

1979, going on to serve as head pastor of St. Salvator Lutheran Church in Venedy, Illinois, St. Peter Lutheran Church in New Memphis, Illinois, and at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Collinsville, Illinois. These church communities are so beloved by the Meyers that they continue to worship at all three parishes to this day.

It was also at Holy Cross Lutheran that I, and my wife Karen, came to know Dr. Meyer and his family. Our lives have been intertwined, to say the least: Diane sold us our first home; I taught the oldest of two daughters, Elizabeth, civics at Metro East Lutheran High School and ran the first of many 5k races to come with his youngest daughter, Katie; my own children played music in their daughter's wedding; my wife Karen served as the head organist at Holy Cross with Dale; and so on.

Dr. Meyer moved on from Holy Cross in 1989 after being selected to serve as Speaker on The Lutheran Hour radio program at Lutheran Hour Ministries. The Lutheran Hour is the world's oldest continually broadcast Gospel radio program, first airing in 1930. Dr. Meyer also hosted the national television show *On Main Street* for Lutheran Hour Ministries. In 2001, *On Main Street* episodes received two prestigious Emmy awards from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences St. Louis/Mid-America Chapter. During this time, he took part in some of his favorite "milk man moments," including opening both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives in prayer.

In addition to his published writings, Dr. Meyer served in numerous leadership capacities—such as third vice-president of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; a charter board member of the Association of Lutheran Older Adults; an Honorary Director of God's Word to the Nations Bible Society; and as a Board of Trustee of the American Bible Society.

Dr. Meyer finally returned home to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 2001, serving as the Gregg H. Benidt Memorial Chair in Homiletics and Literature. He became interim president in 2004, and the 10th president of the institution in 2005. For the next fifteen years, he could be seen working on the campus grounds, attending Bach at the Sem, and strolling with Ferdie, the oversized-in-body-and-heart golden retriever that became a quasi-mascot on campus and, sadly, recently passed away.

Dr. Meyer likes to tell students that: "It is great time to be the church." As the world suffers greatly from the pandemic, we are grateful for his efforts to raise public servants to serve all who are hurting, and to share the Gospel loud and clear for all to hear.

As Dr. Meyer begins this beautiful journey of retirement, he will enjoy more time with his two grown daughters, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Pittman and Katie (Catharine) Bailey, their spouses, Darren and Charles, and the five grandsons that he refers to as *Cinco de Meyer*: Christian, Connor and Nicholas Pittman, and Andrew and Jacob Bailey.

Madam Speaker, I want to personally thank Dr. Meyer and his wife Diane for their ministry.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCER ASSISTANCE FOR COVID-19 DAMAGES ACT

HON. JIM HAGEDORN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today because America's livestock industry is in crisis.

Across southern Minnesota and in many areas of our nation, pork producers are especially in trouble. Packing plant closures and disruptions and other reverberations associated with COVID-19 and the pause in our economy have depressed futures markets and made it impossible to process hogs. Many of our producers are being forced to destroy animals and not even use the meat for our food supply.

To mitigate production losses incurred by our pork producers, this week I introduced the "Livestock Producer Assistance for COVID-19 Damages Act." My legislation is designed to augment the United States Department of Agriculture's existing Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm Raised Catfish program to cover income losses for farmers and producers who have been unable to market livestock due to packing plant closures or reduced operations beginning on April 19, 2020.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, our livestock farmers in southern Minnesota and throughout the nation have been pushed to the brink of insolvency. This represents a direct threat to our nation's food supply and the vibrancy of the economy and our rural communities.

During this pause in our economy, restaurants have been largely shut down, which has caused reduced demand and dramatically lower futures markets for pork, beef and other cuts of meat. On top of that, we have had packing plant disruptions and closures that have created an environment where market ready hogs cannot even be processed and distributed into the food chain.

Because the pork industry uses an in-time delivery system, hogs cannot be stored or pastured like other traditional crops and animals. Until meat packing plants return fully online, many pork producers are left with no place to market their hogs, leaving euthanasia, rendering or composting as some of the only options for handling potentially millions of pigs.

The outlook is especially challenging for independent farmers who own and raise their own livestock. In the past few months, hog prices plunged 26 percent, further compounding challenges for livestock producers to develop additional options for selling their hogs.

In Minnesota, our farmers make huge contributions to the state's economy. According to a study by the University of Minnesota, current disruptions in the pork supply chain, coupled with the current 15 percent unemployment rate, could result in an estimated loss of \$660 million in economic activity in our state.

The researchers also concluded that a 15 percent drop in hog production would lead to an estimated loss of 2,100 jobs.

Because pork and livestock producers are suffering huge losses, financial and otherwise, and through no fault of their own, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join

me in supporting this bill. We must stand with our family farmers, and in so doing defend the interests of our economy, rural communities and America's food supply.

RECOGNIZING ANTHONY D. GIAMPETRO

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anthony D. Giampetro, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on June 9, 2020.

Mr. Giampetro served proudly with the U.S. Army Air Force for three and a half years during World War II. He was a Ground Crew Mechanic, working on single engine fighter aircraft. At various times, he was based in England, Tunisia, Algeria, Sicily, and mainland Italy.

After his military service, Tony became a principal in the accounting firm of Reali, Giampetro, and Scott. He has long since retired, but to this day, he still performs accounting and tax service for some of his long-term clients. He is also retired from volunteering with Trumbull County Mobile Meals.

Tony was married to his beloved wife Rosemary, from November 28, 1946, until her death on October 18, 1994. They have one daughter, Annette, who is married to Robert Meek. Tony has two grandsons and two great grandchildren.

Tony lives in Youngstown but has been an active member of the Rotary Club of Girard-Liberty for 37 years. It is my honor to wish Mr. Giampetro the happiest of birthdays and thank him for his dedicated service to our country and community.

RECOGNIZING NAILING IT FOR AMERICA IN HONOR OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to recognize Nailing It For America and their mission, "Operation: Nailing It for Health Care Workers," to support the shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) by coordinating and distributing to frontline workers. The Nailing It Team has donated hundreds of thousands of PPE to various hospitals and healthcare clinics from the beginning of California's stay at home order.

Through collaborative efforts, the Nailing It team, consisting of leaders from Advance Beauty College, Whale Spa, Studio 18 Nail Bar, with other nail salon owners and others, rallied the community to donate their PPE supplies. In the first ten days of combining their efforts, their team collected 120,000 face masks and more than 300,000 gloves that were delivered to healthcare workers in 40 hospitals and medical clinics. Additionally, the Nailing It team's efforts has encouraged more than 15 restaurant owners to join their initiative to deliver freshly prepared, packaged meals to healthcare workers.

Orange County is home to a vibrant Vietnamese community, which I am proud to represent. An estimated eighty percent of nail salon businesses in California are owned by Vietnamese proprietors, who had to close their doors due to the pandemic. Many owners and manicurists face day-to-day struggles as they try to keep their businesses afloat while providing for their families.

Despite facing financial hardships and day-to-day challenges of this pandemic, the Nailing It team has embodied the spirit of kindness and compassion through these times. I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Nailing It for America team in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

ZACHARY McMILLAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Zachary McMillan for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Zachary McMillan is a 12th grader at Bollman Technical Education Center/Legacy High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Zachary McMillan is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Zachary McMillan for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC DAY OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 102nd anniversary of Azerbaijan's Republic Day. On this day in 1918, Azerbaijan emerged from autocracy to establish a Parliamentary Republic. Today, it shines as an example of freedom in a region of the world historically plagued in the darkness of repression and inequality.

Republic Day honors the declaration of independence from the Russian Empire. While the rise of the Soviet Union would undermine its sovereignty once again within two years, the achievements in state building Azerbaijan made in those two years are a testament to the abilities of a free Azeri people.

In 1991, Azerbaijan emerged once again, seizing the opportunity presented to them, declaring its right to govern itself and live free. This symbolic emergence ensured the world that this was a continuation on the freedom

and progress assembled between 1918 and 1920.

Since then, our nations have worked strongly together to promote energy security, increase bilateral trade and investment, and counter terrorism and transnational threats. It has been my great honor to aid in the maintenance of strong ties between our nations, and I look forward to furthering our cooperation to continue to bring peace, security, and stability to the region.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Republic of Azerbaijan and its people for its proud history in the pursuit of freedom and its commitment to developing solutions to modern problems. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this day and wish another century of strength and prosperity on Azerbaijan.

PANDEMIC HEROES COMPENSATION ACT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary and on Homeland Security, and founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Coronavirus Taskforce, I rise in strong support of the Pandemic Heroes Compensation Act, a bill that would create a compensation fund for all essential workers and personnel who have been injured or impacted by COVID-19.

Modeled after the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, the fund would provide compensation for injuries to any individual, or the families, across all essential industries who were deemed an essential worker and required to leave their homes to perform their services and became ill or died as a result of COVID-19.

Every day we learn more about the unprecedented impact that the COVID-19 virus has had on American lives across the nation.

To date, there are more than 1,676,401 confirmed cases, over 98,000 dead, including 54,509 cases and 1,506 deaths in my home state of Texas, and 10,921 cases and 221 deaths in Harris County.

On top of that, by taking the necessary measures to slow the pandemic and 'flatten the curve' so as not to overwhelm the nation's health care system, economic activity in the United States has experienced a severe shock to the system.

More than 40 million initial unemployment claims in the past month alone.

In addition, on March 23, 2020, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) dipped to 18,321.62, which is even lower than it was on Election Night 2016, and far below the 19,827 mark where it stood on January 20, 2017.

In other words, Madam Speaker, all the gains that were made to the stock market and heralded by this Administration as evidence of its genius have been wiped out, depleting the retirement savings and 401(k) funds of millions of ordinary Americans.

We will overcome this crisis and become better and stronger for it.

But we must never forget who waged the battle to contain the pandemic, risking their lives and livelihoods on the frontline.

Courageous first responders, transit workers, brave healthcare workers, fearless gro-

cery store clerks and delivery workers, as well as many other federal, state, local and tribal employees who have been deemed essential workers.

These workers are risking their health and safety to continue to provide essential services to their communities and our families.

As recently as April 2020, the Center for Disease Control reported that over 9,200 health care professionals have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and 27 have died from the virus.

Research shows that essential workers often work in low-wage positions that require risky face-to-face interactions without adequate protection; they are disproportionately African American or Hispanic.

They are most at risk of illness during the COVID-19 pandemic, but in many cases, least able to afford the financial setback that can result from any interruption in work.

When a loved one becomes ill on the job, the cost of healthcare and lost wages can create additional burden on families.

Madam Speaker, we have a moral and patriotic obligation to stand behind them and their families by ensuring their financial stability.

Now, more than ever, our essential workers need help and I urge all Members to join me in voting to pass the Pandemic Heroes Compensation Act.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF GWEN KANIA, PRESIDENT OF THE TIOGA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the retirement of Gwen Kania, President of the Tioga County Chamber of Commerce.

Gwen came to the Chamber in May of 2008 as the Director of Operations and in January of 2014, she became the President and CEO of the Tioga County Chamber of Commerce. During her time with the Chamber, Gwen put into action a Computer Management System that streamlined processes. She also organized Career Day and the Tioga County Job Fair. For three years, she administered the On The Job Training Grant from the New York State Department of Labor.

Gwen was also in the public eye, facilitating the Chamber's traditional events and ribbon cuttings, providing service to the community. One highlight Gwen enjoyed most in recent times was the Chamber's Centennial Celebration and Gala in 2019. For several years, Gwen was also the Leadership Tioga Program Manager and Facilitator.

The Tioga County Chamber of Commerce will greatly miss Gwen and her efforts there have not gone unnoticed. However, her retirement is well deserved. I thank Gwen for all she has done during her time at the Chamber.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to congratulate Gwen on her retirement and her twelve years of invaluable service to the Tioga County Chamber of Commerce and dedication to improving the Tioga County community.