

behalf of the rights and needs of individuals with disabilities.

I ask all of my colleagues to commit to working with us in bringing the concerns and needs of the Down syndrome and disability communities to the bipartisan discussions occurring within Congress.

The special needs community are the most special among us, Mr. Speaker. We need to be here for them.

#### TARIFFS ARE HARMING FARMERS AND RANCHERS

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

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak about a very important issue to my constituents in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District and, frankly, millions of farmers and ranchers all across this great country.

Recently, President Donald Trump announced his intention to place a \$50 billion—that is billion with a “B”—in tariffs against Chinese goods, claiming that China has been taking advantage of the United States for too long. I wish that someone in the White House, someone on the staff had cautioned the President on the negative impact his launching of a trade war would have on this country. This unvetted decision has and will continue to cause significant harm to many of my constituents and to rural Americans throughout the heartland.

Following President Trump's announcement of his intended tariffs, predictively, the Chinese responded with \$50 billion in proposed tariffs of their own. These tariffs, which would be as high as 25 percent, would target 128 American products such as pork, beef, cotton, soybeans, corn, specific types of vehicles, and airplanes.

First, I want to talk about soybeans. Last year, the United States exported \$14 billion worth of soybeans to China. In Missouri, my home State, soybeans are the number one cash crop, contributing \$7.7 billion in total output and supporting more than 20,000 jobs in our State.

One out of every three rows of soybeans grown in Missouri goes to China, and one in every four rows grown in the United States goes to China. The day the Chinese announcement was made, soybean futures on the stock market were down almost \$0.40 a bushel. This was only after the tariffs were announced. Can you imagine the kind of losses soybean farmers would face if they were actually implemented?

Now, how about pork? Over the past 10 years, the United States has been, on average, the top exporter of pork in the world. Last year alone, nearly \$6.5 billion in pork was exported from the United States with \$1 billion of that being exported to China. Pork exports help to support about 550,000 jobs.

Midwest States like Missouri dominate hog production and exports. Missouri is ranked seventh, and our next-door neighbor, Kansas, is ranked tenth.

The Chinese have announced that they will also target U.S. corn, which will negatively impact the corn-based ethanol plant in my district, Mid-Missouri Energy. The plant is located in a little town, Malta Bend, and probably to some people that is not important, but it is a major economic stabilizer in that town and the entire area.

Economic losses to that plant or even closure of the plant would have rippling effects throughout the surrounding area.

Now, I know Mr. President is a real estate man, so he might not understand how business works on a farm, but these people work on razor-thin margins. In any given year, a bad crop, lack of demand, or Mother Nature's wrath can cause an economic downturn that leaves them struggling. American farmers have enough unknown variables they have to deal with. These reckless threats of tariffs on one of our biggest trading partners do not need to be added to that list.

If this so-called war continues, we can expect Boeing plants, such as the one in St. Louis, Missouri, down the street from us in Kansas City, to hit China, and then China may back away from ordering some 7,000 planes that would strengthen and inject over \$1 trillion into our State's economy.

The President is correct, the Chinese do steal U.S. intellectual property and, yes, there is a trade imbalance in this relationship. Nevertheless, even with only one class in economics, I understand clearly that trade wars are not good. No one wins.

President Trump promised to negotiate new and improved trade deals, but his negotiating skills are falling far short and our farmers and ranchers will pay the price. I encourage President Trump to reconsider his shortsighted approach to trade and to offer him my help in finding other solutions to address our problems with China.

#### HONORING HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR FRED HILSENDRATH

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Holocaust Days of Remembrance to recognize a constituent from my district and a Holocaust survivor, Mr. Fred Hilsenrath, of Fairfield Bay, Arkansas.

I was introduced to Fred by the outstanding mayor of Fairfield Bay, Paul Wellenberger. My staff and I had the opportunity to host Fred and his wife, Eleanor, for dinner and listen to their incredible story.

Fred was only 4 years old when Adolph Hitler took over as chancellor of Germany and the Nazi regime initiated his systematic extermination of the Jewish people of Central Europe. In 1940, after Poland had been raided, the Hilsenrath family found themselves stuck between Nazi Germany and Russia. Soon they were assembled in the

town square, along with other Jewish families, to be shipped to concentration camps in Romania. After spending years in the camps throughout Romania, facing death and witnessing some of the most heinous and grotesque atrocities the world has seen, the Hilsenrath family was finally rescued by a Jewish Russian soldier.

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Fred and his family then walked from Romania to France to reunite with their long-separated father. While in France, Mr. Hilsenrath finished high school.

In April of 1949, Fred moved to the United States. He had \$40 to his name and knew no English. He studied electrical engineering at the City College of New York and obtained long careers with well-known companies such as Lockheed Martin, IBM, and Ampex.

After meeting his wife, Fred moved from San Francisco to Fairfield Bay, Arkansas. Here he retired to enjoy the slower pace of life in the Ozarks in The Natural State.

As a man currently in his late eighties, Mr. Hilsenrath has turned his horribly painful childhood memories of the trials he faced and that so many other Jews faced and experienced during the Holocaust into an educational moment.

In a letter he wrote to me, Fred mentioned a lesson that he wants to give to our Arkansas students. He says:

Not only can we use education as a way to rationally think of our Nation's involvement in the future of our country as well as the world, but also to recognize the seed in their own heart; each of the students has a dream, they must find it now, not later, so that they can focus their lives on their future.

Mr. Hilsenrath understands the deep need for education and how it plays a part in our moments of history.

It is an honor for me and my staff not only to have met such an inspirational person, but to also represent him in the people's House.

CONGRATULATING DUSHUN SCARBROUGH ON MARTIN LUTHER KING REMEMBRANCE DAY

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend DuShun Scarbrough, director of the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission, for being awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major Innovation Service Award.

The MLK, Jr. Drum Major Innovation Service award, given to only 20 individuals nationwide, is awarded to volunteers who perform extraordinary everyday acts of service.

DuShun's leadership at the commission has proved to be invaluable toward its mission to promote understanding and acceptance of nonviolence, human equality, and community building among all Arkansans.

Last week, my office was honored to welcome members of the commission, including Arkansas treasure and civil rights icon, Annie Abrams, along with former Wrightsville, Arkansas, Mayor Pat Ward while we commemorated and

mourned the 50th anniversary of Dr. King's assassination. However, we continue to honor Dr. King's vision for our great Nation.

DuShun and the commission continue to remind us of how far we have come and how we need to continue to uphold the legacy of the civil rights movement and embrace Dr. King's teaching of compassion, nonviolence, and democracy.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Mr. Scarbrough and the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission for representing Arkansas on the national stage and for his receiving this important recognition.

He, along with Reverend Jesse Turner, a site coordinator for the National Alliance of Faith and Justice in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, who also received this award, have represented our State with honor and dignity.

I encourage our citizens in Arkansas and across the country to remember the inspiring words of Dr. King and spend time in service to their neighbors and all of our communities.

#### MOMENT OF TRUTH

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

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday morning, the FBI's raid of Donald Trump's personal attorney triggered another Trump meltdown. He ranted that this move, approved by senior Justice Department officials and a Federal court, was an attack on our country and a witch hunt; and, once again, he mused publicly about firing Special Counsel Robert Mueller.

Let's be clear. Firing the special counsel or any chain of firings to interfere with the special counsel's investigation would spark a constitutional crisis and unleash a public uproar like we have never seen. Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM summed it up by saying that it would be the beginning of the end of the Trump Presidency.

The American people deserve answers. What are Trump and his Russia-connected cronies hiding? What are they so afraid of us finding out? The only way we are going to get these answers is by protecting Mueller's investigation and allowing him to do his job.

Now, if President Trump crosses the red line and declares himself above the law, millions of Americans all over this country are ready to take to the streets to defend our democracy and the rule of law.

So, Mr. Trump, whatever you are hiding, you won't get away with it, and we won't let you tear down American democracy in a desperate attempt to hide the truth.

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

Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

#### RUSHING TO WAR

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

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, in the days leading up to the congressional vote on whether to go to war in Iraq years ago, Fortune magazine had an article headlined: "We Win—What Then?" The article said that a prolonged war in Iraq would make American soldiers "sitting ducks for Islamic terrorists."

Another national magazine at that time, U.S. News & World Report, had an article headlined: "Why the Rush to War?" Now that war has been frequently referred to as possibly the greatest foreign policy mistake in U.S. history.

The night before the Iraq war vote, a television station in Knoxville ran a poll showing 74 percent in favor of the war, 9 percent against, and 17 percent undecided. I was one of six Republicans who voted against going to war. For 3 or 4 years, that was certainly the most unpopular vote I ever cast. But slowly, slowly, it ended up being the most popular vote I ever cast.

We were basically conned into that war by a group of neocons, so-called neoconservatives, whom George Will once described as being "magnificently misnamed" because they were really the "most radical people" in this city, meaning Washington.

In addition to our disaster in Iraq, we have now been at war in Afghanistan for 17 years, seemingly permanent, forever wars that have cost us trillions of dollars and caused many thousands of Americans to be killed or maimed. What a waste.

President Reagan once said that we should never go to war unless there were no other reasonable alternatives, and then only as a very last resort.

We have had too many leaders who never went to war themselves, such as the new National Security Advisor, John Bolton, who seem far too eager for others to go to war so these chicken hawks can feel more important or think of themselves as modern-day Winston Churchills.

Now we seem to be rushing into another war in Syria. I am thankful that conservatives like Tucker Carlson and Pat Buchanan are questioning this new rush to war. At some point, with a \$21 trillion national debt, we have to realize there are limits to American power.

Civil wars and really terrible things are happening all over the world—in Africa, in the Middle East, and in other places—all the time. As President Kennedy said at the University of Washington in one of his most famous speeches, with only 4 percent of the world's population, "we cannot right every wrong or reverse each adversity—and that therefore there cannot be an American solution to every world problem."

Most of the time, a military solution is the worst solution. There are many other ways we can help people who

have been harmed: through humanitarian, religious, or charitable organizations, or through the United Nations.

Pat Buchanan wrote that President Trump is being "goaded into war" and that Congress should "debate our objectives in this new war and how many new casualties and years will be required to defeat the coalition of Syria, Russia, Hezbollah, Iran, and the allied Shiite militias from the Near East."

Tucker Carlson said that we need to ask some skeptical questions now, at least in part, because Secretary Mattis said in February that we have absolutely no proof that Assad used the chemical weapons he was accused of using last year. He added that there is no real proof Assad did chemical attacks this time because such an attack would really help only the rebels fighting Assad, and they also have chemical weapons, and they have been described as Islamic terrorists, although we are supporting them. Mr. Carlson pointed out that Assad had every reason or incentive not to use chemical weapons in a civil war his government basically had already won.

President Trump was elected in large part because he promised to get us out of these very unnecessary wars in the Middle East. Almost everything we have done in the Middle East over the last many years has been wrong. There has been fighting going on there for several thousand years. Throughout history, other wars have been started over incidents or information that turned out to be false or greatly exaggerated.

We do not need nor can we afford to get into another trillion-dollar war in the Middle East without first making absolutely certain that it is in America's interest to do so and that it will not make the Middle East even more messed up and chaotic than it already is.

#### VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL AND "THE WALL THAT HEALS" EXHIBIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MAXINE WATERS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the importance that Vietnam war memorials have in our Nation's remembrance and commemoration of Vietnam veterans and their distinguished devotion to duty and country.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is a symbol of honor, recognition, and remembrance of the more than 58,000 military servicemembers who sacrificed their lives or remain missing to this day and the over 8.7 million brave men and women who served over the course of the Vietnam war. More than 5.6 million people visit the memorial each year.

Not long after the memorial opened, it became clear that families across the country, not just those visiting