

weight if the Trump administration has its way and cuts millions off of SNAP.

That is why I encourage my colleagues in the House and Senate to join me and fight every single attempt this administration makes to wage war on people who are hungry. Working together is the only way we are going to be able to end hunger now.

“APOLLO 11” COMMEMORATION

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago, America achieved the greatest technological accomplishment in human history.

Three men, Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Buzz Aldrin, set off from Cape Canaveral on a voyage that President Kennedy called “the most hazardous, and dangerous, and greatest adventure on which man has ever embarked.”

Four days into their 8-day mission, Neil and Buzz climbed down the ladder of the lunar module and stood on the surface of the Moon; the very first human presence on a celestial body other than Earth; a feat that, to this day, no other country has equaled. And we did it five more times.

Armstrong, Collins, and Aldrin could not have accomplished this alone. *Apollo 11* was the culmination of the hard work of more than 400,000 Americans who, with limited experience, and comparatively primitive technology, committed themselves to accomplish this task and completing President Kennedy’s order of returning the astronauts safely home.

I am so proud to represent Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, and the historic Mission Control of that Apollo era.

On the wall of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee here on Capitol Hill, where I serve as the senior Republican on the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee, is written, from the Bible, Proverbs 29:18, which reads: “Where there is no vision, the people perish.”

The 50th anniversary of the first Moon landing should serve as a reminder of what we, as a Nation, can accomplish when we do have a clear mission.

Six hundred million people from around the world gathered around their grainy television sets to watch those first steps. What is amazing is that this took place only 40 years after Lindbergh first flew across the Atlantic; and only 65 years after two bicycle-making brothers from Dayton, Ohio, achieved powered flight in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

The Apollo program built upon these accomplishments and exponentially pushed our technology forward; and we are on the cusp of doing it again.

President Trump and Vice President PENCE have ensured that we are, again,

pushing outward, and launching America back into its dominant role as the global leader in space. We have our vision. This time, we head to the red planet by way of the Moon, and this time we stay.

NASA Administrator Bridenstine has focused NASA on achieving these goals with the Artemis program, Apollo’s sister, and I will continue to use my position in Congress to advocate for the support needed for NASA to accomplish this very worthwhile effort.

Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of *Apollo 11* this week, I would like to thank all out there who helped us get to the Moon, and all those out there who will get us back to the Moon; and thank them for their tremendous contribution to our country.

I am anxiously looking forward to the next small steps and giant leaps in our space program.

“APOLLO 11” CELEBRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Ms. KENDRA S. HORN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, this week, we celebrate one of the most remarkable moments in human history: The launch of the *Apollo 11* lunar mission, and the first steps on the Moon by American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin. American leadership, ingenuity, and investment made this moment possible 50 years ago.

As the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee chairwoman, I am honored to be joined by my colleagues today to recognize this achievement and talk about what it means, 50 years later. As we commemorate this historic accomplishment, it is clear that we stand on the shoulders of space pioneers, some of whom are still with us today.

Apollo 11 and Armstrong’s first steps on the lunar surface were the culmination of a focused, methodical buildup of the developments, demonstrations, and operational capabilities needed to achieve the Moon landing.

The value of the Apollo program is beyond measure. Its mission inspired and continues to draw countless Americans into science, technology, engineering and math. This program led to significant technological advances and products that changed the world as we know it and benefit our lives today.

Fundamentally, the success of Apollo contributed to our standing in the world. Apollo taught us the value of taking audacious, and yet intentional risks.

I would like to focus, as well, for a moment, on the mission that immediately preceded the Moon landing, *Apollo 10*. This mission, launched 2 months before, was launched to test all of the components and procedures just short of landing. Carrying the lunar module, it came as close as 50,000 feet from the lunar surface before returning safely to Earth.

Retired Air Force General Thomas P. Stafford, an Oklahoman, commanded this essential mission that enabled us to land on the Moon.

General Stafford was born in Weatherford, Oklahoma, and received a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Naval Academy in 1952, graduating with honors. Commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air Force, he completed advanced interceptor training and served tours of duty flying F-86Ds. He then graduated from the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School as the outstanding graduate.

Throughout his career, Stafford flew more than 100 different types of aircraft as he pushed the boundaries of achievement in air and space. Stafford was selected as an astronaut in 1962 and, 3 years later, flew on *Gemini 6* as the first space rendezvous mission, followed by *Gemini 9*.

Later, General Stafford commanded the first international space flight mission, *Apollo-Soyuz*. This peaceful cooperation between two Cold War rivals was the first step in what has become a sustained relationship between the U.S., Russia, and our international partners with the International Space Station.

The last of the Apollo missions, its lasting impacts, reminds us that even in times of warfare and global distress, that space exploration is a unifying force of discovery, peace, cooperation, and diplomacy.

Beyond all his accomplishments, General Stafford has also become a friend and mentor. To General Stafford, and all of those who contributed to the success of Apollo, you inspired a generation and showed the world what is possible when our Nation comes together to focus on an ambitious goal and, in turn, change the world in both foreseeable and unforeseeable ways.

BUILDING ON THE APOLLO LEGACY

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

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to be here today to speak about the 50th anniversary of *Apollo 11*.

I can remember sitting in class with the teacher discussing President John F. Kennedy’s speech about going to the Moon at Rice University in 1961, when he committed this country to putting a man on the Moon and bringing him safely back to Earth within the decade.

He said: Great nations do things, not because they are easy, because they are hard. And it certainly was hard.

I remember doing the math on my fingers and saying, you know, I am going to be old enough to be involved in that program. And my goal became to have my fingerprints on the rocket that took the first man to the Moon. To make a long story short, 5 years later I was an inspector working on the third stage of the Apollo rocket, one of the highlights of my life.