

House designed to energize Republican voters for primaries and midterms this year to reelect Republican Members of the House and the Senate.

And let's not forget that, while almost 5,000 Puerto Ricans were dying—yes, dying, and are still dying today—your President was giving himself an A-plus and saying there had been no real catastrophe, all while families were telling us of the loved ones they were losing because they didn't have electricity or medicine or a hospital.

So to my Republican colleagues, some of whom I love dearly, please don't you ever come to the well of this House and tell the country that you support family values. Don't you dare. Your time talking about family values is over.

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

#### U.S. MUST TAKE ACTION TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I met with Victor Cuadras and Zayda Hernandez, two young Nicaraguan student leaders who bravely protest the abuses and violence of the Ortega regime.

Knowing that they could face trumped-up charges upon their return to Nicaragua, Victor and Zayda feel a unique sense of responsibility to come here to Washington to advocate for justice and liberty for their homeland.

They represent the voice of the Nicaraguan people, old and new generations, who desire nothing more than a free and democratic country where one can be prosperous and live without fear of repression. What a concept.

And we must listen to their pleas, Mr. Speaker.

Countless Nicaraguans are on the front lines, as you can see on this poster, confronting the brutality of the Ortega regime day after day.

Over 120 Nicaraguans and one U.S. citizen have been killed at the hands of this murderous regime in just the past weeks. Over 1,000 Nicaraguans have been injured, hundreds continue to disappear.

Mr. Speaker, I was on the floor yesterday, and here I am again for the fourth time since the regime's crack-down on the Nicaraguan people began on April 18, because I believe that it is vital—now, more than ever—for the United States to support the people of Nicaragua in its fight to reestablish democratic order. We must let the people know that they are not alone.

Earlier this week, I was joined by Republicans and Democrats, Representatives and Senators, in urging the administration to sanction two of Ortega's many thugs: Francisco Lopez,

head of ALBANISA, for money laundering and corruption; and Francisco Diaz, who leads the National Police, for orchestrating the repression and the killings of Nicaraguans.

But there are so many others who must be sanctioned, including Gustavo Porras, head of the National Assembly; Sonia Castro, Minister of Health; Roberto Lopez, president of the Social Security Institute; and Tirso Celedon, a real estate developer profiting from the Social Security Institute.

Each of these individuals is part of Ortega's inner circle and is responsible for those acts of corruption and human rights violations, all of which have been widely reported.

I urge the administration to not delay any longer and to take swift action to freeze assets, to cancel visas and to sanction to the full extent of our laws those who are responsible for so much corruption and so many murders in Nicaragua.

We have a moral responsibility to lead the way and help bring to justice those responsible for the atrocities that they see happening in that country. We need to send a clear message that the United States is paying attention and that those terrible acts will not go unpunished.

Mr. Speaker, this Chamber has known for a while about how troublesome the Ortega regime is, to say the least, and we have been able to lead on this issue, and I thank my colleagues for that.

In October 2017, this House passed my NICA Act, which seeks to leverage America's influence by conditioning our vote at any of the international financial institutions until Nicaragua takes significant steps to uphold the rule of law and strengthen democratic institutions.

Unfortunately, our colleagues in the Senate have been silent—silent. I urge them to quit stalling and to take meaningful action by finally passing the NICA Act so that we can keep the pressure on that awful regime until democracy, freedom, and prosperity return to beautiful Nicaragua and these young people will be free once again.

#### THANKING SUE SMITH

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, a few years ago, Massachusetts was bracing for a brutal blizzard bringing extreme life-threatening cold. Families were bundling up; schools canceled class; first responders prepared for a long, long night of calls. And one woman, Sue Smith, was opening the doors to Faith Alliance Church in Attleboro to welcome the city's homeless population into her warm embrace.

It was an extraordinary act of compassion and community service. But for Sue, it wasn't. It was just one more day of fiercely protecting her neigh-

bors, one more night of caring for the most vulnerable among us, one more family given a roof over their heads, one more life saved from hypothermia.

A few months after that snowy, freezing night, I was humbled to invite Sue to be my guest to the State of the Union Address.

Sue has never asked for recognition or praise, but few are more deserving than she is. She has never asked for a helping hand when facing her own personal battles.

But this week, I learned that Sue has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. And although I know she would never ask her neighbors to return her immense gratitude, we do have a message for her.

Sue, we are by your side in your fight. We know this cancer won't stop you or even slow you, but we are here with you for whatever you need.

Thank you for being our better angel.

#### PROMOTING COMPUTER SCIENCE AT DUBOIS AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Monday marked the last day of school for students at the DuBois Area Middle School. It was a last day like probably none other.

In addition to celebrating the long-awaited start of summer vacation, the sixth grade students finished off their school year with a special visit from Silicon Valley.

Representatives from Google traveled to Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, to deliver a CS First Roadshow, a computer science education presentation. Google specifically developed this event for fourth through eighth graders.

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Two Google employees delivered the hour-long presentation which focused on teaching students both problem-solving and technical coding skills through a series of interactive activities.

They encouraged kids to develop an interest in computer science education by giving real-life examples of how coding and STEM education can lead to educational opportunities and exciting careers.

Mr. Speaker, the presentation was incredible, and it was clear that the students truly enjoyed it. These are the kinds of skills that students everywhere need to be exposed to at a young age to get them interested in the STEM fields.

I was excited to kick off this event at DuBois Area Middle School. I told the students that technology is constantly changing, and America needs the next generation of computer scientists ready for any opportunities that might come our way.

We need more people in this world who can help build the future or invent

the next big thing. That is why it is extremely important for our students to learn about computer science at an early age. The CS Roadshow helped kids build their own fun stories using Scratch, which is an introductory coding tool.

Our students today are exposed to technology at such an early age, but don't necessarily get to learn about why computer science should be an important part of their lives, both now and in the future. The CS First Roadshow teaches students about the importance of STEM education and uses interactive activities to teach them coding basics.

Hopefully, this experience instilled a newfound passion for computer science in these students, and I think it did just that. I could tell from the joy on their faces and the fun that they were having with their partners that they truly were beginning a journey with computer science.

Mr. Speaker, currently there are more than 500,000 open computing jobs in the United States. In Pennsylvania alone there are more than 17,800 open computing jobs—that is 3.4 times the State average demand rate—and only 2,969 computer science graduates.

By the year 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts there will be 1 million more computer science jobs than graduating students who qualify for the jobs. And only 10 percent of K-12 schools in the United States offer computer science classes, which is a statistic that we must improve.

I look forward to checking back in with the DuBois Area Middle School at the start of the next school year to see how it can expand upon and grow more of an interest in computer science programs for our young learners. After all, they are our future.

#### THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S APPROACH TO TRADE

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the administration's approach to trade and the pain that we are already feeling due to the short-sighted and poorly-considered decisions that have been made.

Since the administration announced its plans in March to use wide-ranging tariffs to address trade imbalances, I have been warning the President and the Nation that this is a wrongheaded approach. So many of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle, I believe, agree.

We all want to see American jobs secure and increase opportunities for our economy; that is without doubt. But raising broadly-defined tariffs will do, I believe, just the opposite. We all know, or at least most of us know, that the most likely effect of raising tariffs will be other countries adjusting their trade measures to protect their economies and their industries and their workers.

Let's realize that, in the global economy that we live in today, most countries have leverage. I hope the President realizes this. And what happens as a result? We have a trade war. That is where we are going, and I have been saying since March, no one, Mr. Speaker, no one wins in a trade war; which is why both Republicans and Democrats have publicly expressed grave concerns with the administration's tariff-based approach to trade.

But beyond the warnings and concerns, Mr. Speaker, we are now feeling the negative impacts of the administration's approach. Without a doubt, our country is beginning to engage in these stages of a trade war.

Tariffs, for example, on California agriculture products are already in place. Forty-four percent of California's agriculture economy, which is the number 1 agricultural State in the Nation, 44 percent of it is based upon international trade. Almonds, wine, pistachios, citrus, all face increased tariffs on exports to China, and that is just the start. It is also taking place in Mexico and Canada.

I met with a California almond processor yesterday who told me that, as a result of these tariffs, the Chinese buyers are staying away from the table. He told me that this time of the year he usually has sold a significant portion of his harvest to Chinese buyers, but because of the uncertainty of these tariffs he hasn't sold a single pound.

Mr. Speaker, the retaliatory tariffs imposed in reaction to this administration's steel and aluminum tariffs are already impacting the California agriculture economy, which, again, 44 percent of it is based upon international trade, and it is hurting our relationships with many of our allies in Europe, as well as our neighbors to the north and to the south.

Yes, there are trade imbalances in the global market we live in, and we should address them. There is bipartisan agreement we should address them. But the way to address these trade imbalances is through successful re-negotiation of NAFTA, negotiating trade agreements with our European and Pacific Rim allies. That is the way to deal with the trade imbalances.

We cannot address trade imbalances or arrive at mutually beneficial agreements through trade wars, plain and simple. What's more, the President and the Congress must work together on trade agreements.

Based upon where we are today, it looks like it will require us in Congress to re-assert our constitutional authority and responsibility to regulate international trade agreements. That is part of our job. This will take hard work, bipartisan negotiations, and serious policy deliberations which, in turn, requires that we overcome our partisan division and come together as America's Congress.

I call on my colleagues today to join me in real negotiations, in real bipartisan work, and in the type of policy

deliberations that our Nation needs and that America deserves. We can do this and we must do this.

Our country currently is being led by this administration into a very real trade war, but it is not too late to stop it, and it is Congress' responsibility, frankly, to say, time out. Let's sit down and work together with our allies in Europe, our neighbors to the north and to the south of us, and in the Pacific Rim, to do what is right, and that is to ensure that we protect American workers, American industries, American agriculture, and, yes, that we don't engage in a trade war that will lead to no good end.

We can fix this trade imbalance, and we should, and we must assert ourselves.

#### RECOGNIZING THE INCREDIBLE CAREER OF GLEN POST

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible career of CenturyLink CEO, Glen Post. Glen is retiring after 42 years with the company. He spent 26 of these years as the CEO, a feat recognized recently by Fortune Magazine, as Glen is one of the longest-serving CEOs in the Nation.

CenturyLink has been an incredible growth company under Glen's leadership, expanding from 3,000 employees to more than 65,000. It is now the third largest communications service provider in the United States, a cornerstone of his legacy.

It is quite a story for a small, rural, family-owned telephone company that started up in the 1930s by Clarke Williams. The company's original principles, fairness, honesty, integrity, commitment to excellence, faith, positive attitude, respect, and perseverance, have remained the guiding goals under Glen's leadership.

Like his company, Glen got his start in north Louisiana. He earned his bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana.

He received the Louisiana Tech College of Business Distinguished Alumni Award in 1991, the Louisiana Tech University Tower Medallion Award in 1997, and the DeGree Enterprises Lifetime Achievement Award in Business in 2003.

In addition to his career achievements, he has provided invaluable advice to the United States Government as a member of the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee. He has also chaired the Communications, Security, Reliability, and Interoperability Council in 2012 and 2013.

As a native of Farmerville, Louisiana, Glen is a north Louisiana duck hunting, country boy at heart.

CenturyLink now operates in 60 countries and sees revenues in the billions of dollars, yet, it remains