

centrally located but one hopes less prone to disruption.

How did this warehouse episode, borne out of Kenya's need to repay debt to China, benefit Kenyans suffering from HIV/AIDS? How did it affect the ability of Kenya to serve as a regional distribution hub for East Africa, with all the collateral economic benefits that accrue from this purely humanitarian initiative paid for by U.S. taxpayers? More broadly, where is China's PEPFAR, or the equivalent of the President's Malaria Initiative?

These are questions which Africa's leaders, and the African people, need to consider.

SEPARATE AND UNEQUAL: RACISM AND POVERTY 50 YEARS AFTER THE KERNER REPORT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2018

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Kerner Report.

In 1968, the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, known as the Kerner Commission, found that the civil unrest in the African American community was a result of white racism. From employment and housing discrimination to segregated and underfunded schools, racism was the root cause of systemic poverty plaguing African Americans.

In 1969, the theme for Delta Sigma Theta under the leadership of the late Frankie Muse Freeman was, "One Nation or Two?" As we continue to ask ourselves that same question 50 years later, it is clear that civil rights is still unfinished business.

According to 2016 Census data, 12.7 percent of Americans live in poverty. For African Americans, the poverty rate is nearly double the national rate at 22 percent. And 33 percent of African American children are growing up in poverty.

The persistent racial wealth divide and lack of economic progress among African Americans is cause for alarm.

The Black unemployment rate has risen to 7.7 percent and continues to be nearly double that of White workers. In 1968, it was 6.8 percent.

The median net worth for Black families is \$17,600, compared to \$171,000 for white families. When it comes to homeownership, 71 percent of White households are homeowners compared to 41 percent of Black households—practically the same as in 1968.

On the campaign trail, the President said inner cities were more dangerous than war zones and repeatedly asked the African American community, "What do you have to lose?"

Every day, the Trump Administration's economic policies make clear what African Americans and communities of color have to lose: economic opportunity and upward mobility.

The President's lopsided tax cut added at least \$1.5 trillion to the national deficit with likely offsets to earned benefits and social safety net programs many families depend on like Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and SNAP.

The President's budget would reduce funding for SNAP by \$213 billion over the next 10

years and force 16 million households to survive on so-called "Harvest Boxes" that will cost more than they save in dollars and human capital. These proposed "ration boxes" are demeaning to families: shelf stable milk, ready to eat cereals, canned meat, fruits and vegetables, peanut butter and pasta. Is this what we have come to? This is the same Republican Party who told us that we couldn't provide our children healthy meals in schools.

While roughly 1 in 6 Black households spend more than 50 percent of their income on housing, the President's budget eliminates the National Housing Trust Fund and U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, the legal aid program which helps families avoid unwarranted evictions, the Community Development Block Grant program, and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program.

Republicans in Congress and this Administration have chosen to rob the American people of resources that could put people to work building infrastructure, improve public education, child care, and health care. Time and again, their proposals benefit the wealthy and hurt the working poor and communities of color.

It's no coincidence that the President wants to eliminate diversity visas and prevent immigrants from Africa and Asia from coming into this country. It's no coincidence that our fellow Americans in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico are still suffering and can't get the resources needed to truly rebuild after Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria. Black and Brown people are not wanted. They need not apply here.

As we look ahead to the next fifty years, will this be one America or two? One Black and Brown, one White? One rich, one poor?

America will only be great if we ensure our policies create opportunities for all Americans and address the structural racism that preserves the racial wealth divide. If we don't direct needed resources to communities of highest need, they will never catch up.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREERS OF TOMMY AARON, TONY HERDENER AND BEN LANCASTER

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three northeast Georgians whom neighbors recently honored at the 2018 Gainesville American Values Dinner: Tommy Aaron, Tony Herdener, and Ben Lancaster.

Tommy Aaron graduated from Gainesville High School, where he won the 1955 state title in golf. After joining the Professional Golfers' Association Tour, he won the Master's Tournament in 1973.

Tony Herdener has served the people of northeast Georgia as the Chief Financial Officer of Northeast Georgia Health System for 23 years. In his position, Herdener grew the organization into one of the largest health systems in Georgia.

Ben Lancaster serves as an officer at Crystal Farms. Members of AgriTrust of Georgia appointed him to their Board of Trustees,

where he has helped steward a workers' compensation insurance program to assist agribusinesses across the state.

These three men have inspired their neighbors through their leadership, and I'm thankful for their example.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES JAY DELANEY, RECIPIENT OF THE 2018 GREATER PITTSBURGH FRIENDLY SONS' SWINGLE AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2018

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize James Jay Delaney, who will receive the W. Francis Swingle Award from the Greater Pittsburgh Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Jay will be honored formally during the Friendly Sons' 104th annual celebration on March 17, 2018. He has been part of the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department since 1981 and has served as the city's fire chief for the past 13 years.

Chief Delaney is a longtime resident of Avoca, Pennsylvania and a graduate of St. John the Evangelist High School. He attended Luzerne County Community College to study Fire Science Technology. He has completed advanced course work at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland and at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. He is also a certified paramedic.

In addition to his role as chief, Delaney serves as Wilkes-Barre's Emergency Management Coordinator. Under Chief Delaney's leadership, the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department's ISO Public Protection Classification was elevated to Class 2, which put Wilkes-Barre in the top 1 percent of fire departments in Pennsylvania. He has been responsible for securing a substantial amount of federal support and has made multiple upgrades to the city's emergency response operations and equipment.

Chief Delaney has earned appointments by Governor Ed Rendell to the Pennsylvania Game Commission Board of Commissioners and by Governor Tom Wolf to the Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing, and Conservation.

He resides in the Miners Mills section of Wilkes-Barre with his wife, the former Valerie Sakaduski. They have three children, Sarah, Jamie and Megan and seven grandchildren.

It is an honor to recognize Chief Delaney as he accepts the W. Francis Swingle Award. I am grateful to him for having spent his entire career in service to the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania. His 37 years as a firefighter is an outstanding contribution to the community. I wish him all the best this St. Patrick's Day.

DUI REPORTING ACT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2018

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the DUI Reporting Act, a bill I introduced today with my colleague STEVE CHABOT

along with the support of Mothers Against Drunk Driving and a bipartisan coalition of Representatives from across the United States.

If enacted, it would address the loophole in our nation's drunken-driving laws that enables repeat DUI offenders to be charged and tried; as first-time offenders because of inconsistent reporting.

Currently, when police make a drunk driving arrest, they don't always have access to information about all of the driver's previous arrests for driving under the influence.

The reason is because not all police report DUI arrests to either the National Crime Information Center, or "NCIC" for short, or the Next Generation Identification database, or "NGI," which are the national crime databases that can be made instantly available to police right from their patrol cars.

The consequences of this lack of reporting can prove tragic. Just a few years ago there was a terrible accident in northern Mississippi, just outside of my Congressional District. Two teenagers from Memphis were killed when the car they were driving was struck by a drunk driver who had accrued seven DUI charges since 2008 and had been allowed to plead guilty five times to a first-offense DUI.

When the law enforcement officer ran the suspect's driving record in the national database, his past DUI convictions never showed up.

This is shameful. A DUI somewhere should be recognized as a DUI anywhere. It should not matter where you were caught driving drunk. If you drive drunk, previous offenses should be recorded and penalties should increase so innocent lives can be saved.

The accrual of multiple first-time DUI offenses is unconscionable and must be brought to an end.

Our bill will save lives by enacting common-sense, bipartisan reforms to harmonize reporting standards for DUI offenses across the states.

I urge my colleagues to help pass it quickly.

**SALUTING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF JONATHAN DOS SANTOS RAMÍREZ**

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2018

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Jonathan dos Santos Ramírez for his many positive contributions to Los Angeles and beyond, both as a prominent soccer player and as an active member of the community.

Jonathan was born April 26, 1990, in Monterrey, Mexico, as the youngest of three children born to Geraldo Francisco dos Santos and Liliana Ramírez. A member of FC Barcelona's famed youth academy system, La Masia, Jonathan made his eventual debut with the senior team as a 19-year-old during a match in Spain's Copa del Rey. He remained in Barcelona through 2014, making 29 appearances in all competitions, including matches played in the UEFA Champions' League, La Liga Super Copa, and the Copa del Rey.

In 2014, Jonathan transferred to Villarreal CF in La Liga, where he developed into one of Spain's standout midfielders. During his

time with the club, he has made over 120 appearances in all competitions, while scoring seven times and adding eight assists. Internationally, he has made 29 appearances in all competitions as a member of the Mexican National Team, including matches in FIFA World Cup Qualifying and the FIFA Confederations Cup.

Jonathan's extraordinary soccer career, and his hard work to reach his goals, are an inspiration to young people around the world. As a new member of the Los Angeles Galaxy, he has become an incredible role model throughout Southern California.

Jonathan joined the Galaxy as the team's third Designated Player on July 28, 2017, and plays alongside his brother, Giovanni dos Santos Ramírez. Since joining the Galaxy, Jonathan's passion for giving back has inspired his many philanthropic efforts in the LA community. In July 2017, he and Giovanni hosted a community soccer clinic based on the values and techniques they have learned during their careers. The brothers wanted to contribute to the educational and athletic development of aspiring low-income young soccer players by shaping their skills, instilling virtues such as respect, humility, and teamwork, and setting them on a path to success.

On March 17, 2018, Jonathan will once again support the community and appear for his fans in South Gate, California, to support the biggest Soccer Community Tournament in Los Angeles County history. The tournament is being hosted by the largest Latin regional record label, DEL Records, a company headquartered in Bell Gardens in my 40th Congressional District.

Jonathan Dos Santos Ramírez has shown exemplary commitment to the people of Los Angeles and beyond, and I am pleased to recognize his work as an athlete and philanthropist. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his varied contributions and positive impact.

**SEPARATE AND UNEQUAL: RACISM
AND POVERTY 50 YEARS AFTER
THE KERNER REPORT**

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman EVANS for anchoring this very important Special Order on the subject of the famous Kerner Commission Report and the persistence of economic inequality and poverty in America.

Together, we stand, firmly committed to combating poverty.

Poverty in America reaches into all regions of the country, urban and rural, and affects millions of persons of all races, ethnicities, creed, ages, and gender.

However, it seems that far too often, and for far too long, the African American community has been disproportionately disadvantaged.

Three years ago we marked the 50th anniversary of the Watts Rebellion in Los Angeles, which was followed in the succeeding two years by the long hot summers and outbreaks of civil unrest in Detroit, Newark, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and Gary, Indiana.

The 1967 civil unrest and disturbances in Detroit and Newark prompted President Lyndon Johnson to establish the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, an 11-member commission, chaired by Illinois Governor Otto Kerner.

The mandate of the Kerner Commission was to identify the underlying cause of the civil unrest in communities across the country.

On February 29, 1968, following several field trips to troubled communities, the Commission released its 176-page report that examined cultural and institutional racism, from segregated schools and housing discrimination to generational poverty and limited economic opportunity.

The Kerner Report brought attention to the racial tension and divide that communities of color were facing nationwide.

It is important to recall two of the more important conclusions of the Kerner Report.

First, the Commission concluded that:

"Discrimination and segregation have long permeated much of American life; they now threaten the future of every American. This deepening racial division is not inevitable. The movement apart can be reversed. Choice is still possible. Our principal task is to define that choice and to press for a national resolution. To pursue our present course will involve the continuing polarization of the American community and, ultimately, the destruction of basic democratic values."

Second, the Commission concluded that:

"No American—white or black—can escape the consequences of the continuing social and economic decay of our major cities. Only a commitment to national action on an unprecedented scale can shape a future compatible with the historic ideals of American society."

The Kerner Commission called for bold policies to counter decades of political failure, such as investment in much-needed social services, housing, and education programs and incentivizing diversity among law enforcement.

In the wake of the upheaval, the Civil Rights Act of 1968 outlawing housing discrimination was signed into law.

Consequently, the past 50 years have seen the most progress towards equality than any point in our nation's history.

Over the last five decades, African Americans have seen substantial gains in high school completion rates.

High school graduation rates are up to 92.3 percent.

College graduation rates have also improved for African Americans.

Among 25–29-year-olds, less than one in 10 (9.1 percent) had a college degree in 1968, a figure that has climbed to almost one in four (22.8 percent) today.

Over the same period, however, college completion expanded for whites at a similar pace, rising from 16.2 percent in 1968 to 42.1 percent today, leaving the relative situation of African Americans basically unchanged: in 1968 African Americans were just over half (56.0 percent) as likely as whites to have a college degree, a situation that is essentially the same today (54.2 percent).

America has made some improvements, but African Americans continue to face some of the same obstacles identified in the Kerner Report.

The unemployment rate for African Americans in 2017 (the last full year of data) was