

□ 0915

During the pandemic, the Stanley Marketplace team has gone above and beyond to support its community of small business owners, helping them weather the continued challenges of COVID-19.

Stanley Marketplace is guided by a document they call the Stanifesto, which includes these lines:

We believe the best rules are simple and clear: Love your neighbor. Leave each place better than you found it. Be good and do good.

I congratulate the Stanley team on their ongoing work to support our neighbors and locally owned small businesses.

HONORING THE TIRELESS WORKERS IN COLORADO DURING THE 2020 CENSUS

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the accomplishments of organizations in my district that have worked tirelessly to promote and ensure their communities are counted in the 2020 Census.

With over 800,000 citizens and 160 languages spoken in my district, making sure that every single resident is counted is difficult work. With the help of many hardworking organizations, Colorado's Sixth District has a self-response rate of 76.5 percent, surpassing its 2010 rate and surpassing the State average of 69.5 percent. In fact, it holds the highest response rate of any Colorado congressional district.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the following 11 organizations for their help in spreading awareness: Together We Count, the Asian Pacific Development Center, the Oromo Community of Colorado, The ARC of Aurora, the Aurora Economic Opportunity Coalition, the Mosaic Church of Aurora, the African Chamber of Commerce in Colorado, the Village Exchange Center, the City of Aurora, Arapahoe County, and Mi Pueblo Market.

These organizations truly make a difference in my district for their tireless work in the 2020 Census.

HONORING MARY HODGE ON HER RETIREMENT

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the accomplishments of Mrs. Mary Hodge, a former State legislator and current Adams County commissioner, and congratulate her on her upcoming retirement.

Commissioner Hodge is a Colorado native, who has dedicated her career to making an impact in her home State. Mary, among many things, is a former State representative in the Sixth District of Colorado and a county commissioner. Mary has also taught first grade in Greeley and preschool in Glenwood Springs.

Mary went on to own and operate a motel in Wyoming and worked for several businesses. Her public service began in 2000, when she was elected as a Colorado State representative.

As a servant leader, Commissioner Hodge is a tireless champion for education and small businesses. I com-

mend Mary for her support for the Colorado Air and Space Port. Her steadfast advocacy was integral in bringing that project to fruition.

Commissioner Hodge's diverse professional background and leadership experience has benefited our community for many years.

I congratulate Commissioner Mary Hodge on her retirement and thank her for her service to our community and to Adams County.

ESSENTIAL MEDICAL INNOVATION AND MANUFACTURING MUST COME HOME TO AMERICA

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, in 2020, America is facing significant threats to our health, to our values, and to our national security. The Chinese Communist Party has attempted to exert control over every facet of America's economy and industry, and even our health and safety.

The coronavirus has exposed that much of America's medical supply chain, as it currently stands, runs directly through China. This should concern every American. Why would we trust a regime that lies about a pandemic to control our access to healthcare?

As a physician, I have long been concerned about the Chinese Communist Government's near monopoly on the manufacturing of generic medicines. And that threat doesn't stop there. We cannot allow the Chinese Communist Party to control our access to prescription drugs and the vital materials that are used in healthcare equipment, not to mention PPE.

For the sake of American patients and our national security, we must correct course and return the essential medical innovation and manufacturing home to America and away from this hostile regime.

For months, the China Task Force has been working to identify realistic and achievable solutions to secure our medical supply chain and ensure that Americans are never beholden to the Chinese Communist Party for our medicines and for our healthcare equipment. We are taking a comprehensive approach to end America's reliance on China and bring jobs home to America.

Our supply chain challenges extend beyond the healthcare regime. From technology to manufacturing, too many materials that we rely on every day are sourced from China.

Earlier this year, I introduced legislation that seeks to end America's dependence on China for rare earth elements and other critical minerals—these are essential, and they are used in the manufacturing of medical supplies, defense technology, and high-tech products—by establishing a supply chain for these materials here in the

United States. It is important for our survival into the upcoming technology advancements that our country is so dependent on. It also requires the Department of Defense to source these materials from America.

Pennsylvania, my home, is home to a dedicated and highly skilled workforce, and I am working on a plan to incentivize companies to bring their research, the development, and the production of materials back home.

As President Trump said earlier this month: "We want to build factories in Baltimore, not Beijing. We want to make our products in Chicago, not Shanghai." And, I might add, we want to make medicines in Chambersburg, not China.

Mr. Speaker, this is the fight of our lives, and we have a real opportunity to make a difference. There is nothing partisan about securing America's place as a leader in the 21st century. There is nothing partisan about bringing jobs home to America. There is nothing partisan about combating a hostile regime's overreach into American lives.

This is not about Republicans or Democrats; this is about Americans. I urge my colleagues from across the political spectrum to get behind our commonsense solutions to counter the Chinese Communist Party and protect our Nation.

It is simple. We must secure our supply chains. We must defeat China in the race to the next-generation technology. We must prepare Americans to succeed in the years to come.

From strengthening our supply chains and bringing jobs home to America and to our allies, countering Chinese interference in our educational institutions, we must take action. We must continue fighting to defend the American people and equip America to lead the way in the 21st century.

As I have said before on this floor, this is the fight of our lifetime, and it is one that we certainly can win.

HONORING HEALTHCARE HEROES

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to stand here today and recognize a handful of remarkable individuals from my congressional district for their exceptional contributions to the health and safety of communities across southeast Texas since the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus.

I have seen people come together like never before to help and support each other throughout this unprecedented time. People from all walks of life and from different backgrounds and ideologies have put their own needs aside to respond to the crisis at hand without hesitation.

Today I wish to personally honor and say thank you to our frontline healthcare workers. You have selflessly put yourselves in the path of the virus

in order to protect the rest of us, and you are true American heroes.

To the doctors, nurses, technicians, EMTs, pharmacists, home health aides, and everyone else who supports patient care, from the bottom of my heart, thank you. You have gone above and beyond. Your dedication, courage, and strength deserve our most profound admiration and gratitude. Your service to your community has impacted and saved countless lives.

It would take days for me to appropriately honor each and every person who deserves special recognition. Unfortunately, I have limited time today, so I want to highlight just a few of these heroes.

From my neck of the woods in Tyler County, Texas, I want to thank Carrie Holland Evans, a registered nurse who was infected with COVID-19 in the line of duty. Since her recovery, Carrie has participated in virology studies and has donated convalescent plasma to save lives.

I want to recognize Dr. Qamar Arfeen, who delivers home health and hospice care across southeast Texas and is the head of the COVID-19 unit at Baptist Hospital, for all of his work with convalescent plasma.

From Houston Methodist in Baytown, I want to mention four brave and resilient registered nurses: Jennifer Vera, LaDuska James, Dorothy Terry, and Jon Ann Watson. Your contributions to the hospital and dedication to patient care were simply awe inspiring.

Also, from Houston Methodist in Baytown, I want to thank Gina Cotter, who collaborated across disciplines to educate and upskill nurses to provide respiratory care, while also serving as a frontline respiratory therapist.

From Houston Methodist in Clear Lake, I want to thank Dr. Omar Acres, Dr. Nina Zatikyan, and Dr. Arthur Lim, who all cared for many infected patients. I also want to recognize three registered nurses—Stephanie Dockter, Diana Freyberger, and Nicole Herrick—who all volunteered to care exclusively for COVID-19 patients so their other staff members would not have to.

I want to acknowledge the largest hospital system in southeast Texas, Memorial Hermann Health System, which has been on the front lines of the region's response to the pandemic. Memorial Hermann's more than 6,000 physicians, 8,000 nurses, and hundreds of case managers and social workers have been caring for patients and their families in one of the country's most significant hot spots. They risk their lives every day to care for our community and have worked tirelessly to slow the spread of this disease.

And, finally, I want to mention a handful of heroes from CHI St. Luke's. Thank you to Dr. Lou Hamer, a pulmonologist who closed his outpatient practice and instead fully dedicated his services to supporting the needs of COVID patients.

Thank you Dr. Monte Orahoad for working day and night since the pan-

demic started and for your clinical oversight, which has undoubtedly resulted in successful patient outcomes.

Dr. George Rodriguez, thank you for providing clinical guidance and leadership on patient care and protocol development.

And I thank Dr. Zaher Shebib, who has consulted on every single COVID-19 patient case for St. Luke's.

Also from St. Luke's, allow me to highlight lab director, Charlie Combs, who is described by his colleagues as an unsung hero, as well as Chelsea Pavlowich, Christina Andrews, Sarah Hill, Candace Fernandez, Jason Case, Nidia Johnson, Cole Morse, Cassie Fire, and Lisa Agler, who are all superhero nurses and whose commitment to patients supersedes any fear of this dangerous virus.

And to the thousands of healthcare workers who, due to time constraints were not mentioned today, please know this: You are the heroes of this unprecedented time.

This country and your Congressman will forever be grateful. May God bless each and every one of you, and may we see an end to this global pandemic very soon.

God bless you.

DAIRY UPDATES

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday, September 27, was National Chocolate Milk Day.

Chocolate milk is adored by millions of Americans nationwide and is a favorite among children. Seventy percent of the milk children consume is flavored, with chocolate being the most popular flavor. Chocolate milk is low in fat, high in nutrients, and packed with flavor.

Milk consumption, Mr. Speaker, has been declining, however, and when the National School Lunch Program removed the most popular and nutritious option from schools to only serve fat-free milk, the numbers continued to drop. As a result of these detrimental policies, we have lost nearly a generation of milk drinkers, and those milk drinkers have lost access to the best nutrition.

This detrimental policy was partially reversed when the USDA made a decision to once again allow 1 percent flavored milk back into school lunches, and I am grateful to Secretary Sonny Perdue for his leadership on the issue.

To build on this momentum, I introduced the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act last year to once again allow whole milk, both flavored and unflavored, to be offered within the program because children can greatly benefit from the essential nutrients whole milk provides.

Taking that one step further, I joined my colleague FRED KELLER to intro-

duce the GIVE MILK Act last month. The GIVE MILK Act, Mr. Speaker, gives families who use the WIC program, or Women, Infants, and Children program, more control over the nutrition of their children by making 2 percent and whole milk available through the WIC program to any child over the age of 2.

□ 0930

Currently, WIC participants are limited to low-fat or nonfat milk, meaning they are missing all the nutrition that comes from that milk fat.

This legislation will give families who depend on WIC more options when considering nutritional options for their children. It will also help increase milk consumption, which is a win for our dairy farmers.

I talked about this legislation, among other things, when I had the pleasure of joining the folks at the National Milk Producers Federation last week on their new podcast, "Dairy Defined". We covered a lot of ground, including the importance that milk plays in our diets and how coronavirus has impacted the dairy industry.

Safety net programs like the Dairy Margin Coverage program, coupled with the coronavirus relief efforts, have helped ease the burden somewhat on our producers, but times remain tough. We must continue to spread the word about these critical safety net programs so our Nation's dairy producers, those farm families, can take full advantage of all the tools at their disposal.

If there has been one positive thing that has come out of this pandemic, it is that we have seen more families returning to the dining room table, Mr. Speaker. Milk consumption has seen an uptick in the past few months and more and more Americans are benefiting from the essential nutrients that whole milk provides.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close by thanking the hardworking men and women who have the 24/7, 365-day-a-year job of running our dairy farms. Thank you for working tirelessly to ensure that we have access to delicious, nutritious, and top-quality milk.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 11 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 31 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1100

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 11 a.m.

PRAYER

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