

engagement, accessibility, and visibility I have had with my constituents. I was able to bring back over \$367 million to the district for our schools, job creation programs, fire departments, resources to combat homelessness, and COVID-19 relief.

Our district office recovered over \$550,000 for constituents through casework and helped 419 constituents resolve their Federal issues, from Social Security to Medicare benefits to immigration casework and Veterans Affairs healthcare. We have responded to over 119,000 constituent letters and participated in over 250 community events. I hosted 30 townhalls over the past 2 years.

At the start of this pandemic, my team swiftly changed their operations to respond to every concern and question that came through, working tirelessly day and night to help the 39th District get through this pandemic. Their commitment and dedication to public service knows no limit. We raised the bar significantly and set the standard of what representation should look like for the 39th District. We delivered, because anything less would have been unacceptable.

From California to Washington, D.C., I listened to constituents, worked across the aisle, and turned problems into legislative action. I voted to protect the Affordable Care Act, preserve protections for preexisting conditions, and lower the price of prescription drug costs.

I also helped secure House passage of H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks bill, to bring us closer to ending this gun violence epidemic and keeping our communities safe. For the first time in over 25 years, the CDC received funding to research gun safety, a significant step for our country.

As a Navy veteran and member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I have worked across party lines to improve access to benefits for our veterans. We got the blue water Navy bill passed and signed into law to help our veterans, like my father, who was exposed to Agent Orange during the Vietnam war. Just recently, my bipartisan bill to prevent veteran suicide and substance use problems was signed into law within a larger landmark veterans' mental healthcare bill.

I am proud of the work I was able to do on the Armed Services Committee to protect our servicemembers and their families. I am proud of the work I have done to diversify our officer corps, protect military children from child abuse, and fight sexual harassment and assault in our military.

In the House, we have also passed legislation to protect our Dreamers, lift the SALT cap, support small businesses, and strengthen voting rights, which is what the American people want. But the work must continue to help those things become law.

There is so much more that needs to be done. It has become abundantly clear that partisan gridlock is pre-

venting Congress and the Federal Government from doing its job.

What I am most proud of is when this House came together to get things done for the American people. We came together to pass great bipartisan legislation like the blue water Navy bill. At the beginning of this pandemic, we came together as a House, a Congress, and as a government to pass legislation that was beneficial to the American people and businesses. That type of collaboration is what the American people want to see, and it is what they should expect.

We are still in the middle of this pandemic, and families, workers, and businesses are being left behind, and this legislative body must come together again to prevent that from happening. In the end, we must remember and never forget that we are here to serve the American people.

As I conclude, I just want to take this opportunity to say thank you. No one ever does anything alone, so I want to thank my wife, Jacki, and my boys, Alexander and Christopher, for their love and support.

I want to thank my staff in D.C. and in the district. I can't tell you how many times I was told by so many people how responsive and wonderful they all were to work with.

From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank the people of the 39th District for allowing me to serve as their Representative.

Those who know me know that I am a big baseball fan and a big Dodger fan. One of my favorite baseball players, the legendary Jackie Robinson, once said: "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

I do not know what the future holds for me, but I can assure you this, Mr. Speaker: I will continue to work to have a positive impact on others' lives for both my community and my country.

POSTMASTER ROBERT BROWN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of S. 4684, the House version of which will be coming to the floor today to honor former Thermopolis, Wyoming, Postmaster Robert Brown. We will be renaming the U.S. Post Office located at 440 Arapahoe Street in Thermopolis as the Robert L. Brown Post Office.

Bob Brown's career with the Postal Service spanned 44 years, including 18 years as the postmaster. Brown and his wife, Jerry, who was Senator MIKE ENZI's first Sunday school teacher, are also the parents of Senator JOHN BARRASSO's wife, Bobbi.

After graduating from Thermopolis High School, Brown was inducted into the Army in 1944 and served in both the European and Pacific theaters. In 1950, when he was in the National Guard, Brown deployed to Korea, where he was

a member of the 300th Armored Field Artillery Battalion. Along with a unit citation, he received a combat infantry badge and the Purple Heart.

After his service, Bob returned to Thermopolis and began working at the post office. Decades of service to his community, to his State, and to his country mean that it is absolutely fitting that the Thermopolis Post Office should bear Bob's name, and I am proud to sponsor this legislation.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE BIRTHDAY OF J. T. JOHNSON

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

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the belated birthday of my uncle, civil rights organizer J. T. Johnson. He served in civil rights. He was one of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s lieutenants, hailed from Albany, Georgia, and integrated St. Augustine swimming pool accommodations. In fact, he had acid poured on him in the swimming pool.

So we are thankful for you, Uncle J.T.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the birthday today of my brother, Colby Hall.

COVID-19

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the public health pandemic that ravages our Nation.

As COVID-19 cases and deaths continue to rise, I believe that our country is at an inflection point in which our actions and ability to provide relief to struggling Americans will define our commitment to the American people for generations to come.

As the Member of Congress tasked with looking after the seat that the late Representative John Lewis held for over 33 years, I know that he would want me to speak up and speak loudly about the need for Congress to pass a comprehensive stimulus bill in response to this unprecedented pandemic.

Having survived COVID-19 myself after dealing with it for over 3 weeks this summer, I am committed to doing everything I can to ensure that we crush this virus and provide for the American people.

Like John Lewis once said: "Governments and corporations do not live. They have no power, no capacity in and of themselves. They are given life and derive all their authority from their ability to assist, benefit, and transform the lives of the people they touch."

As the struggle mounts for the people in Georgia's Fifth Congressional District, it is clear to me that the Congress of the United States must act, and act swiftly. The latest report shows that, by the end of this year, without additional relief from the Federal Government, one in six Americans will go hungry, 20 million renters could face eviction, and small businesses, which are already being disproportionately impacted, will continue to suffer.

I know that the late Representative John Lewis would have taken every opportunity to use his voice and speak up for those who would not have food on their table if not for food banks. I know that he would have taken every opportunity to speak up for those at risk of losing the roof over their head, and I know that he would have taken every opportunity to speak up for the small and minority-owned businesses which cannot survive without help.

Just last week, it was reported that the Atlanta businesses that have managed to remain open are only making it by the slimmest of margins. Many of these struggling small and minority-owned businesses have never, even before the pandemic, had the access to the capital they need.

They need a pivot. The loans from the Paycheck Protection Program would certainly help them, and additional funds for this program must be included in any stimulus plan moving forward.

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As the pandemic continues to impact communities in my district and across the country, I cannot help but urge my new colleagues to step up and take meaningful action. We cannot, and must not, leave the American people to deal with this virus alone. It is in the spirit of the Honorable John Lewis, our North Star and guiding light, that I say we must not leave Congress until we ensure that help is on the way.

Mr. Speaker, struggling Americans deserve better.

CONGRATULATING MYRNA BALLARD

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Myrna Ballard on her retirement from serving as Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce president after 23 years.

Myrna has been a pillar to Valdosta and Lowndes throughout her time serving in the chamber because of her work in economic development, infrastructure building, and supporting pro-business legislation. Thanks to her diligent and consistent efforts, the chamber has continuously received the 5-star accreditation by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

The accreditation program defines standards of excellence in chamber planning and performance, and shows chambers how they can reach and maintain these standards. It also recognizes folks like Myrna who have helped set high standards for chamber members and staff to contribute to the good of their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Myrna the best as she begins her retirement. Congratulations again.

HONORING MEG HEAP

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chatham County District Attorney Meg Heap.

Since she was elected DA in 2012, Meg has fought hard to secure justice, prevent crimes, and improve our community. Her lifelong passion for working with victims of crime and senior citizens helped pave her way to law school at Mercer University. A Savannah native, Meg's career and time as DA was marked by her love for Chatham County and its people, which is why she worked so hard to establish the many new programs and innovations to improve the district attorney's office.

Some of the many programs she started include the Youth Intercept for at-risk youth and the Pretrial Diversion for youthful, non-violent first offenders. Meg also helped establish the Chatham County Family Justice Center to assist special victims find the services they need in just one space.

I am thankful for Meg's many years of hard work, as Chatham is truly a better place because of her.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DANIEL ZEIGLER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Mr. Daniel Zeigler of Savannah, Georgia, who, sadly, passed away on December 4 at the young age of 33.

Daniel was a graduate of the South University School of Pharmacy and worked as a pharmacist at Medicap Pharmacy. One of his greatest joys was taking care of his pharmacy patients, and he did it with unmatched kindness and intentionality.

Daniel loved the Lord and attended services at Compassion Christian Church's Henderson Campus. Like his father, he also had a passion for cars and was an avid member of various organizations. Daniel was the youngest member of the Oglethorpe Driving Club, and cofounded the successful Cars and Coffee, which was a group for car lovers across Savannah.

He dedicated much of his joy and much of his time every December to helping out with the Toys for Tots toy drive, which benefits kids in need.

Mr. Speaker, my prayers, Amy's prayers, and all of the friends at Carter's Pharmacy's prayers go out to all the lives that Daniel touched, including his patients, his family, his parents, Donna and Jay, his brother, Jason, and all of his friends who were blessed to know him.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE COLLIN C. PETERSON

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our colleague and my good friend, chairman of the Agricultural Committee, COLLIN PETERSON.

Mr. Speaker, Chairman PETERSON has served 30 years as a Member of Congress; so long that there was another Congressman PANETTA serving in this body when COLLIN was elected back in 1990. Fortunately, over that long time came experience and wisdom that Chairman PETERSON was more than

happy to use and share to help other Members of Congress, to serve his constituents in Minnesota's 7th Congressional District, and to further our Nation's agriculture. One thing that I have learned and one thing that Chairman PETERSON will always tell us is that more needs to be done for our agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, now, I first met Chairman PETERSON as a freshman Member on the Agriculture Committee. I will never forget how he gathered the freshmen Democrats, who were all excited not just to be a part of Congress, but having the opportunity to formulate the upcoming farm bill. But in his, let's just say, charming way, COLLIN quickly cooled that enthusiasm when he warned us about the potential for issues on the nutrition title—the largest section of that bill—in which he said it could prevent us from getting a bill.

In fact, in his straightforward way, he actually said, "If they screw with SNAP, we are not getting a farm bill."

I have to say, as the 115th went on, and with the positive hearings we had on SNAP, I was incredulous as to that warning that Chairman PETERSON had. But that ominous warning turned into an accurate prediction, because 2 weeks before the farm bill was dropped, we were notified of the majority's desire to add stringent restrictions on how one acquires SNAP benefits.

Mr. Speaker, but what I experienced after that was something I will never forget. The way Chairman PETERSON not only stood firm in his beliefs about the importance of the benefits to low-income families and that the fraud and error rate in those programs is among the lowest in government, and using the passion of Congressman DAVID SCOTT, Chairman PETERSON got us all to stand together in opposition.

He then worked together with chairman and ranking member of the Senate Agriculture Committee to push together, push forward, put together and pass a bipartisan 2018 farm bill.

Mr. Speaker, it is not surprising that Chairman PETERSON was able to do so, because during his time, he worked on five farm bills, a bill that has 12 titles and is complex and nuanced. So to lead the Agriculture Committee, to lead Congress, and to unify our members on something so diverse, it takes leadership, it takes knowledge of the farm policy, but also an understanding and appreciation of how the farm bill protects our food security and the people affected by our foreign policy.

It is also a bill that demonstrates what Chairman PETERSON stands for and what Chairman PETERSON made the Agriculture Committee stand for—a platform to support farmers, ranchers, and families in America. From the row crops and dairy producers in his rural district to the specialty crop and organic farmers and farm workers in my district, to the families in every district who rely on food assistance programs, Chairman PETERSON made