

weight if the Trump administration has its way and cuts millions off of SNAP.

That is why I encourage my colleagues in the House and Senate to join me and fight every single attempt this administration makes to wage war on people who are hungry. Working together is the only way we are going to be able to end hunger now.

“APOLLO 11” COMMEMORATION

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

Mr. BABBIN. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago, America achieved the greatest technological accomplishment in human history.

Three men, Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Buzz Aldrin, set off from Cape Canaveral on a voyage that President Kennedy called “the most hazardous, and dangerous, and greatest adventure on which man has ever embarked.”

Four days into their 8-day mission, Neil and Buzz climbed down the ladder of the lunar module and stood on the surface of the Moon; the very first human presence on a celestial body other than Earth; a feat that, to this day, no other country has equaled. And we did it five more times.

Armstrong, Collins, and Aldrin could not have accomplished this alone. *Apollo 11* was the culmination of the hard work of more than 400,000 Americans who, with limited experience, and comparatively primitive technology, committed themselves to accomplish this task and completing President Kennedy’s order of returning the astronauts safely home.

I am so proud to represent Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, and the historic Mission Control of that Apollo era.

On the wall of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee here on Capitol Hill, where I serve as the senior Republican on the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee, is written, from the Bible, Proverbs 29:18, which reads: “Where there is no vision, the people perish.”

The 50th anniversary of the first Moon landing should serve as a reminder of what we, as a Nation, can accomplish when we do have a clear mission.

Six hundred million people from around the world gathered around their grainy television sets to watch those first steps. What is amazing is that this took place only 40 years after Lindbergh first flew across the Atlantic; and only 65 years after two bicycle-making brothers from Dayton, Ohio, achieved powered flight in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

The Apollo program built upon these accomplishments and exponentially pushed our technology forward; and we are on the cusp of doing it again.

President Trump and Vice President PENCE have ensured that we are, again,

pushing outward, and launching America back into its dominant role as the global leader in space. We have our vision. This time, we head to the red planet by way of the Moon, and this time we stay.

NASA Administrator Bridenstine has focused NASA on achieving these goals with the Artemis program, Apollo’s sister, and I will continue to use my position in Congress to advocate for the support needed for NASA to accomplish this very worthwhile effort.

Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of *Apollo 11* this week, I would like to thank all out there who helped us get to the Moon, and all those out there who will get us back to the Moon; and thank them for their tremendous contribution to our country.

I am anxiously looking forward to the next small steps and giant leaps in our space program.

“APOLLO 11” CELEBRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Ms. KENDRA S. HORN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, this week, we celebrate one of the most remarkable moments in human history: The launch of the *Apollo 11* lunar mission, and the first steps on the Moon by American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin. American leadership, ingenuity, and investment made this moment possible 50 years ago.

As the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee chairwoman, I am honored to be joined by my colleagues today to recognize this achievement and talk about what it means, 50 years later. As we commemorate this historic accomplishment, it is clear that we stand on the shoulders of space pioneers, some of whom are still with us today.

Apollo 11 and Armstrong’s first steps on the lunar surface were the culmination of a focused, methodical buildup of the developments, demonstrations, and operational capabilities needed to achieve the Moon landing.

The value of the Apollo program is beyond measure. Its mission inspired and continues to draw countless Americans into science, technology, engineering and math. This program led to significant technological advances and products that changed the world as we know it and benefit our lives today.

Fundamentally, the success of Apollo contributed to our standing in the world. Apollo taught us the value of taking audacious, and yet intentional risks.

I would like to focus, as well, for a moment, on the mission that immediately preceded the Moon landing, *Apollo 10*. This mission, launched 2 months before, was launched to test all of the components and procedures just short of landing. Carrying the lunar module, it came as close as 50,000 feet from the lunar surface before returning safely to Earth.

Retired Air Force General Thomas P. Stafford, an Oklahoman, commanded this essential mission that enabled us to land on the Moon.

General Stafford was born in Weatherford, Oklahoma, and received a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Naval Academy in 1952, graduating with honors. Commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air Force, he completed advanced interceptor training and served tours of duty flying F-86Ds. He then graduated from the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School as the outstanding graduate.

Throughout his career, Stafford flew more than 100 different types of aircraft as he pushed the boundaries of achievement in air and space. Stafford was selected as an astronaut in 1962 and, 3 years later, flew on *Gemini 6* as the first space rendezvous mission, followed by *Gemini 9*.

Later, General Stafford commanded the first international space flight mission, *Apollo-Soyuz*. This peaceful cooperation between two Cold War rivals was the first step in what has become a sustained relationship between the U.S., Russia, and our international partners with the International Space Station.

The last of the Apollo missions, its lasting impacts, reminds us that even in times of warfare and global distress, that space exploration is a unifying force of discovery, peace, cooperation, and diplomacy.

Beyond all his accomplishments, General Stafford has also become a friend and mentor. To General Stafford, and all of those who contributed to the success of Apollo, you inspired a generation and showed the world what is possible when our Nation comes together to focus on an ambitious goal and, in turn, change the world in both foreseeable and unforeseeable ways.

BUILDING ON THE APOLLO LEGACY

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

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to be here today to speak about the 50th anniversary of *Apollo 11*.

I can remember sitting in class with the teacher discussing President John F. Kennedy’s speech about going to the Moon at Rice University in 1961, when he committed this country to putting a man on the Moon and bringing him safely back to Earth within the decade.

He said: Great nations do things, not because they are easy, because they are hard. And it certainly was hard.

I remember doing the math on my fingers and saying, you know, I am going to be old enough to be involved in that program. And my goal became to have my fingerprints on the rocket that took the first man to the Moon. To make a long story short, 5 years later I was an inspector working on the third stage of the Apollo rocket, one of the highlights of my life.

Americans were united in those days in their zeal for space; the Apollo Moon landing being the greatest technological advancement in the history of mankind. Some writers described those times as a Camelot era, where people respected their President, even if they didn't vote for them. Not until 9/11 had I seen Americans as united as they were around the Apollo program.

Space, of course, is important to our national security. It is important to our economic prosperity. It is important to our technological advancement.

I ask people how often they benefit from space, and the response usually averages, 6 percent say they benefit from space once a year; 4 percent say they benefit from space once a month; and only 2 percent say they benefit from space once a week. And we won't even go to once a day.

I guess those people have roosters in the backyard that give them their weather reports. They don't pay any attention to the images we have from the satellites. I guess they don't use cell phones, or use credit cards, or even make cash transactions, because those are all satellite-linked.

Ultimately, space is important to us for the ultimate survival of our species.

Neil deGrasse Tyson lectured our Science, Space, and Technology Committee several years ago on the benefits of space. And while he was here, he gave a lecture for staff and Members over at the Jefferson Building at the Library of Congress; very well-attended and well-taken.

During his presentation, he mentioned that space is the only thing Congress really spends money on to truly benefit the next generation, and I believe that. I believe those are trees that we plant without the expectation of being around to enjoy all the shade.

I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee for helping keep space a bipartisan issue. I hope we can build on the legacy of *Apollo 11* and that, some day, our children and their children can come together and enjoy positive achievements for their generation and generations to follow.

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COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE “APOLLO 11” MOON LANDING

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

Mr. MCADAMS. Mr. Speaker, in the lead-up to the *Apollo 11* Moon landing's 50th anniversary, people across our country, including many from my State, Utah, have been sharing their memories of this historic event and its inspiration in their lives. Some of the lucky ones played a role in helping the space program reach this historic achievement.

Brigham Young University graduate Charlie Bunker remembers watching

from a common room of a boardinghouse in downtown Denver. Charlie's companion was an Amish gentleman who turned to him and asked if he thought the astronauts were really going to land on the Moon. Charlie said, yes, he was sure, because he worked at a place where they made the rockets that helped to get them there.

Charlie was a physicist who remembers, as a 19-year-old, President John F. Kennedy issue his challenge to America to go to the Moon. And after graduating from college and getting married, Charlie landed a job with the Hughes Corporation in Los Angeles for a starting salary of \$8,000 a year. He worked on Surveyor, a NASA-funded program that sent unmanned rockets to the Moon. That work led to being hired by Martin Marietta, a Denver-based aerospace company.

Charlie and his family were living temporarily in the boardinghouse on the historymaking night of the Moon landing. Charlie worked for Martin Marietta for nearly 40 years, including the last few years in Utah.

When the Deseret News asked readers to answer whether they remembered where they were on July 20, 1969, they received hundreds of responses. Several Utahns who were serving in the military wrote in, and one wrote: “I was returning from a night mission over the Ho Chi Min trail in Laos as a pilot of a B-57. I remember it was a clear night with a full Moon, and my navigator and I were listening to the radio broadcast on Armed Forces radio at 30,000 feet. Later, my wife and I had Neil Armstrong to dinner in Paris while I was Air Attaché to France.”

Another wrote: “I was at building No. 9 Manned Spacecraft Center, now called the Johnson Spacecraft Center, in Houston. NASA set up big TV screens and chairs for NASA employees and their friends. I remember the pride and accomplishment of the mission and celebrations from NASA engineers and contractors. I remember it like it was yesterday.”

Apollo 11 and the Moon landing was a jewel in NASA's crown at the time. It set the foundation for many future American achievements in space.

Sixteen years later, Utah Senator Jake Garn became the first sitting Member of Congress to fly in space when he flew aboard the space shuttle *Discovery* as a payload specialist in 1985.

The closest I have gotten to the Moon—to date, anyway—is when, as the mayor of Salt Lake County, I placed the Clark Planetarium Moon rock into the Zions Bank vault for safekeeping. The planetarium was undergoing renovation, and we transferred our precious Moon rock under the watchful eye of law enforcement to its secure and temporary home.

Our planetarium is one of many across the country that benefits from Apollo's legacy and brings science education to life for students in Utah. Those students will soon hopefully be-

come the engineers, the mathematicians, and the explorers who will chart the next five decades of space research and space travel.

Here in Congress, I am proud to sit on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, where we continue our forebearers' legacy of bipartisan investment in our Nation's space program. Apollo inspired a generation of scientists and Americans, and some day soon, my four children may become space travelers themselves when space tourism becomes a reality. They will stand on the shoulders of the thousands of dedicated men and women who dreamed the impossible dream and then made it a reality.

THE PUSH FOR SPACE IS ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL

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

Mr. WALTZ. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago this week, a group of astronauts launched from Kennedy Space Center in Merritt Island, Florida, embarking on a journey of discovery into uncharted territory.

July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong took one small step for man and one giant leap for mankind on the surface of the Moon. Armstrong and fellow astronaut Buzz Aldrin spent 2½ hours collecting samples and taking photographs. Critically and importantly, they left behind an American flag and some of the most famous footprints in history, sealing America's place as the leader of the space renaissance in the international space race.

Our journey to outer space was born out of a desire to discover, but that wasn't the only reason we went to the Moon. We also went to the Moon to compete with Russia, specifically regarding protecting our Nation's security. That competition still exists today, but it is even more serious now because of our economic and our military dependency on space and because, in addition to Russia, we now have China explicitly stating its intent to surpass America as the leader in space.

Russia and China have made it clear their intention is not just to explore space, but to prepare themselves for conflict. Russia and China both know that they will never be able to take us on tank to tank, carrier to carrier, plane to plane, so they have decided in their national security strategy to take us out in space if we ever have to come to blows.

This is why I fully support the creation of the space force. This is why space has now been declared a warfighting domain. And if we don't prepare ourselves, our very way of life will be at significant risk.

Our banking, our financial institutions, our global logistics, our telecommunications systems all depend on space. So the 21st century space race is on, and America must lead, and this is why the push for space resources and funding today is absolutely critical.