

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 Orahood 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:

God of the universe, Father to us all, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

During these few days before the House breaks for the final weeks of the campaign, send us Your spirit of peace. Inspire the Members to complete their charge to promote the common good of our Nation. Comfort those who continue to suffer from the coronavirus, and protect those who labor still to treat the disease and bring an effective vaccine to the world.

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

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CLINE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE MUST BE FIXED

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, in the era of COVID-19, people are reliant on the United States Postal Service more than ever, a beloved American institution built on trust, reliability, and durability.

During the Presidential elections of 1864, 156 years ago, during the end of the Civil War, soldiers were mailed ballots, and they voted and returned those ballots via the United States Postal Service. There was no fraud.

Sadly and unbelievably, the United States Postal Service is being sabotaged from within. The Trump Postmaster has removed and destroyed 671 sorting machines nationally, including 5 of 20 from Buffalo. I inspected the Buffalo facility on September 9 and found priority mail delayed for more than a month—or longer.

The dedicated postal workers at the Buffalo facility report that the situation has worsened in the past few days. Mail is sitting on the floor. Five of 20 mail sorters were removed or destroyed.

Today I am calling on the Nation's Postmaster to fix and to restore all mail sorters to the Buffalo facility.

Our postal workers and letter carriers do great work for the American people. This administration needs to get out of the way and allow them to do their job, their good and honest public service.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SUICIDE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark National Suicide Awareness Month.

Unfortunately, Montanans are all too familiar with the epidemic of suicide. As we have faced this ongoing public health and economic crisis, the demand for mental health services has grown.

In Gallatin County, my home, crisis response therapists have experienced a higher volume of calls. Each month they receive more calls than the last from people needing help. Centers throughout Montana are seeing similar increases.

To confront the greater demand for services and to help people in crisis, we must ensure access to necessary resources are available. One crucial resource is the national suicide hotline.

I am grateful to my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, for working with me to designate 988 as the hotline's number. I am proud of that bipartisan accomplishment.

Let's continue to provide these critical resources for those who need them the most and support them through their darkest hours.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF MADELEINE BRENNAN

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

Mr. ROSE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Ms. Madeleine Brennan, a legend in Dyker Heights and a testament to the idea that great schools begin with great leaders.

For 50 years, Madeleine served as the principal of Dyker Heights Intermediate School, making her the longest serving principal in New York City history and perhaps the entire country.

She loved her job so much that even when her pension and 401(k) meant that she could make more money in retirement, she kept on working. That passion inspired many of her students to not only become teachers themselves, but to return to Dyker Heights Intermediate School to work on her staff.

Ms. Brennan passed away this past April, but her legacy lives on in the thousands of lives she influenced over the years. She will be dearly missed.

CONGRATULATING NICOLE BERG

(Mr. NEWHOUSE asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, some may say that I am biased, but I firmly believe that Washington State is home to the best farmers in the world. Today I rise to congratulate one of those incredible farmers, my fellow Washingtonian, Nicole Berg, for her appointment to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation board of directors.

Nicole's experience as a fourth-generation farmer in central Washington has provided her with a strong, yet personal, understanding of the needs of family-run farms in the United States.

For many years, I have seen Nicole's passion for putting food on America's table. Her work with the National Association of Wheat Growers has been of immense benefit to the region and to the world. And there is no doubt in my mind that she will be a great asset to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

I wish Nicole the very best as she enters this new chapter. Her appointment to the FCIC board of directors is well deserved, and I congratulate her on this fantastic achievement.

HONORING AMERICANS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES TO COVID-19

(Ms. MCCOLLUM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the over 200,000 Americans who have lost their lives to COVID-19 and the over 7 million people who have been infected.

The pandemic has put great stress on our communities and wreaked havoc on our economy. Millions of Americans have lost their jobs and, with it, their health insurance.

During the pandemic, common sense would say we should strengthen our national healthcare system. President Trump and the congressional Republicans continue their assault on the Affordable Care Act, urging the courts to strike the law down.

The House has passed 340 bipartisan health bills. The Senate refuses to take them up.

The President signs executive orders that do nothing. They do not protect people with preexisting conditions or cover preventative medicine. The ACA does.

The President claims to have a healthcare plan to replace the ACA, but he only intends to release it after the election.

This is no way to govern. It is time to end the political stunts, to work across the aisle, and to get serious about the health of the American people.

SUPREME COURT FIGHT IS ABOUT LIFE AND DEATH

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