

By now, we have millions of test kits distributed out across the country. I want to just reassure Americans that this testing is covered by Medicare, by Medicaid, and by most every one of their insurance companies.

I also want to reassure Americans that antivirals and vaccines are in early phases of trials, way ahead of development. We are very optimistic that these antivirals may soon be available for those who are impacted the most by this Wuhan virus. We are also optimistic that these vaccines will be available by this next winter.

We have a plan. The President has given us a plan. Let's stick to this plan. We are implementing this plan, and it is working.

Again, as a physician who has worked with health departments, I am truly impressed by how we have contained this virus and how our local health departments are working so hard to minimize the spread of this virus. I am absolutely amazed that we only have approximately 1,000 Americans impacted by the Wuhan viruses at this time.

In the meantime, again, let's go back to our plan. It is not a time to panic. This is a time to wash your hands, limit your travel, and, by the way, open your windows and doors when you are at home and let some of this fresh air come in which this virus does not like a bit.

So, thanks, Mr. President, for delivering on your plan. We are truly impressed as physicians in Congress by the great job that you are doing and the leadership you are showing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH:
MARGARET HUDSON

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, every March, we honor the extraordinary contributions of women who have shaped our Nation's history and those who continue to pave the way for the next generation. This year also marks the 100th year since the 19th Amendment granted women the right to vote.

Think about it, just in the last 100 years. Our Nation is now going on 245 years old. A century later, the women who have done so much for our country throughout our Nation's entire history continue to make a difference.

I am proud, today, to say that I serve with a record number of women in Congress as we continue to fight for issues that are so important: equal pay, reproductive freedom, and so much more.

Mr. Speaker, as we use this opportunity to celebrate the incredible women who have changed the world in your life and in my life, I would like to pay tribute to an iconic woman, an artist in my home of Fresno, California, Margaret Hudson.

Ms. Hudson passed away last month, but her legacy lives on in her clay sculptures of California wildlife that can be seen on display throughout the valley. It is incredible work.

From a young age, Margaret loved to spend time outdoors hiking in such places as Sequoia National Park. Her appreciation for the beautiful landscape of the Central Valley would later influence so much of her artwork that we enjoy today.

She attended college in New England and served as a missionary in Japan and South Korea for several years. Her love for art blossomed years later, when she began sculpting from memories of her time in South Korea. She became one of the first female art entrepreneurs in Fresno when she opened up her own studio in 1972.

Through the years, Margaret expanded her interest in the arts to painting and held many of her own art shows to display her work and to encourage young artists such as herself, especially women. Margaret's artwork is a fixture throughout the Central Valley, with permanent works on display at our Valley Children's Hospital and Fresno Chaffee Zoo.

Her work continues to inspire us, and I think it is a reflection of her appreciation and respect for the natural beauty and landscapes that we have in California and throughout our country. Certainly, the Sierra Nevada and the San Joaquin Valley were among many of the reflections and renderings of the creation of the art that she was so proud of and that we so much enjoy today.

So I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and the contributions of Margaret Hudson. Her artwork continues to inspire and is cherished as a part of all of those who know it and who enjoy it.

God bless you, Margaret. You made a difference.

RECOGNIZING JOSH SPEIDEL

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Josh Speidel, an extraordinary young man from my hometown of Columbus, Indiana.

Josh was an Indiana All-Star high school basketball player when he was in a tragic car accident. Josh spent many months in hospitals and rehab learning how to walk and talk again. It was a difficult journey, but Josh's family never lost hope.

The University of Vermont honored Josh's basketball scholarship he achieved before the accident and welcomed him back with open arms. I am proud to say that Josh recently scored his first point in his college basketball career and will soon be graduating from the university.

I wish Josh the best of luck in his future. He is an inspiration to all of us.

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IVY TECH CC FLIGHT PROGRAM

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hoosier State's first community college flight program and to commend the partnership between Ivy Tech Community College and the Columbus Municipal Airport.

Since 2017, Ivy Tech Columbus has been offering Ivy Tech's first aviation associate's degree and an aviation management program.

This program is designed to give students hands-on pilot training. In addition to flight time, students also train on a flight simulator at the Columbus Municipal Airport.

I look forward to seeing more skill-based programs like this to help our youth in their careers.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we celebrate the importance of Women's History Month. I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate women throughout the Sixth District who make a difference in our everyday lives.

I think of women business leaders, humanitarians, and activists in our communities, like Jeanie Hahn, Jean Ann Harcourt, Sue Saunders, Lisa Fisher and Celeste Calvitto.

We recognize Linda Ostewig, who leads a faith-based nonprofit for struggling teens to learn healthy lifestyle patterns in our own Hancock County.

I am reminded of the example set by Susan Stahl, who has led Girls Inc. in Madison for over three decades.

We recognize leaders like Wendy Elwood in my hometown of Columbus, who last year was named "Woman of the Year" by The Republic newspaper.

Indiana's First Lady, Janet Holcomb, is also from our district in Muncie.

The people of Indiana's Sixth District are blessed to have so many women helping lead and inspire our communities.

We celebrate and honor them as part of Women's History Month.

INCLUSION OF POULTRY IN U.S.-U.K. TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for one of the biggest industries in my district—the poultry industry.

I urge the administration and Ambassador Lighthizer to include poultry in any U.S.-U.K. trade deal.

As the second largest exporter of chicken and the largest exporter of turkey, the U.S. will continue to gain momentum in this industry if the U.K. is added as a new market.

Indiana is the fifth largest turkey producer and second largest egg producer in the United States. A U.K. trade agreement will boost our Hoosier poultry farmers, who are an essential part of our Indiana economy.

As Indiana's Sixth District Representative, I will continue to support our Hoosier farmers and fight for their access to free markets.

FARMING AND CARBON SEQUESTRATION

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great impact that

farming and the agriculture community has on carbon sequestration.

The use of cover crops increased by 15 percent per year since 2012. This means that 20 million acres across the U.S. are likely to be planted in cover crops this year with the potential to sequester about 60 million metric tons of CO₂, equal to the emissions of over 12 million cars.

The use of ethanol and biodiesel is notably reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the same amount as if 17 million cars were taken off the road in 2018.

Mr. Speaker, I will continue to support the agriculture community and its leadership in being stewards of our environment.

BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH MOMNIBUS

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

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak about the Black Maternal Health Momnibus, an historic and comprehensive package that tackles one of the greatest public health crises of our time.

My work on Black Maternal Health began when my daughter, a Black mom herself, survived a complicated pregnancy that almost claimed her life. How many people my age aren't as lucky, and now have grandkids who grew up without a mommy?

I knew when I got to Congress, I had to make this a priority.

In 2018, Senator KAMALA HARRIS and I worked with the Black Mamas Matter Alliance to introduce resolutions honoring the first Black Maternal Health Week, as well as the Maternal CARE Act. That effort led to last April, when Congresswoman LAUREN UNDERWOOD and I launched the Black Maternal Health Caucus.

This issue was deeply personal for both of us. We wanted to raise awareness, educate our colleagues, and shine a bright spotlight on the maternal health crisis—of mothers needlessly dying during what should be one of the most joyous times of their lives.

Our caucus has grown to more than 100 members in less than a year, which I imagine might be a record feat, but it speaks to the importance of this issue and how it resonates so deeply within Congress and across party lines.

Black maternal health is not a partisan issue. It is a life-and-death issue. The main goal of the caucus is to develop and advance evidence-based policy solutions.

The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2020 builds upon existing maternal health legislation by filling gaps through nine new bills to comprehensively address every aspect of the Black maternal health crisis. Throughout the process, we were very intentional about centering the voices of Black women and ensuring that Black women-led organizations were consulted early and often.

The Momnibus makes investments in social determinants of health, community-based organizations, the growth and diversification of the perinatal workforce, improvements in data collection and quality measures, digital tools like telehealth and innovative payment models.

In addition to direct efforts to improve Black maternal health outcomes, the Momnibus focuses on high-risk populations, including women veterans, incarcerated women, and Native Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to take a moment to speak about the bill that I am leading within the package: The Kira Johnson Act.

Kira was an entrepreneur, she traveled the world, and she was a mother to a healthy, little boy.

On April 12, 2016, she checked into a hospital with her husband, Charles, to give birth to their second child, Langston.

Despite being in excellent health, despite being a successful businesswoman, despite having health insurance, and doing everything right, Kira did not make it out alive. She died from hours of neglect and severe hemorrhaging, nearly 12 hours after safely delivering her second son.

Kira Johnson mattered.

Kira deserved better.

And this legislation says, unequivocally, that Black Mamas matter. It makes investments in community-based organizations that are leading the charge to protect moms: By supporting maternal mental health conditions and substance use disorders; by supporting doulas and perinatal health workers; and addressing social determinants of health, like housing, transportation, and nutrition.

It also supports research, bias and racism training programs, and the establishment of Respectful Maternity Care Compliance offices to address bias and racism.

At its core, this bill is about accountability and empowering our community health partners who have been providing safe and culturally-sensitive care to Black moms for years.

Again, I am thrilled for the accumulation of nearly a year of research, information-gathering, and collaboration with key stakeholders.

For decades, the U.S. maternal mortality and morbidity rates have gotten worse for all mothers, but especially for Black women whose health outcomes are further compounded by systemic and structural racism.

The Black Maternal Health Momnibus is an historic piece of legislation that not only targets failures in maternal healthcare, but also addresses pervasive maternal health disparities through solutions that are culturally competent and proven effective.

It provides a roadmap so that our healthcare systems, our providers, and society will finally make Black maternal and infant health a priority. No one

should have to lose another friend, auntie, sister, daughter, or mommy to this crisis.

Mr. Speaker, let's get it done for all of the moms out there.

CELEBRATING BRIGADIER GENERAL SHAWN MANKE

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shawn Manke from Cambridge, Minnesota, for his recent promotion to the rank of brigadier general in the Minnesota National Guard.

Shawn grew up on the shores of Spectacle Lake in southwestern Isanti County, and spent his summers working at his family's resort. He is a proud graduate of Cambridge-Isanti High School.

Upon graduation from the ROTC program at the University of North Dakota, Shawn was commissioned as an Army aviator in 1991. After being released from Active Duty, Shawn knew he was not ready to give up his life of service and enlisted as an officer in the Minnesota National Guard.

During his time with the Minnesota National Guard, Shawn has held many leadership positions, including director of Army aviation, commander of the 34th Combat Aviation Brigade, and commander of the 2nd Battalion 147th Assault Helicopter.

Shawn's exemplary leadership has earned him numerous military awards, such as the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal with four bronze oakleaf clusters.

Brigadier General Shawn Manke is an accomplished officer with the knowledge and experience necessary for his new role.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Minnesota's Eighth Congressional District, I thank him for his years of dedicated service, and congratulate him on his well-deserved promotion.

STANDING WITH THE GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the House floor to offer words of consolation and support to the Grand Rapids community in Minnesota's Eighth Congressional District as they mourn the loss of two local businesses from a tragic fire.

Last Saturday, a fire broke out in the basement at Lakeview Behavioral Health, and quickly spread to the VFW Post 1720 building next door.

While we are fortunate that no one was harmed in the fire, both businesses are a total loss.

I was deeply saddened by this news, as the VFW Post in Grand Rapids served as a place where combat veterans could gather for support and camaraderie since 1929. It also housed valuable historic memorabilia, much of which is now gone.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the brave firefighters and first responders who