

benefits run out, their economic impact payments have long since been spent, they have got rent due, they have got utility bills due. They want to go back to work, but the fact of the matter is, we are still not there yet where we can have a sustained economic recovery.

Mr. Speaker, I plead with my colleagues on the other side, who, again, have whip notices going out to oppose any Heroes 2.0 or anything like it, to please just think about the success that we did back in March when we passed the CARES package, which to this day is still providing some benefit. Those new rapid tests that the President announced a couple of days ago, which is a wonderful development, was paid for by the CARES Act, but we need more.

And Jerome Powell has warned us repeatedly since May that the CARES Act was a great achievement by Congress, but we need to have more fiscal stimulus until we get past this pandemic.

Again, the clock is now ticking.

And, again, Mr. Speaker, for the sake of all of us and our fellow citizens, please let's come together and get a COVID relief bill passed this week.

RECOGNIZING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

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

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in November, thousands of marines will graduate from Marine Corps Infantry Training Battalion. These brave men and women will go on to serve and protect the United States and our allies across the world.

One such marine is Rece T. Rader from Winston-Salem. His mother, Angela, recently wrote to me about his graduation from boot camp at Parris Island and his subsequent move to Camp Geiger.

In her letter, she spoke passionately about how COVID-19 has made it incredibly hard for military families to celebrate alongside their loved ones who have completed their program requirements.

Her story applies to so many families, and it highlights the importance of recognizing the many accomplishments of these airmen, marines, soldiers, sailors, and guardsmen.

COVID-19 has disrupted the lives of all Americans in many ways.

It is, however, very unfortunate that COVID-19 has deprived the service-members of the physical and moral support that comes with the attendance of their families at graduation ceremonies.

To all servicemembers who are currently preparing for duty: We are incredibly proud of you. Your hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed, and you serve as the role models that young people look to for inspiration.

Today and every day, we should celebrate your accomplishments and the strides you continue to make.

Though we may not be able to congratulate you all in person, please know we will always celebrate you no matter how close or how far away you may be.

May God bless you, your families, and the United States of America.

LIFE IS WINNING

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, life is winning.

Recently, a great new book by Marjorie Dannenfelser, President of the Susan B. Anthony List, has been published that is entitled, "Life Is Winning."

Currently, I am halfway through the book, but can wholeheartedly recommend it to anyone who is interested in learning about the fight for life in our country and to learn more about the role of elected officials in this fight.

Many people, publicly known and unknown, have been working diligently to preserve what our Declaration of Independence says we are guaranteed: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Mr. Speaker, without question, life is the fundamental component to liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Marjorie, all the staff at Susan B. Anthony, the staff at National Right to Life, and the wonderful people at the State and local levels who pray diligently and work every day to promote the culture of life, which we know is supported by a majority of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I thank President Trump and Vice-President PENCE for their steadfast support of life. They understand that life must be protected and fought for at every turn.

CONTRACT DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, today we have been asked to wear white to honor Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She represents the tremendous struggle and fight for women's equality.

In the Virgin Islands, today, October 1, is formally known as Contract Day. It honors and celebrates four women, our four queens, that led the St. Croix Labor Rebellion of 1878, also known to us as Fireburn.

After slaves in the Danish West Indies organized, fought, and took their freedom from chattel slavery in 1848, a new type of slavery was formed in a labor bill in the following year to regulate the conditions of the now free workers.

The law stipulated a day wage, and confined workers to one plantation each year that could only change on Contract Day, October 1.

Former slaves worked on the same plantations as before, with little to no

improvement in their living conditions, healthcare, education, income, and their movement was restricted. I am sure many of my African-American brothers and sisters recall this happening in the United States after the Civil War.

The newly freed workers found that the low wages and new restrictions made living impossible. It was freedom in name only.

These conditions, along with the inability to vote, to participate in any aspect of the Danish Government at the time, created an incredibly untenable life.

Before October 1 of 1878, rumors circulated that the law was going to improve. When the workers realized on October 1 that those rumors were false, the frustration and anger from the past 30 years of unfair treatment and harsh labor practices after obtaining freedom ignited a protest that led to a rebellion in Frederiksted on the Island of St. Croix.

That rebellion, that uprising, was led by four women, our Virgin Island Queens: Mary Thomas, Mathilda Macbean, Susanna "Bottom Belly" Abrahamson, and Axeline "Queen Agnes" Salomon demanded all plantations improve workers' wages and repeal the Labor Act of 1849 that kept workers in serf-like conditions. More than half of the city of Frederiksted burned, along with the estates, the plantations across the western and northern part of the island.

The Danish Crown jailed about 400 and executed more than 100 people. Women were burned at the stake after molasses was poured on them, but their heroic and sacrificial acts, like those who earned our freedom 30 years prior, inspired change.

My ancestors, men and women, were willing not only to fight, but to die for the cause of equality and the dignity of a living wage and fair working conditions.

That fight, of course, continues today, not just for Virgin Islanders, but for indigenous people throughout our Nation and territories.

October is part of Indigenous Peoples Day, honoring the centuries-long struggle of people against the horrors of genocide, colonialism, imperialism, and the present conditions of unfair labor laws, discrimination, and unequal voting rights.

From Carib Indians fighting off Columbus on the island of Ay Ay—what is now the island of St. Croix in the Virgin Islands, the first place of armed resistance to Columbus in the New World—to the four queens, as I mentioned, of Fireburn; D. Hamilton Jackson, honored in November, fighting the Danish Crown for freedom of speech, people on my island and all over the world continue to demand and fight for freedom, equality, and fairness.

Much like the atmosphere of the Danish West Indies, our Nation is in a tumultuous but necessary time of change.

Let us heed that change. Let us do it peacefully, organized, with leaders.

The attention drawn to practices of systemic racism and police brutality against people of color has sparked a collective worldwide cry for justice, not just in this country, but governments around the world.

Protests, removal of statues of oppressors of people of color are taking place in this Nation and throughout the world.

What will this body do? What will this Congress do? How long will this Congress, this body, be part of the inequality of 4 million people living in the territories? Telling us, as I hear often from my colleagues, "It is so unfair. I wish it were different." But not doing anything to change those laws, the systemic laws that were written over 100 years ago that makes it so continually without end for us.

I pray that the spirit of those queens charge me with renewed conviction to keep pushing.

I pray that there is no Fireburn here, but what comes must come.

**THREE PIECES OF GOOD NEWS,
ONE PIECE OF BAD NEWS**

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, normally, or frequently, people use this microphone to give negative news, and I would like to lead off with three little positive stories that I don't think have been in the news enough, and then we will talk about a story—I don't know if it is true or not—but we are going to ask for a committee hearing.

First of all, I was at a committee about 10 days ago in which we had a hearing on Afghanistan. So many of us back home have heard stories, attended funerals of people, people frequently in the National Guard, who have died fighting in Afghanistan.

We have now gone 7 months without any combat deaths in Afghanistan. I don't think that story has been told enough. I am kind of really surprised it hasn't been told a lot during this campaign season, but it hasn't.

So let's celebrate the fact that we have gone 7 months, hard to believe, without a combat casualty in Afghanistan.

Now, the second piece of good news. I was talking to the head of the border patrol, and it was not long ago, about 15, 16 months ago, when 90,000 people a month were apprehended at the southern border and allowed in the United States, frequently given a hearing, an asylum hearing. But they were allowed in the United States, frequently lost track of, and people who we weren't appropriately vetting becoming a permanent part of our American fabric.

□ 0945

In the last month, in part due to three different things—a negotiation

that President Trump had with Mexico, where when we apprehend people, we send them back to Mexico, pending the asylum hearing; secondly, negotiations with Central America, where people walking through Central America headed to the United States are kept in Central America; and third, a directive that if people try to come into this country because of fears of COVID-19, they are also immediately turned around and led back—we now have gone from about 90,000 people to under 2,000, as a matter of fact, he told me under 1,000 people a month being let in this country who are apprehended or talked to by the Border Patrol.

There are still people who sneak across the border who are not apprehended by the Border Patrol. But among these people who they touch, we have gone from 90,000 to under 1,000. That is good news, and I am surprised how many people, even on the floor of this institution, do not know what an improvement we have had at the border.

The third piece of good news I am going to give a tip of the hat to, when I drove in 2 weeks ago, I took an Uber from the airport. I talked to the Uber driver, who not only was driving for Uber, but he also had a job, I believe he told me, with CVS, and he was living the American Dream.

When I asked him what was great about America, he said anybody can make it in America, the land of opportunity.

Here you have an Afghan Uber driver. He wasn't of European heritage. I don't believe he was Christian. I don't believe in the family growing up he could speak English. But despite all these disadvantages, he is living the American Dream—and it wasn't rocket science—driving an Uber, working at CVS.

I hope we remember him as other Congressmen, for whatever political reason, want to tear down America and say you can't make it in America. I will tell you, if that Afghan Uber driver can make it in America and live the American Dream, anybody can live the American Dream.

But now I would like to ask for a hearing because I had some, perhaps, bad news back home. I talked to a woman who had two children. One is \$30,000 in debt, one is \$40,000 in debt, from taking out student loans. She told me that she felt that if she and her husband weren't married, there would have been government programs, and her children wouldn't be so in debt.

She has raised good kids. Those kids are going to pay off their loans, even if they were discriminated against because their parents were married, or not.

But it occurred to me, at a time when so much of the rhetoric in this institution is about discrimination, we ought to have a hearing on the Education and Labor Committee: Is it really true that we have government programs out here penalizing people for getting married?

I would ask, again, that my wonderful chairman of the Education and Labor Committee have a hearing on this topic. We can find out whether it is the official policy of the United States, when determining government grants helping people go through school, that we discriminate against children of married couples. And they have to delay having children, delay buying a house, as they have to pay off their student loans.

So I would like to have a hearing. I hope what my constituent told me is not true, that it is the official policy of the United States Government to discriminate against people who decide to get married. But I am afraid it might be, and that is why I would like to have a hearing.

**RECOGNIZING SERVICE OF CAROL
BRICK-TURIN**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the remarkable career of Carol Brick-Turin.

After 12 years, Ms. Brick-Turin is retiring as the executive director of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation's Jewish Community Relations Council.

Carol originally moved to Washington, D.C., to join the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where she worked on public policy issues for more than a decade. A graduate of Cornell University with a bachelor of science degree in agricultural economics, she was recruited to join the Foreign Agricultural Service and served as a diplomat in Brussels, Belgium, in the U.S. Mission to the European Community.

She was the first married female to serve as an agricultural attaché in the history of the FAS.

Carol attended the Foreign Service Institute, completed a study program taught by faculty of the Jewish Theological Seminary, and attended the University of Tel Aviv in 1973, both before and after the Yom Kippur War.

Having raised her children as Zionists, she now has three grandchildren who were born in Jerusalem, in addition to her two granddaughters in Miami.

As the JCRC's executive director, Carol has adroitly mobilized and energized Miami's Jewish community on many levels. She has led our citizen activists in building relationships with Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, key to the success of the pro-Israel movement and the national agenda supported by the Jewish Council for Public Affairs.

We have worked together to address a multitude of issues facing our community, from the surge of anti-Semitism and senseless gun violence plaguing our schools and places of worship to ensuring we maintain our strong U.S.-Israel relationship.