

shelves are becoming all too common at stores, goods from overseas are being delayed by weeks or even months, contributing to higher shelf prices, and we are facing an unprecedented supply chain crisis.

Even though the administration and the Transportation Secretary don't seem to know what to do about supply chain problems, our companies in Iowa do. In Iowa, agricultural producers are also feeling the crunch with their capacity for goods being hampered by a combination of surging demand for containerized shipping and a massive backlog at our Nation's ports. This inefficiency has downstream effects on commodity prices, hurting farmers and ranchers across the country.

As global competition has increased, control over our supply chain has fallen into the hands of fewer and fewer countries, most notably China. Such geographic concentration of supply chains has left many U.S. companies vulnerable to disruption, something we are now acutely experiencing.

Vermeer Corporation in Pella has been working overtime to produce their famous yellow iron at a record pace despite supply chain issues. Vermeer has even gone above and beyond during this difficult time, working to help out their customers and partners. Last fall, a group of Vermeer team members, working at a supplier in Minnesota, worked for 6 weeks at their own cost away from their families to make the harnesses necessary to keep that beautiful yellow iron moving out the doors. Vermeer did whatever was necessary to keep their job done despite the supply chain challenges they were facing.

Kent Corporation, headquartered in Muscatine, is a family-owned corporation that manufactures several food and beverage products. They have faced supply chain issues similar to all companies, but working mainly with agricultural products, impairment in their industry adds on to the difficulties our agriculture producers and farmers face every day. All the while, our farmers continue to deal with increased input costs.

CNH Industrial, located in Burlington, their biggest facility by square footage in the United States, also faced supply chain issues.

During our visit, we heard firsthand about their difficulty getting essential parts for their equipment, but their employees innovated and started producing the much-needed stabilizer bar on their backhoes. It was not felt that this little part could be produced in the United States. It was being imported from Brazil. They designed, cut, and welded in 2 weeks in order to meet their customers' needs. The industry did not think it could be done here in the United States. It was inspiring to see what the people of Iowa are capable of doing during these difficult times, but these visits showed me how much of an impact the supply chain disruptions have on everyone throughout southeastern Iowa.

Lomont Molding in Mt. Pleasant does custom plastic design and molding for HVAC and agriculture businesses, concrete accessories for roads and buildings, and chemicals with a market that reaches every corner of the world. Plastic shortages have led them to use cast-off plastic, and now 99 percent of their regrind is reformulated and placed in their products. They also purchased a corrugator machine to make their own cardboard boxes and dividers for shipping. By reducing imports from foreign companies, their customers have more reliability and dependability.

Delays in deliveries have forced manufacturers across the country to resort to unorthodox and expedited methods of getting critical supplies. All these companies have adapted and improvised and demonstrate the critical need for reliance on home-grown products and solutions by in-house innovation or on-shoring. Pretending the supply chain crisis doesn't exist isn't going to make it magically go away. It isn't just a high-class problem. This should not be a partisan issue. Let's get to work and deliver real results that support businesses and farmers across the country.

I would also like to wish a happy birthday to my good friend, Ashlee.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Adrian Swann, one of his secretaries.

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CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, during this Women's History Month, let us celebrate the women who truly make our Nation and world run.

This month, we honor remarkable women who build families and communities; who lead governments; who serve and protect their fellow citizens; and who break new ground in industry, science, technology, literature, medicine, and so much more.

Their work often goes unrecognized, but their work anchors, guides, and uplifts our society and the world.

Let me pay special tribute to historic women from the five counties of Ohio's Ninth District that I am privileged to represent: Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones, the first African-American woman elected to Congress from Ohio, and poetess Toni Morrison from Lorain County, Ohio.

In Erie County, it is probably important for us to remember that the first all-female jury was seated on August 26, 1920. Can you imagine that? From Erie County, we remember the able and totally dedicated United Way director, Christine Galvin.

From Lucas County, we remember two public servants, Eleanor Kahle, who was elected to city council after she went on Social Security, and Senator Edna Brown, who sadly just passed and was a comet—as was Shirley Chisholm at the national level—in Ohio as an African-American woman senator seated in Columbus but from northwest Ohio.

The lives of these women inspire us all, and the legacies they leave are an inspiration to those who follow in their footsteps.

During this Women's History Month, we give thanks to them for the barriers that each of them broke and also for their solid accomplishments that they left behind.

We all look forward with anticipation to the accomplishments of the next generations of American women to come because, indeed, they lead the world.

CONDEMNING VLADIMIR PUTIN

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in the strongest possible terms to condemn Russian President Vladimir Putin and his ongoing war crimes against the people of Ukraine.

In the last month, the world has witnessed Putin's brutality and capacity for evil against the innocent people of Ukraine.

In the lead-up to the invasion of a sovereign, democratic Ukraine, Putin lied to the world, asserting that he did not want war, that he did not want to invade Ukraine, and that the troops amassed on the Ukrainian border were only conducting training exercises.

Putin claims that any effort to expand NATO is a mission aimed only to destabilize Russia; however, it is exactly the opposite. NATO is solely a defensive alliance that has never sought to destabilize or challenge Russia but, rather, to support the maintenance and respect for sovereignty and peace.

At no time during the lead-up to Russia's criminal invasion did Ukraine or NATO provoke Vladimir Putin to act. Despite this, Putin launched a full-scale, illegal, and unjustified invasion of Ukraine under the false pretense of ethnic solidarity and denazification.

The bottom line is: Putin is a liar and cannot be trusted.

The world has witnessed Putin's indiscriminate bombing of residential areas and civilian infrastructure across Ukraine. Putin's authoritarian brutality has included the horrific bombing and destruction of a maternity hospital in Mariupol, where he murdered women and children. He also ordered the bombing of a community theater where hundreds of innocent civilians were sheltering.

Fears remain that Russian forces, at the sole discretion of Putin, will use chemical weapons against innocent Ukrainians, as they did in Syria in 2015.

In the face of Putin's criminal war, the Ukrainian people and their President, President Zelenskyy, have shown immense courage, resilience, and determination as they defend their country. The world stands united with them.

As a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I believe it is vital that the United States continue to maximize available intelligence-sharing with our Ukrainian and international allies and also maintain robust military and humanitarian assistance.

The United States must also work to declassify intelligence that reveals evidence of Vladimir Putin's malign intentions and actions, including war crimes committed.

Putin is a thug, a dictator, and an authoritarian war criminal whose crimes—past, present, and future—should be known and exposed across the world. Pulling back the veil on his actions will ensure that we hold Putin accountable and prosecute him for the war criminal he is.

America and its people will continue to show solidarity with the Ukrainian people.

CONGRESS MUST ACT ON WILDFIRE RESILIENCY

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

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of the people of Colorado who are experiencing historic, destructive, and devastating wildfires. Four of the largest wildfires in our State's history have happened in just the last 18 months.

For my community, we are no longer witnessing wildfire seasons but, instead, wildfire years. Fires are burning in August, December, and March. Our communities are under threat by worsening, more dangerous, unrelenting wildfires 365 days a year.

I would like to explain, Madam Speaker, to the American people what this encroaching threat will mean for families, for firefighters, for communities, and for our neighborhoods.

On December 30, as the Speaker may be aware, a rangeland fire, fueled by hurricane-force winds, ran through suburban neighborhoods in my district of Louisville and Superior, Colorado, forcing over 30,000 people to evacuate and destroying 1,084 homes and businesses in less than 18 hours—1,084 homes and businesses in 18 hours.

Over 1,000 families left with nothing but the clothes on their backs and the items that they carried. Their lives will forever be changed as they begin the long, challenging, complex recovery process.

The Marshall fire, now the most destructive fire in Colorado history, was not the first, and it will not be the last.

The Cameron Peak fire in Larimer County, Colorado, burned over 400,000 acres from August 2020 through December of that year. The East Troublesome

fire in Grand County grew more than 100,000 acres in 1 day. Collectively, those fires have destroyed countless structures and left millions in damages for our communities to take on.

Madam Speaker, these disasters warrant a response from the Federal Government, a bold, decisive response. We have proposed some of the potential solutions.

First, we have to start paying our firefighters a living wage. I was looking at job postings this morning, Madam Speaker, in my district. In Boulder, there are customer service representative positions at copy stores, shops, and retail establishments with a starting pay of \$20 an hour, \$23 an hour. Yet, we have Federal wildland firefighters making today \$19 an hour, \$18 an hour, \$16 an hour as they are literally sacrificing so much and putting their own lives on the line to protect our communities. It is unconscionable, and it should be unacceptable to every Member of this body.

That is why we introduced Tim's Act to honor Tim Hart, a brave smokejumper who tragically lost his life last year working on a wildfire in New Mexico.

Our bill with Representative LIZ CHENEY is the first bipartisan, comprehensive legislation of its kind to significantly raise pay for Federal wildland firefighters and ensure access to mental health services, healthcare, housing, retirement benefits, and so much more.

These firefighters are risking their lives every day, Madam Speaker. They deserve just compensation. We have to change it, and I am committed to doing everything in my power to get this bill to the floor of this House.

We also have to support our communities in recovery. Rebuilding takes time, and it takes a lot of money. It is emotionally exhausting and complex.

Last week, families in my district in Boulder who are in the process of literally rebuilding their homes lost in the Marshall fire were evacuated from their new temporary homes, rental properties in Boulder, as the NCAR fire burned as close as 1,000 yards from homes in the area. Firefighters are literally working as we speak to contain that fire.

My bill, the Wildfire Recovery Act, which recently passed out of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee last year, would help local communities like Boulder, Fort Collins, and communities across my State, from the Western Slope to the Eastern Plains, recover. It would invest money in mitigation, in resiliency.

It is time for us to get this done, Madam Speaker. I am committed to doing everything I can to get those bills and many more to the floor, and we intend to get this done.

RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of April as the Month of the Military Child.

I have always said that when someone joins the military, it is not just a job; it is a family commitment to our country. This is especially true for the more than 1.6 million children who have a parent on Active Duty serving our Nation, including nearly 2,000 who call Fairchild Air Force Base in eastern Washington home.

Over the next few weeks, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the thousands of brave men and women who demonstrate their courage and commitment to freedom, selflessly serving our country around the world. Let us take this time to say thank you to those in uniform keeping us safe and remind them that while they are taking care of us, we are taking care of their children.

To all the children of Active-Duty servicemembers, we salute you. We recognize your commitment to our country. We share in your struggles of not seeing your mom and dad. We support you unconditionally. Just like your parents, you are a hero in your own way, and in April, we celebrate you.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the incredible sacrifices of military children across the country and invite my fellow Americans to help us honor them with unwavering support and appreciation today and every day.

HONORING VIVIAN PIERESCHI

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated public service and congressional career of a phenomenal woman, Vivian Piereschi.

In August 2001, the people of south Florida's 20th Congressional District, which later became the 23rd District that I proudly represent today, received a precious gift in the dedicated service of Vivian.

After more than 20 years, this daughter of Cuban refugees, who emigrated to Florida in search of a better life, ended her career making the lives of so many others better.

Vivian became a trusted adviser, advocate, and community leader.

Through four administrations and two Members of Congress, Vivian navigated the Federal Government, in all the ways it serves the American people, with a nurturing spirit and patient persistence.

When we passed the Affordable Care Act, a jubilant Vivian Piereschi said: "Now, we can help so many more people."

Whether it was passing life-changing legislation, going door-to-door to give