

will have the amazing opportunity to come together to enjoy live entertainment, timeless carnival rides, tons of local food, animal demonstrations, and 4-H projects on display.

Crowds will gather to see the antique equipment competition and exhibits in hundreds of categories ranging from a variety of vegetables, tomatoes, fresh flowers, and livestock to handcrafted quilts, jewelry, and woodwork.

Mr. Speaker, as an annual attendee, I have seen firsthand how the Grange Fair brings our community together to enjoy the refreshing success of our local agricultural community. It is an event that helps people gain a better appreciation of the importance of agriculture and how the agricultural industry sustains our local economy—not to mention all of the jobs that it creates.

We love our farmers in Bucks County. They have contributed so much to our community. They are an indispensable part of Bucks County's past, and they will remain an indispensable part of Bucks County's future.

INVEST IN THE NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to our Nation's infrastructure. I am talking about our roads, our bridges, our rail corridors, our waterways and dams, the investments that over two centuries have made America great, the greatest economy in the world.

We have a long history of investing in the infrastructure in America, starting with the canal and rail systems in the 19th century, the highways and air transportation systems in the 20th century. However, over the last 25 years, we have lived off the infrastructure investments our parents and grandparents made in the previous generations.

Why? Because there has been a lack of political will here in Washington, D.C., to make new investments. But Congress, working with the President, must face this challenge head-on.

I believe there is bipartisan support for infrastructure investment, having been part of a bipartisan conversation this year with Members of Congress and with the administration. There is an attempt to offer a proposal to make major investments in our Nation's infrastructure.

We are talking about four different areas. First, there needs to be an incentive component. I strongly support incentivizing States and local governments to provide their own funding for these efforts. We know infrastructure projects move forward most effectively when local, State, and the Federal Government all do their part.

In the San Joaquin Valley in my district, Merced, Madera, and Fresno Counties have all increased their local sales tax to pay for critical transpor-

tation projects. Earlier this year, California enacted a bill to increase State gas tax and vehicle fees to provide over \$52 billion over the next 10 years in California for much-needed transportation projects. And while more needs to be done in California, we know that, if we provide incentives across the country, States ought to come up and do their part as well.

The second focus of the administration's action is to support projects in rural areas. On Wednesday last week, the Agriculture Committee held a hearing in which we discussed strategic infrastructure investments in rural areas with a goal of increasing opportunities. The importance of investing in our rural areas cannot be overstated. Too often, rural America gets left behind in the infrastructure and development conversation. I know because I represent a large part of rural America in the San Joaquin Valley in California.

The third focus is transformative projects, projects that make creative and dramatic changes. I have always supported and will continue to support these projects, such as high-speed rail in California, California WaterFix.

□ 1030

Water is so critical to the West, especially in the San Joaquin Valley. Water provides the food that we have on America's dinner table every night. It is a national security issue.

These projects support deeper, systemic change, and they can have a large-scale and lasting impact on the future development of our Nation. They are investments in our future, like those our parents and grandparents made in the past.

Lastly, the administration talks about a loan program. These can be helpful.

Overall, I support these four components. But first we must not pick winners and losers when improving our Nation's infrastructure. This is, of course, very challenging. We need to have a policy that must rank priorities and decide how much we spend and where we spend.

We also must establish criteria to ensure infrastructure decisions promote fair distribution and cost effectiveness, doing the most good in critical areas.

Second, while I support public-private partnerships, they should not provide subsidies to projects that the private sector would already finance themselves.

Sound infrastructure is literally and figuratively the foundation of our Nation's economy. It is what has made America the greatest economy in the world. Countries around the world are making investments in their infrastructure while the United States sits on the sidelines engaging in a political debate that does not reflect the reality of the policy choice we have and the decisions we must make.

Mr. Speaker, we must come together as Democrats and Republicans to ad-

dress these serious problems of our Nation's infrastructure, and as Americans in a bipartisan way because no transportation system, no water infrastructure system, no improvement in our energy grid, and all the other elements of our infrastructure are Democratic or Republican. They are the basis of an investment in America, and that is what we should be doing as Members of Congress with this administration.

So let's act as legislators. Let's act and show that we can work together in a bipartisan fashion. Let's show some profiles in courage.

THE BILL IMPORTANT TO ALL AMERICANS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare the next farm bill, I rise today to speak about the impact that agriculture has on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, our farmers, our economy, and our communities.

Agriculture is the number one industry in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We proudly boast 58,200 farms, totaling more than 7.7 million acres of farmland. These farms contribute to a total economic impact of \$45 billion from production, food processing, marketing, transportation, and manufacturing.

Mr. Speaker, the farm bill affects everyone in Pennsylvania in various ways, just as it does families throughout the United States of America.

It provides a safety net for farmers and ranchers during difficult times. It supports infrastructure and economic development in rural communities. It incentivizes good conservation practices to protect our farmland and our environment. It helps provide access to nutritious, quality food for the least fortunate among us, as well as breakfasts and lunches for our schoolchildren.

The farm bill's effects can be felt beyond the ag industry. In 2015, the USDA rated the market value of all agricultural production in Pennsylvania at \$8.7 billion, and agricultural exports contributed \$2 billion to the State economy.

The strengthening impact that agriculture has on the Pennsylvania economy is significant and undeniable, yet it is only one example of agriculture's vast influence on the lives of everyone in the Commonwealth. Agriculture employs our residents, provides better health for our communities, and promotes agricultural exports.

Agriculture touches the lives of millions of Americans, and not just those who work as farmers or ranchers.

Pennsylvania's farmers look to the farm bill to protect their livelihood from weather disasters, to provide them a safety net when times are hard, and to ensure their ability to support their families and their communities.

Over 6 years, the USDA has invested more than \$1.4 billion in Pennsylvania for programs that promote new markets for farm and ranch products. These programs provide revenue and price loss payments to eligible producers.

This legislation ensures that eligible acres are afforded disaster assistance in light of natural disasters and droughts, providing our farmers with a safeguard against the unpredictable elements of weather.

Beyond supporting our farmers, the farm bill fortifies Pennsylvania's infrastructure. The bill provides funding for the expansion of telecommunications, the improvement of water and wastewater infrastructure, and the construction of community facilities like fire stations, hospitals, and libraries.

It promotes growth in the community, the health of our children, and the well-being of Pennsylvania families. In 2016, more than 65 million breakfasts were served to more than 386,000 children in the School Breakfast Program. Last year, the State served more than 173 million lunches to 1 million students who participate in the program.

Programs such as WIC, the Women, Infants, and Children program; and SNAP, the Supplemental Food and Nutrition Program, help people in need put food on their tables. The farm bill truly impacts the lives of so many.

Mr. Speaker, as vice chairman of the Agriculture Committee and chairman of the Nutrition Subcommittee, I look forward to producing a strong farm bill that will promote sound policies for agriculture in Pennsylvania and throughout the country.

REVIEWING PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 6 MONTHS IN OFFICE

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

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, we are now at the 6-month point in President Trump's time in office, and I think it is time we check in and do his review. President Trump has made a lot of campaign promises, and we should take a look at how he is living up to them.

First, creating jobs. Let's start with his claims that he would be the "greatest jobs producer that God ever created."

We haven't seen any major action on President Trump's jobs plan. His infrastructure week included no concrete details—pardon the pun—and his Made in America week meant nothing because his own products have long been made overseas.

Despite bragging that he was saving jobs at Carrier in Indiana, we have learned that Carrier is laying off 600 employees this month and sending those jobs to Mexico.

After the Trump administration lobbied hard for Ford to not move to Mexico, Ford announced it was moving the production of its Focus model to China instead. Not exactly a deal closer.

As for creating jobs, that is an F. Draining the swamp. How about his promises to drain the swamp?

President Trump has stacked his administration with insiders, opened the floodgates to more lobbyists, and is loading his administration with so many Goldman Sachs employees that the CEO of Goldman Sachs called it an "inconvenience." Donald Trump hasn't drained the swamp. He has merely built a high-rise luxury condo on it. That will get him an F as well.

Accomplishments. President Trump has yet to sign any major legislative accomplishments into law. From repealing the Affordable Care Act to tax reform, to an infrastructure package, not one of his major initiatives has yet made it through Congress in over 6 months. Now, that may be good news for the working men and women of this country, but, still, as a grade, that gets him an F.

Tweeting. Now, we have seen a lot of action on Twitter from this President, from insulting women and threatening journalists to relitigating the election against Secretary Clinton and shouting "fake news." In fact, President Trump tweeted 991 times in his first 6 months in office with "fake news" being mentioned almost twice as much as the word "jobs."

While he scores high on the volume of tweets, he is low on the content of tweets, so we are going to give him an incomplete in this area.

Golfing. President Trump's second favorite activity after tweeting is golfing. According to CNN, in his first 6 months, President Trump spent 21 of his first 26 weekends in office at Trump properties and spent 40 days at Trump branded golf properties. So he is golfing for sure. Let's give him an A.

Covfefe. Now, that is not a word in the dictionary or that I know in the universe. I guess only Donald Trump knows what it really means, so I am guessing he would give himself an A because there isn't a grade higher until he invents one of those, too. But for the rest of us, that is not even incomplete. That is just incoherent.

Conflicts of interest. American taxpayers have been footing the bill for pricey trips to Trump branded properties and trips benefiting the Trump family business in Canada, Uruguay, Mar-a-Lago in Florida, New York, and many others places. President Trump's failure to separate himself from his conflicts of interest shows special interest groups around the world that influence can be sold to the highest bidder. I will give him an A because apparently he is excelling at selling out potential.

Job approval. President Trump has finished first in one area. We all know he likes to be a winner. With a 36 percent approval rating, President Trump is the first President to have that low of a 6-month approval rating of any President in polls dating back 70 years. So from the American people, apparently that is an F.

This has not been an impressive first 6 months, Mr. Speaker. If this were a reality show, I think we would be hearing the famous "you are fired, Mr. President." But outside of that 6 months, just this week, Mr. Speaker, Donald Trump embarrassed himself with inappropriate comments before the Boy Scouts and insulted transgender Americans serving in the military.

My only question, Mr. Speaker, is: When will the leadership on the other side of the aisle quit enabling him and start standing up for this country?

America is not a reality show.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

IN MEMORY OF PFC JAMES T. STANFORD

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, this morning, I would like to recognize Marine Private First Class James T. Stanford for his duty, his selfless service, and his sacrifice to our great Nation.

Stanford was a native of Gadsden, Alabama, and he lost his life back in 1954 after a devastating explosion on board the aircraft carrier USS *Bennington*. I am honored to recognize Private First Class Stanford this morning, who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our great Nation.

Stanford attended Gadsden High School in Gadsden, Alabama, before enlisting in the United States Marine Corps on February 21, 1953. After completing basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina, he was assigned to the USS *Bennington* in June 1953.

On May 26, 1954, the USS *Bennington* was sailing off the coast of Rhode Island for aircraft carrier qualification when hydraulic fluid from a forward catapult caught fire. The resulting explosion caused massive damage to the forward portion of the ship. It resulted in over 200 casualties, including 103 sailors and marines who lost their lives that day.

On May 28, 1954, Private First Class James Stanford, at just 20 years old, succumbed to his critical burn wounds and passed away at Newport Naval Hospital in Rhode Island. By his side were his wife, the former Lou Moore; and his father, Mr. J.C. Stanford. James and his wife, Lou, had recently celebrated their first wedding anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, may the sacrifice of Private First Class James T. Stanford and the other 102 sailors and marines who lost their lives as a result of that explosion onboard the USS *Bennington* on May 26, 1954, never be forgotten, and may those individuals be remembered as they gave their all.