

Because of the many remedies proposed, the one that stands out the most is that of increasing the fund for fair housing testing, to do exactly what they did with this report, to go into various venues and test and acquire this empirical evidence.

Nobody wants to see this happen, but we cannot stop it by simply talking about it. We have to have an action, and the action item is testing.

I will be saying more about this later on this week because there is legislation right here pending in this House that we can bring to the floor of this House, pass, and we can prevent this kind of behavior from taking place because, when we acquire the empirical evidence, we can then confront those who do this. We can also educate them, and we can pass on a legacy to future generations of success in ending invidious discrimination.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National Future Farmers of America Week. Without question, the hardworking men and women in the field of agriculture serve as the backbone of our Nation.

Since its founding in 1917, the Future Farmers of America has prepared the next generation of chemists, veterinarians, entrepreneurs, and premier agriculture professionals. These individuals will go on to solve the world's challenge of providing resources to growing populations.

In North Carolina, the Future Farmers of America continues to grow. Last year, it had over 20,000 members, and its 321 chapters contributed more than 1 million service hours across the State. When you see these young people in their dark blue jackets with the gold trim, you are seeing leaders and patriots.

By learning to do, doing to learn, earning to live, and living to serve, the Future Farmers of America ensure that our Nation's agricultural future remains bright.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not address imprudent comments about our Nation's farmers that were recently brought to light. At an Oxford University event in 2016, Michael Bloomberg offered commentary that was truly unsettling. He said: "I could teach anybody, even people in this room, to be a farmer. It's a process. You dig a hole; you put a seed in; you put dirt on top, add water, and up comes the corn."

When you write off America's farmers, you write off the lifeblood of our country. To show you the impact of our farmers, we will look at the facts in just a moment.

Contrary to the idea, as Michael Bloomberg said, that farming is so sim-

ple, the truth is that farmers must be among the most intelligent, innovative, and creative people in the world. They face challenges every day that threaten their survival.

Now, let's look at the facts:

Annually, one U.S. farm will feed 166 people in the U.S. and abroad;

In 2018, \$139 billion of American agricultural products were exported around the world;

Ninety-eight percent of U.S. farms are operated by hardworking families; and

About 11 percent of U.S. farmers are serving or have served in the military, compared to only 2 percent of the general public, showing that American farmers are very patriotic.

These facts speak for themselves. The work of American farmers goes far beyond Michael Bloomberg's claim of simply digging holes, planting seeds, and adding water.

I am proud to represent over 7,000 farms and over 11,000 agricultural producers in the Fifth District of North Carolina. Collectively, they generate over \$1 billion every year and represent almost 10 percent of North Carolina's agriculture sales.

Recently, Alleghany County honored some of its farmers, young and old, and to hear of their efforts and dedication would inspire anyone. I commend and thank our farmers and our future agricultural leaders for their unwavering commitment to our families, communities, and to our country.

THON, THE LARGEST STUDENT-RUN PHILANTHROPIC EFFORT IN THE WORLD

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 recognize and thank Penn State students who have spent the last year dedicating countless hours to support a fantastic cause benefiting pediatric cancer patients. I am talking about THON.

This yearlong fundraising effort culminates in an annual 46-hour dance marathon to financially and emotionally support more than 4,500 families with children who are battling cancer.

THON was founded in 1973 by Penn State fraternities and sororities. What began as a small fundraiser bringing in \$2,000 in its inaugural year has flourished into a campus-wide effort with more than 16,000 student volunteers across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

This year, Penn State students raised \$11.7 million, and, to date, students have shattered records and raised nearly \$180 million, making THON the largest student-run philanthropic effort in the world.

Of course, their dedication is to be applauded, but ask any Penn State student and they agree: THON isn't about them; it is about the children and the families fighting cancer.

Over the years, THON has supported more than 4,000 families with a child battling pediatric cancer. Patients are treated at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center, and because of THON, many of these families never receive a medical bill.

THON is for the kids, and it is for the families to focus on celebrating more birthdays, piano recitals, science fairs, graduations, and every other milestone that a child should celebrate without fear. THON exists so that one day parents never have to hear the words, "Your child has cancer."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of these students; but, more importantly, I am proud of the children and the families who have the courage to fight back against pediatric cancer.

CONGRESS MUST MAKE LYNCHING A FEDERAL HATE CRIME

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

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 35, the Emmett Till Antilynching Act, we will be voting on later this afternoon. I am pleased to see the House take steps in finally addressing this issue.

Like many, despite our Nation's ugly history of lynchings, I was shocked to learn that there was no law making lynching a Federal hate crime.

My home in Omaha area is not unlike many other towns across the country with a gruesome past of lynching. George Smith was murdered in October 1891, and this past fall marked the 100th anniversary of the murder of Will Brown on the steps of the Douglas County Courthouse during the Red Summer. The hands of lawless and angry mobs in Omaha beat and lynched these men in what can only be characterized as racial terrorism.

We cannot simply wash away the past, but in order for our Nation to heal from past racial injustice, Congress must specify criminal penalties for the crime of lynching or conspiracy to commit lynching.

With at least 5,000 lynchings in our Nation's history, this bill is important as an acknowledgement that this evil did occur, that millions felt fear in their homes and communities, that many feared for their lives, the lives of their dads and their sons, and that this formal acknowledgement will help facilitate reconciliation.

□ 1015

Last year, I was approached by local African American community leaders to look into antilynching legislation. I felt that the language from Senator HARRIS' bill that passed with overwhelming bipartisan support in the Senate was the right one to support here in the House. This is how we are going to pass a bill and get it signed by the President of the United States. It is because of these reasons that I was honored to introduce the Senate-passed language in the House.

The bill we are voting on today contains the language of my bill that I introduced 8 months ago verbatim. I do not complain because in the end, I want results. We want results. We are closer than we have ever been in making lynching a Federal crime. The action is long overdue, going back 200 attempts since 1918, and today we are going to make history once and for all on this issue.

It has been my privilege to be an advocate on this issue. I applaud Senator HARRIS and Congressman RUSH who have championed this bill for years. We will finally get this bill to the President's desk to be signed into law in order to close one of the ugliest chapters in America's history once and for all.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF BILL MEUTH

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

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish Caldwell County resident Bill Meuth a happy 100th birthday.

Mr. Meuth served as an Army medic in World War II. He stormed the beaches at Normandy on D-day, fighting with the Allies in the name of freedom. Prior to the war, he had quit school at an early age to help care for his father who was sick, representing the ethos of a generation who understood that commitment to family and country sometimes comes at a personal cost.

After the war, he worked in the oil fields instilling a strong work ethic in his family.

In 1943, Mr. Meuth married his sweetheart, Lucy, and they remained married for 72 years until Miss Lucy passed away in 2015.

Together they had four children, 14 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

We in south Texas are incredibly thankful for his sacrifice at such a critical time in our history and for the cause of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I wish a happy birthday to Mr. Meuth, and may God bless him.

CONGRATULATING NATHAN TUDOR

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nathan Tudor for receiving the Texas Hospital Association Pioneer Award. Each year this award is given to rural hospital administrators or a CEO who demonstrates creative and innovative leadership within the organization and community.

This year the award was given to one of El Campo's very own. Mr. Tudor came on board as the CEO of El Campo Memorial Hospital in January of 2017.

Since Mr. Tudor has been on the team, the emergency department has expanded by 11 beds, three new campus-care clinics have been opened within the community, five walk-in clinics have been added, and new physicians have been recruited.

El Campo has directly benefited from the expansion of services but so have the surrounding communities.

We are thankful for Mr. Tudor and those working with him at the El Campo Hospital for their efforts in improving and expanding healthcare services for the El Campo area.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 18 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. UNDERWOOD) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Dear Lord, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We use this moment to be reminded of Your presence and to tap the resources needed by the Members of this people's House to do their work as well as it can be done.

Send, O God, Your healing grace upon those torn nations and upon the Members of this assembly who struggle to see the shared hope for a better future in those with whom they disagree.

For many Americans, the holy season of Lent begins tomorrow, and foreheads are marked this day in recognition of our limits as men and women and as a reminder of Your power to forgive and heal the harms done through our failures.

All this day, and through the week, may our representatives do their best to find solutions to pressing issues facing our Nation. Please hasten the day when justice and love shall dwell in the hearts of all peoples and rule the affairs of the nations of Earth.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HIGGINS of New York led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND J. EDWARD NASH

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today as we celebrate Black History Month and adopt antilynching legislation to recognize civil rights trailblazer Reverend J. Edward Nash.

The son of slaves, Reverend Nash served as pastor of the Michigan Street Baptist Church in Buffalo, New York, which opened its doors up as a meeting place for abolitionists and antilynching activists and as a stop on the Underground Railroad.

Last week, I visited the Nash House, a site on the National Register of Historic Places and a testament to his work as part of our national story. Our gracious hosts, former Buffalo Council President George K. Arthur and Sharon Jordan Holley, shared with me their vision, enthusiasm, and dedication to Nash, his home, and his legacy.

Among his papers are notes from the 1939 Urban League meeting benediction in which he applauds those working to "free us from the shackles that hold us in the bondage of narrowness, selfishness, and prejudice."

Let us heed the advice of Reverend Nash.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate National FFA week. FFA is a national leader in agricultural education, inspiring our Nation's young people to pursue careers that help support a robust rural economy.

Agriculture is the backbone of Pennsylvania's economy. It is rooted in American heritage, and our Nation's producers provide us the food, the fiber, the building materials, and the energy that we all depend upon.

By committing to FFA, young men and women are helping shape the science, technology, and business of agriculture. Every time I see a distinctive blue FFA jacket, I am reminded of the strong character and impressive leadership abilities that come along with it.

FFA leaders have gone on to become Ivy League graduates, Federal court