

the people of Puerto Rico. Last week, HUD put out a surprise notice claiming that the shutdown is preventing them from proceeding with disaster recovery efforts, funds Congress allocated on a bipartisan basis almost a year ago. Yet HUD's very own contingency plans dictate that shutdowns, under no circumstances, should affect disaster-related operations.

I fear that Secretary Carson is playing politics with the shutdown and the people of Puerto Rico, putting the island's recovery at risk.

Mr. Speaker, this shutdown must end. The President's shameful insistence on a border wall is harming our workers and families. Everything, from the food we eat to counterterrorism, to travel safety, is impacted by the Trump shutdown. And now HUD is threatening to inflict greater pain on those who have survived natural disasters. That is unacceptable.

Mr. President, the American people implore you: Stop holding Federal workers and other Americans hostage. Stop threatening parts of our Nation that are recovering from natural disaster. Don't put people's lives at risk. Do your job. Reopen government, and get back to work.

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

HONORING THE SERVICE OF FORMER GOVERNOR NATHAN DEAL

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an individual and honor an individual who was a Member of this body for many, many years from the State of Georgia, and he just ended his term as Governor for the last 8 years, Nathan Deal.

I saw yesterday, as I was looking through some pictures on social media, there was a picture that showed, as it should properly show when you think of Nathan Deal, him leaving the capitol for the last time, arm in arm with his beloved Sandra. That is the way they have governed for the last 8 years.

Nathan Deal has brought a sense of accomplishment; he has brought a sense of pride. Not only did he do that up here in the Halls of Congress where he served us ably and was on the Energy and Commerce Committee and took the interests of Georgia to heart in everything that he did, when he went back to Georgia, though, and became our Governor, I believe he hit his stride that has brought Georgia so far in the last 8 years.

When he first got there, I was in the State legislature, and I was honored that I was part of his team as the Governor's floor leader.

At that time, our rainy day fund was basically nonexistent. It is now over \$2 billion.

At that time, we had a fledgling beginning industry in films and motion pictures that has now become the envy, literally, of the world and one of the top places in all of the world to make blockbuster films.

He has taken an aging infrastructure and transportation plan and, now, has given hope to that transportation plan in Georgia.

But also, when I came here to Congress, and last Congress, we were able to work on criminal justice reform with this President and this administration. But in many ways, it would not have happened up here if it had not been for Governor Nathan Deal.

When he went to Georgia, he began to look at our criminal justice system. He began to look at how we were treating those who needed a second chance, who needed the hope that was provided in a system that was not providing what it needed to.

Nathan Deal took a stand, and Georgia has become an international leader in how we deal with our criminal justice system and how we take care of those individuals. We have seen crime rates decrease; we have seen families put back together; we have seen a better Georgia.

Personally, I have known Governor Deal for almost 35, 40 years. I played basketball with his son. He and Sandra and my mom and dad would actually work in the concession stands together at North Hall High School many years ago.

That is Nathan Deal. He has never been afraid to do the hard work, to not take the claim or the glory, but he just got the job done. As Governor, he raised civil discourse in Georgia. He made people think, and he made our State better.

So, yesterday, as I saw the picture of Governor Deal and Sandra arm in arm, I could not help but think how this man has touched so many lives, including my own, with phone calls, with encouragement to be a better person, and also, in our case, to be a better State.

Georgia has been honored to have Nathan Deal as Governor for the last 8 years. We are looking forward to a new administration with Brian Kemp, but I will have to say, those are big shoes to fill.

Governor Deal, you did us proud.

RECOGNIZING CAROL MARTIN, GAINESVILLE CHIEF OF POLICE

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Carol Martin, Chief of Police of the City of Gainesville. Chief Martin is retiring on January 31, 2019, after protecting and serving our city for over 32 years.

First joining the Gainesville Police Department in January 1987 as a patrol officer, Chief Martin has dedicated her life to public safety. She has advanced through the ranks of investigator, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and major, until August of 2014, when she made history as the very first female chief of police for the city of Gainesville.

Chief Martin's career in law enforcement has been marked with excellence.

In 1997, she was recognized by the Gainesville Elks Lodge as Police Chief of the Year; and in 2003 and 2007, the Gainesville Kiwanis Club presented her with the John W. Jacobs, Sr., Memorial Award for her excellence in law enforcement.

She is an active member of the International and Georgia Associations of Chiefs of Police and serves as a board member on the Gainesville Rape Response and the Georgia Law Enforcement State Certification Program.

Her résumé is superseded only by her character. For over three decades, Chief Martin has made great sacrifices to serve and protect our communities. As the son of a Georgia State trooper, I understand firsthand the dangers that our law enforcement officers face each and every day. Chief Martin has continually put her life on the line so that the people of Gainesville do not have to fear for their own.

I want to congratulate Chief Carol Martin on her retirement. But most of all, I want to thank her for her dedicated life of service to the rule of law and protecting the people of northeast Georgia and for being a dear friend of mine.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ALFRED NEWMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. O'HALLERAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Navajo code talker Alfred Newman, who passed away this week.

Mr. Newman was one of the last surviving members of the Navajo code talkers, a group of brave Navajo marines who used their native language to create unbreakable codes that were used in the Pacific during World War II.

He served our Nation with honor, from Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima. He was recently honored with other code talkers at a White House ceremony and was awarded the Congressional Silver Medal for his service in 2001.

Mr. Speaker, Alfred Newman was a hero. He and his fellow code talkers saved the lives of countless troops with their unbreakable codes, and they deserve our respect and honor every day.

My prayers are with Alfred's family and loved ones and the entire Navajo Nation as they mourn the passing of this hero and celebrate his life.

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HONORING MILTON BLUEHOUSE, SR.

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to hear of the passing of former Navajo Nation President Milton Bluehouse, Sr.

Raised in a traditional Navajo lifestyle, President Bluehouse graduated from Ganado Mission School and served in the United States Army for 3 years.

Throughout his life, he represented the interests of his community on the

Tribal Council before serving as president for a short time.

He had many ambitious plans to assist at-risk youth, create good-paying jobs, and expand programs to improve safety in Tribal communities.

President Bluehouse will always be remembered for his commitment to the Navajo people and for ensuring the Federal Government upheld its obligations to the Tribe.

My prayers are with his family and loved ones and the entire Navajo Nation as they mourn his passing and celebrate his life.

IT IS TIME TO OPEN UP GOVERNMENT

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, it is time to open up government. We can no longer think that we are not having an impact on our economy. We can no longer think that the safety of Americans who fly in our skies or eat the food in America is not at risk. We can no longer imagine that the millions of families who are being impacted are not suffering.

It is time. This is the greatest Nation on Earth. It is the only one in my entire lifetime that I have seen that has closed down government. Our counties don't do it; our States don't do it; our cities don't do it. But the greatest Nation on Earth can find a way to close down government?

This should never, ever happen in our country. We should never put our citizens through this. We have the money to pay the staff. We have to find ways to get out of this problem and never let it happen again.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL WISNER

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a Franklin High School graduate from Venango County on earning a prestigious fellowship.

Michael Wisner, who graduated from Franklin High School in 2015 and is expected to graduate from Princeton University in June, has been awarded the Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellowship following a nationwide contest.

The fellowship is funded by the U.S. Department of State and administered by Howard University right here in Washington.

The Rangel Graduate Fellowship is a program that aims to attract and prepare outstanding young people for careers in the Foreign Service, where they can help formulate, represent, and implement U.S. foreign policy.

The Rangel program selects outstanding fellows annually in a highly competitive nationwide process and supports them through 2 years of graduate study, internships, mentoring, and professional development activities.

Michael is completing certificates at Princeton in African studies, history

and the practice of diplomacy, and Latin American studies.

He spent a summer abroad in Greece and a semester abroad in Argentina, where he worked as an English as a second language instructor. Since 2016, he has taught English as a second language at the resource center of Catholic Charities in New Jersey.

Impressively, he also worked with Engineers Without Borders to design and install a water system in Peru. As part of the project, he co-led a 12-person team to author a Spanish language water system manual for community use.

During his time at Franklin High School, Michael was committed to academics, sports, and community activities. He was named salutatorian of his class. He played football and was captain of the team. He was also a wrestler and attained the rank of Eagle Scout with Boy Scouts of America.

Michael is the son of Tom and Nancy Wisner of Polk, Pennsylvania, in Venango County.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for American men and women who are committed to serving this country at home and abroad. I have no doubt that Michael will excel in his fellowship and help promote positive change globally. I congratulate Michael Wisner on this outstanding achievement, and I wish him the best as he pursues this opportunity.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the stories of hardworking Granite Staters who are feeling the pain of this shutdown on its 26th day.

Middle-class families in New Hampshire are suffering because politicians in Washington can't complete the most basic task of governing. They are fed up with the gridlock and endless delays. They are exhausted by the partisan political excuses. They just want us to do our jobs and reopen the Federal Government.

This weekend, I met with an air traffic controller from Derry. He told me that his coworkers are not going to be able to pay their mortgages and keep up with household bills if the shutdown goes on any longer. He explained that they are intensely proud of the service they provide to the American people and simply want to do their jobs and get paid on time. Is that really too much to ask?

Mr. Speaker, let's reopen our government for the sake of every Federal employee who works tirelessly to keep the traveling public safe.

Two fire departments in my district, in Goffstown and Hampton, have applied for SAFER grants through FEMA. They needed the process to begin in December in order to get approval at town meetings in March. The

shutdown has blocked the review of these applications.

Mr. Speaker, let's reopen our government so local fire departments and first responders can get the resources they need to protect our communities.

The spiraling effects of this shutdown are becoming more apparent each and every day. The Manchester Transit Authority is concerned about whether they will be able to keep buses running, since they haven't been able to draw on Federal funds since December.

In addition, crisis centers in New Hampshire haven't been able to access the funding they typically receive from the Office of Violence Against Women to assist survivors of sexual and domestic violence. That is completely unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, let's reopen our government so people can get to work on time and local organizations can continue to support victims of crime and abuse.

The President says this shutdown is necessary to protect the American people, yet every story I hear in my district demonstrates this shutdown is making us less safe. The longer our government remains closed, the less secure our country will be.

Mr. Speaker, this shutdown has shown us the worst of Washington, the dysfunction and the political gamesmanship that has no regard for people's lives. But it is also bringing out the very best of people in my State, their sense of decency and patriotism, their willingness to lend a helping hand to neighbors in need.

Granite Staters have been banding together to help Federal workers in a variety of ways, from offering no-interest loans to offering food donations. The Wood Island Life Saving Station Association is giving gift cards to Coast Guard personnel in Portsmouth to help them make ends meet while they work without pay.

People in our communities are coming together to support everyday Americans who are the victims of this shutdown, so why can't our leaders in Washington do the same?

To my colleagues from across the aisle, to our colleagues in the Senate: End this shutdown now. Let's move forward with the people's business. We need to reopen the government, and we need to do it before this bad situation gets any worse.

SUPPORTING EGYPTIAN COPTIC CHRISTIANS

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

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on National Religious Freedom Day to announce that I am reintroducing my resolution in the House in support of the Coptic Christians in Egypt.

I sponsored a nearly identical resolution last Congress, and I truly appreciate the support I received from more than 50 of my House colleagues who co-sponsored that resolution.