

headquartered in Monroe, Louisiana, not far from where Glen grew up as a boy. Maintaining the headquarters in north Louisiana is a testament to Glen's commitment to his home and his State that he loves.

By growing CenturyLink locally, Glen has provided incredible opportunities for Monroe and Louisiana. Having such a large company in our backyard recruits talent to our region, yields higher wages, and attracts other companies that provide complementary services within the communications industry which, in turn, produces even more jobs.

We can build on the success of CenturyLink. Coupled with the innovative cyber initiatives at Louisiana Tech and Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana's Interstate 20 corridor can help lead our Nation into the future as we continue to develop cutting-edge technologies.

I want to thank Glen for his dedication to our region and his role in helping us grow. His career shows how far you can go with hard work, integrity, and commitment, and it is proof that you can achieve great things no matter where you come from.

Today, I am proud to acknowledge the change that Glen Post and CenturyLink have brought to north Louisiana, and I wish Glen a very happy and relaxing retirement. It is well-deserved.

THE TRUMP BUSINESS MODEL

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

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, as you know, Members of this House disagree on a whole range of topics, but one rare point of bipartisan agreement concerns the ZTE Corporation.

We have all heard complaints about the theft of trade secrets by ZTE and other major Chinese companies. We all know that when American companies are forced into licensing and disclosure agreements with Chinese State-owned enterprises, American technology is as good as stolen. We have all sat through hearings and briefings on the significant threat that ZTE and its brother, Huawei, pose to our national security. That is why it is concerning that President Trump decided to let ZTE off the hook for secretly doing business with Iran and North Korea.

Of course, this decision wasn't the only one affecting international trade that the Trump administration has made in recent weeks. He is imposing tariffs on our allies in Europe, Canada, and Mexico. His Ambassador to Germany has disgraced himself in the capital of our biggest European partner. He continues to insult our best trading partners by labeling them as security threats.

That is right, Mr. Speaker. Donald Trump is giving aid and comfort to ZTE, a known corporate enemy of America, while at the same time going

out of his way to alienate our closest friends and allies around the world. But why?

I am sure it is just a fluke that Trump is allowing ZTE to resume its purchases of U.S. technology immediately following China's decision to award Ivanka Trump seven new Chinese trademarks.

I am positive it is just a coincidence that Trump cut a deal with ZTE right away after various Chinese entities offered \$1 billion in financing to a resort with ties to the Trump organization. Just a coincidence.

There is nothing to see here, says the Trump administration. Don't ask any questions. Don't demand any information. Just look the other way.

How did we get here, Mr. Speaker? Where is the Grand Old Party as Donald Trump erodes our alliances, makes nice with our enemies, and ignites a global trade war?

We need to get to the bottom of whether there was a quid pro quo with China over ZTE, and we need to get to work on tough legislation to prevent China from illicitly acquiring American technology, especially technology with important defense applications and capabilities.

Bipartisan bills for this purpose with broad support from both parties have already been introduced. The Republican leadership should immediately bring those bipartisan bills to the floor for debate and consideration. That is what the American people expect. They want this body to stand up to America's adversaries and to stand up for America's laws and values.

□ 1030

They want us to reassert our power as a coequal branch of government.

Trump is tearing down America's alliances. We must preserve them.

Trump is sucking up to dictators and repressive regimes all around the world. We must condemn them.

More importantly, Trump and his cronies are using the Presidency to enrich themselves, and we must stop them.

Let's put an end to the Trump of business model: quid pro quo, pay to play, this for that.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to the day when my Republican friends are courageous enough to say out loud what many of them whisper here in these hallways: that coddling Chinese companies like ZTE is reckless, that attacking our allies is dangerous, that using high office for personal gain is flat-out wrong.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING MARY PELLEGRINO

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize today a teacher in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, who was recently honored for her service in the nonprofit sector in addition to the classroom.

Mary Pellegrino, a special education teacher at Tohickon Middle School and a resident of Warrington, recently received the Pennsylvania State Education Association's Human and Civil Rights Award for her service to our community.

With her husband, Greg, she is the cofounder of the BennettStrong Foundation, which was named after her son, Bennett, who was born weighing a mere 1 pound 2 ounces in 2013. He was later diagnosed with hepatoblastoma, a form of liver cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the work of the BennettStrong Foundation, whose mission is to provide support to families of children born prematurely and facing complex medical issues.

I would like to congratulate Mary Pellegrino on this well-deserved award, and I am proud to report Bennett's cancer is in remission. Our entire team wish him all the best on the road to recovery.

Lastly, I would like to thank Dolores McCracken, the president of the Pennsylvania State Education Association for all of her work in recognizing our community's heroes.

HONORING SERGEANT THELMA WILLIAMS

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Doylestown resident and Army veteran, Sergeant Thelma Williams. This past Memorial Day, Thelma made her 25th and final appearance in the Doylestown Memorial Day Parade.

Thelma answered the call to serve during World War II when she was 24 years old. Initially, she wanted to enlist in the Navy. Later, Thelma joined the Women's Army Corps and finished her tenure in Japan, where she served under General Douglas MacArthur.

It should come as no surprise that Thelma's spirit remains as lively as ever, even as she approaches her 100th birthday this year. She hopes that children observing the parade will be inspired to serve our community as well.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Thelma Williams has made immense contributions not just to Bucks County, but to our entire Nation. I commend Thelma for her heroism, and I encourage our constituents to aspire to her standards of excellence.

FOOD INSECURITY

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the issue of food insecurity in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

As public officials, it is incumbent upon all of us to increase access to food resources for all of our constituents. In our community, I applaud the United Way of Bucks County for their work in combating hunger.

Later this month, nearly 600 volunteers will gather at Delaware Valley University for the sixth annual Bucks

Knocks Out Hunger event. This year, volunteers plan on packing over 100,000 nonperishable meals for seniors and food pantries throughout Bucks County.

I would also like to recognize other worthy organizations that are vital partners of Bucks Knocks Out Hunger, including Rolling Harvest Food Rescue, the Bucks County Opportunity Council, and the newest addition, Fresh Connect Bucks County, which will play a vital role in providing fresh fruits and vegetables to local families.

Mr. Speaker, by working together, we can make sure that all of our children and our families in our communities can have access to the resources they need to succeed.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION FAMILY SEPARATION POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to denounce and condemn the Trump administration's heartless and inhumane policy of separating immigrant children from their mothers and their parents at our borders. Americans across the Nation are horrified by the actions undertaken to separate and punish children seeking safety and refuge here in the United States.

This isn't about politics. This is about basic humanity. This is not who we are as a people.

Or I ask the President: Is it? Is this whom we have become?

And let's be honest about what is really happening. This administration is terrorizing children and persecuting families who are fleeing for their lives, families that are not sneaking into the United States but surrendering willingly, surrendering and seeking out border agents and asking for asylum, not committing a crime or an offense against the American people, simply asking for asylum, fearing for their lives and for the safety of their children.

Is asking for asylum a criminal act? Since when has asking for asylum become a criminal act?

It is not just against American values. It is against any principles of common decency.

And the White House knows that what it is doing is wrong. White House Chief of Staff John Kelly said, in early May, that taking children away from their families ". . . would be a tough deterrent."

Let me respond to that. Hurting children isn't tough. It is an abomination, and it will create lifelong consequences for those children. It will also leave an indelible mark against us as a people. They fled violence and terror in hopes that America would protect them and give them a fair shot, and I can understand why they would think that.

After World War II, when tens of millions of people fled their homes, the United States began helping to draft

the Refugee Convention that created laws and policies to protect those fleeing from persecution. The foundation of that convention is not turning people away at the borders but, instead, giving them a full chance for an asylum claim. This started under then-President Roosevelt and came into full force under then-President Harry Truman.

Now, Donald Trump, Jeff Sessions, and Kirstjen Nielsen are running their policy into the ground. Who do they think they are to do this? Who are they to make children suffer? Who are they to punish children when their parents are simply trying to save their lives?

For centuries, America has been a beacon for those fleeing violence and oppression and poverty. The symbol of our Nation that welcomed millions, the Statue of Liberty, has engraved on it Emma Lazarus' famous poem:

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.

No one is more deserving of a chance to breathe free than a child and a family fleeing from violence.

Agents of the U.S. Government should not be ripping 18-month-old babies from the arms of their mothers. Instead, we should help to address the situation that led them to flee from their home in the first place. We should keep families together while their cases are considered for asylum, and we should immediately end this zero-tolerance policy.

So I strongly urge the Trump administration to immediately end this disgusting stain on America's human rights record. I condemn this policy. Put an end to this heinous family separation policy. Stop taking babies from their mothers.

This isn't America. We are better than this.

AMERICA IS WINNING AGAIN

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

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, America is winning again. Earlier this week marked the 500th day of the Trump-Pence administration.

Last Friday's new jobs report by the Department of Labor was a reminder of just how positive these first 500 days of the Trump administration have been for America. This is not just good news; this is great news for all Americans.

A New York Times headline proclaimed: "We Ran Out of Words to Describe How Good the Jobs Numbers Are."

According to CNBC, the headline was: "There are more jobs than people out of work, something the American economy has never experienced before."

The front page of the New York Post was more succinct. It said: "We're in the Money."

Here are just a few snapshots:

The national unemployment rate, down to just 3.8 percent, is now matching its lowest rate since 1969;

More than 1 million new jobs have been created since President Trump signed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in December;

More than 3.4 million new jobs have been created since the President took office, including 322,000 new jobs in manufacturing;

More than 6.6 million job openings now exist throughout the United States. This is an all-time high.

In that same New York Post edition, let me read to you some stats that I think are just outstanding. Let's look at unemployment in 2010 versus 2018, look at it by gender and by race.

In 2010, 9.6 percent of men were on unemployment; in 2018, 3.5 percent.

In 2010, 8.6 percent of women were unemployed; today, 3.3 percent.

For Blacks, in 2010, 16.6 percent were unemployed; today, 5.9 percent are unemployed.

Hispanics, in 2010, 12.9 percent were unemployed; today, 4.9 percent.

For Asian Americans, in 2010, 8.6 percent were unemployed; today, 2.1 percent.

By age, in the 16 to 19 category, in 2010, 26.2 percent were unemployed; today, in 2018, 12.8 percent.

In the 20 to 24 range, in 2010, 17.2 percent were unemployed; today, 7.1 percent.

In the 25 to 54 range, 8.9 percent in 2010 were unemployed; today, 3.1 percent.

And if it is 55 and older that you are looking at, in 2010, 7.4 percent were unemployed; today, 2.8 percent.

Wages for American workers have also steadily grown almost 3 percent over the past year, and they continue to climb.

Furthermore, according to the IMD World Competitiveness Center's 2018 ranking, the United States has already overtaken Hong Kong as the number one most competitive economy in the world, ". . . thanks to faster economic growth and a supportive atmosphere for scientific and technological innovation."

According to the International Energy Agency, the United States will be the world's largest oil producer by 2023.

None of this good news was inevitable. None of our country's economic momentum is accidental. Nothing about this historically strong economy and its benefits for every single American are guaranteed to be permanent. All of this great news was made possible by the conservative progrowth policies of this administration and this Congress: from lowering taxes to cutting red tape, to expanding energy production.

As we embark on the next 500 days of this Presidency, the facts cannot be denied both at home and abroad: America is winning again.

Mr. Speaker, I think that sometimes when you sit and listen to the talk on