islamic Terrorism and specific individuals who want to harm our country and kill our citizens after a band of thugs declared war on the United States of America, our fellow Americans, and our way of life.

The last decade in Afghanistan has seen peaks and valleys, triumph and tragedy, unspeakable horror and unimaginable bravery during our long and difficult march towards victory..."

## Washington Highlights

- **Monday, 3 October**, Hosted and addressed a Conservative Women's luncheon with special guests Congresswoman Diane Black and RNC Co-Chairman Sharon Day, addressed the Lincoln Clubs of Northern California, San Diego, and Orange County, attended a policy briefing with Israeli Ambassador Michael Oren, and attended a House Armed Services Committee briefing with former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.
- **Tuesday, 4 October**, Interviewed on C-SPAN Washington Journal- full interview [here](#), House Armed Services Committee full committee meeting assessing 10 years post 9-11 with former Service Chiefs testifying, hosted meeting with FAA Administrator Babbitt and representatives from Ft. Lauderdale Executive Airport and Nova Southeastern University on local issues, attended classified briefing on Al Qaeda operations, delivered the benediction address at the Center for Security Policy "Keeper of the Flame" award dinner.
- **Wednesday, 5 October**, Spoke to the Board of Regents of the Center for Security Policy on pressing national security issues, met with the new Army Chief of Legislative Liaison, Major General Ben Hodges, attended Small Business Committee hearing on Department of Labor/National Labor Relations Board decision, rules, and regulations affecting small businesses.
- **Thursday, 6 October**, Attended the Army Caucus breakfast with Secretary of the Army McHugh and Chief of Staff of the Army General Odierno, met with the author of a book on Frederick Douglass Republicans, K. Carl Smith, attended a Small Business sub-committee hearing on subcontracting challenges for small businesses.
- **Friday, 7 October**, Conducted several interviews and meetings in office.
- **Saturday, 8 October**, Hosted a carbohydrate upload dinner for the Ft Lauderdale running team visiting Washington for the Army Ten Miler race.
- **Sunday 9 October**, Ran my first ever Army Ten Miler race in Washington with 30,000 runners and I finished within my desired time of just under 1 hr 30 minutes! See more of my comments [here](#).
- **Monday 10 October**, Recuperated from killing myself during the Army Ten Miler. Happy Columbus Day.

read more [here](#).

## Small Business Spotlight



**Business:** Palm Beach Outdoor Cinema Events

**Owner:** Nikki Pepper

**Service Provided:** Provides inflatable movie screens and audio system for outdoor events, schools, governments, and other special events



**Years in business:** 5 years

**Surviving the Recession:** Always flexible, works with clients on prices

### Contact Info:

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