

record on the economy is very strong; the strong Democrat blue vs. red for the Republicans.

A recent study by Princeton University economists Alan Blinder and Mark Watson underscores this point. It shows that, since World War II, the economy has performed better under Democratic Presidents over Republican Presidents.

Blinder and Watson say it this way: "The U.S. economy has performed better when the President of the United States is a Democrat rather than a Republican, almost regardless of how one measures performance."

But Republicans still make the questionable claim that they do better at managing the economy. Let's put an end to that myth. Let's move to a more evidence-based discussion and bury the myth that Republicans are better at managing the economy.

The facts and the metrics speak for themselves; the strong blue Democratic record under Democratic Presidents managing the economy.

CONFRONTING THE ZIKA THREAT TO SOUTH FLORIDA

(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, earlier this week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC, lowered the travel warning for Zika in the Wynwood area to a cautionary travel guidance, which is consistent with the rest of the Miami-Dade County mainland. After comprehensive eradication efforts, there is no longer any evidence of active Zika transmissions in the area of Wynwood.

Though the situation in Wynwood has improved, the Zika zone has nearly tripled in Miami Beach, however. The CDC has now expanded the active Zika transmission warning zone for Miami Beach to a 4.5-square-mile area covering most of the city.

Mr. Speaker, even as we make significant progress in the fight against Zika, the threat remains persistent in south Florida. Congress must fund anti-Zika efforts now with no policy riders and without any more delay. This is an epidemic that we must eliminate once and for all.

South Florida families deserve better and they should not have to wait any longer for Federal funding. Let's pass a Zika funding bill now.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD

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

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 125th anniversary of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

If you come into Bremerton, Washington, by ferry, you see a big yellow

and blue slogan painted on the side of the shipyard's Building 460, and it says: "Puget Sound Naval Shipyard: Building on a Proud Tradition."

That proud tradition is based on the hard work of men and women who, for 125 years, have invested in their trades, shown up each day and gotten the job done for this country, and the uniformed personnel who have carried out the mission there.

Our shipyard workers serve our Nation and help keep our sailors and submariners safe. And through its long history, the shipyard has been central in building up our fleet during World War I, and repairing damaged ships during World War II, and throughout other wartime efforts. Today, they get our ships ready so the Navy can continue to provide strategic deterrence and peacekeeping all across the globe.

We live in a dangerous world where threats exist, and I have such admiration and respect for the role the shipyard and its workers play in protecting our servicemembers and protecting our Nation.

The future looks bright for this institution under the leadership of Captain Howard Markle. Recently I had the honor of speaking at the shipyard's apprenticeship graduation, and I can tell you that these folks are ready to carry on that proud tradition at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

SUPPORT OUR NORTH COUNTRY APPLE FARMERS

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

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, do you like apples?

Because I rise today to speak about that great time of year when days grow crisp and leaves start to change, apple season.

Agriculture is the backbone of our economy in the North Country, and New York State is the second largest-producing State in the country where we export our delicious products across the globe.

For most families, a trip apple picking is a great annual tradition this time of year. I have had the pleasure of touring apple orchards across my district, from Applejacks Orchards in Plattsburgh, to Forrence and Everett Orchards in Peru, to Kanab Orchards in Massena.

Every year, during apple season, these orchards and many others in the North Country produce bushels and bushels of apples for eating as fresh fruit, to be made into juice and cider, and even to fill delicious apple pies.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand on the House floor today to support our North Country apple farmers.

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FLINT, MICHIGAN

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, in the next week or so, we will pass a spending bill to fund the government for the next 10 weeks, and it is absolutely critical that we include in that legislation funding to help my hometown of Flint recover from the terrible water crisis that it is facing. That should be included in the continuing resolution.

A city of 100,000 people, for 2 years, can't drink their water and are still dealing with the effects of lead poisoning. Hearings have been held in Congress, multiple committees, lots of sympathy, and Members asking me: What can I do? It is real simple. The Senate passed legislation that would provide relief for the people of Flint, 95-3, bipartisan legislation, paid for—let me emphasize—paid for. We have an offset.

Yet, House negotiators, on the continuing resolution, continue to take the position that we will consider relief for all sorts of issues, and we will get a spending bill, but nothing for Flint.

Take yes for an answer. When you asked us to come up with an offset to deal with this terrible public health crisis, we came up with an offset.

So to my colleagues, my God, at long last, do the right thing. Help this community that is struggling. We have come up with a way to get it done. There is no excuse for not getting it done. It has to happen now.

RECOGNIZING FIREBALL RUN ADVENTURE RALLY'S VISIT TO CURWENSVILLE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an event in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District—and across New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Connecticut, and Massachusetts—raising awareness for missing children across our Nation.

Fireball Run is an 8-day, 2,000-mile road rally competition starting this Friday and running through Saturday, October 1. This Sunday, I will be joining the teams in Curwensville, located in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District.

While I have been told that the race itself is a lot of fun, what really impresses me about the Fireball Run is the effort made to raise awareness for missing children across the United States of America.

Every driving team is assigned a child missing from their home area, in addition to being provided 1,000 missing child flyers to distribute along their 2,000-mile journey. Since the start of Fireball Run 10 years ago, the campaign has aided in the recovery of 44 missing children.

I commend everyone involved in Fireball Run for their selfless efforts in raising awareness for this important issue, and I wish them the best of luck and safety as their journey begins on Friday.

COMMEMORATING 100TH BIRTHDAY OF EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION

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

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exposition held annually in West Springfield, Massachusetts. Founded in 1916, the Eastern States Exposition, more affectionately known as "The Big E," for a century has been a showcase for what all six New England States have to offer. Starting last Friday and running for a total of 17 days, this celebration will play host to hundreds of agricultural and livestock displays, thousands of food and craft vendors, and will welcome over 1 million visitors through its duration.

Mr. Speaker, there is no denying that The Big E is woven into the culture of western Massachusetts. Furthermore, it is a driving force behind the regional tourism economy.

I wish to congratulate Eastern States Chairman Donald Chase, President Eugene Cassidy, and the many staff and volunteers on the work done in preparation for this centennial celebration. May this year stand as a testament to the next 100 years. Congratulations from the United States of America.

NATIONAL ESTUARY WEEK

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

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, this week we recognize National Estuary Week, a week dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of our Nation's estuaries.

The Eighth District of Florida is home to the Indian River Lagoon, one of the most diverse estuaries in North America and the world. Stretching 156 miles along Florida's east coast, our lagoon is a sanctuary for nearly 4,000 species of wildlife, an economic engine for our community, and an invaluable recreational and educational resource for residents and visitors. Since estuaries are places where freshwater mixes with saltwater, preserving the delicate balance is as critical as it can be difficult.

Many estuaries, including our lagoon, are experiencing challenges like harmful algae blooms, declines in sea grass, and invasive species. These threats require our immediate attention.

This week, millions of Americans will show their commitment to our estuaries through volunteer efforts. We all have a role to play in caring for our

environment. It is a matter of awareness and of action.

CONDEMNING RESTRICTIVE VOTING LAWS

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, Congress is about to go home for the most important event in any democracy: the November 8 elections. We will leave a cloud over our democracy in failing to update the 1965 Voting Rights Act, recommended by the Supreme Court, when it struck down section 4 requiring Federal preclearance of State laws with a history of discrimination.

My resolution, H. Res. 846, condemning restrictive voting laws, documents that no sooner was preclearance overturned than States galloped to pass new onerous voting restrictions. So unconstitutional were these laws that not only in southern States but also, even without the preclearance process, they have been struck down in four States: Texas, North Carolina, Wisconsin, and Ohio.

Seldom has Congress had so much real-time evidence of the need to renew legislation. The evidence is a virtual mandate for Congress to make history again and update our democracy by updating the Voting Rights Act.

UNSUSTAINABLE OVERTIME RULE

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

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, we have heard from countless small businesses, colleges and universities, nonprofits, and the public sector that the recent Department of Labor's overtime rule change is not sustainable.

In a few short months, employers will be forced to accept a 100 percent increase in the salary threshold. This rule has the potential to result in the unintended consequences that impact an employee's hours being reduced, employees being switched to hourly status and thus a reduction in benefits, or worse.

This change has the potential to devastate many businesses and their employers. With our country still slogging through a recovery, such a dramatic increase is misguided and ill-advised.

Mr. Speaker, the House has held multiple hearings, we have authored various letters, and legislation has been drafted on the rule. It must not go into effect as planned this year.

RECOGNIZING LIFE AND LEGACY OF JAMES O'NEILL

(Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of the late James O'Neill. James was a giant in the law enforcement community in my home district in the Hudson Valley. We lost him suddenly on Sunday, July 17, at the age of 59, of an apparent heart attack. On that day, though, we didn't just lose a friend but we also lost a father, a husband, and an icon in the New York City and Putnam County police communities.

Jimmy was born and raised in the Bronx. He was a graduate of Visitation School and of Cardinal Hayes High School. He joined the NYPD in 1979. He lived a life devoted to service and dedicated nearly 30 years to the New York Police Department before retiring as a detective and squad supervisor in 1999. He went on to become a founding member of the New York Shields and president of the Fraternal Order of Police in Putnam County.

He was an outspoken leader whose efforts involved working with officers suffering from mental and emotional effects of serving in the force. He was an icon in the police community, and he was the consummate cop's cop. He not only devoted his own career as a police officer and a detective to serving others but, even after his retirement, he devoted himself in so many ways to helping other officers and their families in times of need.

I want to send my personal condolences to Jimmy's wife, Kathy, and his son, James, along with their dear friends, Joanne Viola, Henry Primus, John McCardle, and Paul Curtin, all of whom have joined us here today. We are honored by your presence.

The law enforcement community, Hudson Valley, and New York have lost one of their finest, and he will be sorely missed. The beauty of Jimmy's life can be summed up by this: he loved his family beyond all measure, gave all to his friends and community, and was the most humble and decent man anyone can say they ever knew. His absence is a chasm that we will never fill.

STARBUCKS UPSTANDERS

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

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Starbucks and their new program called the Upstanders series for recognizing Baldwin Community Schools and the Baldwin Promise.

The Upstanders series was created by Starbucks to showcase uplifting American stories. I believe that Starbucks found a uniquely inspiring story to tell when they highlighted Baldwin, Michigan.

Baldwin Community Schools was designated as a Michigan Promise Zone in 2009, meaning that every child who attended school in Baldwin has a tuition-free path to a college education. Earning this designation took commitment