

crisis and reduce its potential destabilizing impacts, but it will also help prevent new outbreaks here in the U.S.

In the long run, the work to prevent future outbreaks and combat the next pandemic is never-ending. The investments we make today in global health and development will help determine our ability to prevent and combat future outbreaks. For decades, unfortunately, this work has been underfunded. We have to increase our funding for global health security to strengthen health systems in developing countries so they are better prepared to contain diseases and prevent outbreaks. Investments in development and economic assistance, global health, and humanitarian relief are also vital for countries to improve their outbreak response and recovery. Efforts to cut these programs and gut key agencies such as USAID, the State Department, and the CDC are short-sighted and harm the long-term health and economic wellbeing of the U.S.

In the coming months and years, a lot of attention will be given to questions around how the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded and how we prevent and better mitigate future outbreaks. We must use this opportunity to reinforce the value of U.S. global leadership and make the case for strengthened investments in global health and development. If anything, the COVID-19 pandemic has been a stark reminder that these investments are critical to protecting the health, economic, and security interests of the U.S.

INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL
(ICC)

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Building Safety Month and the men and women of the International Code Council (ICC) for their dedication to public safety.

Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council and its partners to remind the public about the role our code officials' play in ensuring safe, efficient, and livable buildings. The theme this year is "Safer Buildings, Safer Communities, Safer World," and encourages all of us to raise awareness of the importance of safe and resilient construction, fire prevention, disaster mitigation, and new technologies in the construction industry.

The International Code Council brings together local, state and federal officials to develop an international standard to protect us in the buildings we live, work, and play in. Those standards are then implemented year-round by building safety officials, architects, engineers, and laborers to ensure the safe construction of buildings.

Building and fire prevention departments are essential to the U.S. response to the coronavirus pandemic by protecting the health and welfare of building occupants. They enforce regulations requiring sanitation of hospitals, plumbing systems, and adequate facilities for handwashing. They inspect existing infrastructure, including plumbing, mechanical, ancillary, and fire safety systems to verify safe maintenance.

With natural disasters increasing in frequency and severity, building codes include important safeguards to protect the public from snowstorms, tornadoes, and earthquakes. In April of this year, the National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) found adopting modern building codes saves \$11 for every \$1 invested. This means fewer casualties, property damage, business interruptions, and insurance costs.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking the International Code Council Board President and Chief Building Officer for Thornton, Colorado, Greg Wheeler, ICC's Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims, ICC's members and staff, and ICC's partners in the construction and design community across the country as we all recognize Building Safety Month.

HEROES IN THE WUHAN VIRUS
PANDEMIC

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, in the midst of the National Emergency being successfully faced by President Donald Trump and Vice President MIKE PENCE, there have been so many citizens stepping forward to help fellow neighbors in need. I am grateful to recognize heroes who are making a difference.

Journalist Kara Gormley Meador has initiated highlighting innovative citizens efforts to address the Wuhan Virus with former S.C. Revenue Director Burnie Maybank of the Nexsen-Pruett Law Firm, there is free streaming at www.buzzpodcast.com. The first conversation was with President Lou Kennedy of Nephron Pharmaceutical where she explained retooling her operation almost overnight to respond to the virus. She has been welcomed to the WVOC Radio in the Midlands with Gary David and Christopher Thompson.

Dale Hatchell and Elizabeth Burt of Lexington have organized Support a Nurse to provide "Light of Love" care kits to nurses on the front lines. These kits are donations of nutritional and immunity products with a support message helping the Dorn Veterans Administration Hospital, Lexington and Prisma hospitals, and Department of Juvenile Justice.

Talk radio host Kevin Cohen has been relentlessly providing important updates for the Midlands of South Carolina, fulfilling his goals on The Point promoting charities and local events.

Halsey Cook, Chief Executive Officer of Milliken & Company of Spartanburg is continuing the visionary tradition of the late Roger Milliken. Milliken & Company of Spartanburg is developing the manufacturing process for a new nanofiber with antiviral properties in cooperation with retired Colonel David Lobb of Aiken and Ascend Materials of Florida.

Scott Gottlieb of the American Enterprise Institute in The Wall Street Journal (April 12) has thoughtfully presented a plan to reopen the economy for jobs with companies diagnosing coronavirus cases in the workplace. He understands healthy citizens need a healthy economy.

Ambassador Andre Haspel of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has thoughtfully forwarded

encouragement to members of the Congressional Caucus of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The alliance of the Netherlands and the United States is strong and appreciated to defeat the Wuhan Virus.

General Milford Beagle, Commander of Fort Jackson, with Army Chief of Staff Major General James McConville have been pro-active to protect the lives of new recruits and the dedicated personnel at Fort Jackson. The installation trains nearly 50 percent of all Soldiers and more than 60 percent of all women entering the Army each year.

Cecil Staton, President and CEO of the Asian American Hotel Owners of America, with Vice President Chirag Shah have worked tirelessly to promote the gruesomely impacted hospitality industry. AAHOA is the largest hotel owner's association in the world with 20,000 members owning half of hotels in America.

Walgreens Drug Stores with the dedicated staff in West Columbia is appreciated for featuring "Thanks to our frontline heroes." On Saturday, first responders, law enforcement, doctors and nurses will receive 30 percent off Walgreens brands and 20 percent off other brands. Drug stores, grocery stores, convenience stores and grocery stores, truckers, and other essential enterprises have been vital service for communities.

RECOGNIZING LESLIE WILLIAMS
FOR SEEING A NEED IN THE MO-
LINE COMMUNITY AND MAKING
OVER 1,200 MASKS FOR ANYONE
WHO NEEDS ONE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Leslie Williams for recognizing a need in Moline, Illinois for protective masks and making over 1,200 of them for police, firefighters and all who need them.

Leslie is currently out of work as a server and owner of a cleaning company; but is using her time to help others by creating masks during the COVID-19 pandemic. The masks are meant to go to first responders, front liners and all who need them. She says there is always something we can do to help others and that mentality is why she is a Hometown Hero. Leslie is using her forced time off to do good in the world and in her community. I commend Leslie for her efforts to help others and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

It is because of leaders such as Leslie Williams that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize Leslie Williams for her generosity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

RECOGNIZING THE FISCAL IMPACT
OF THE CORONAVIRUS PAN-
DEMIC ON THE TOWN OF SCOTCH
PLAINS, NEW JERSEY

HON. TOM MALINOWSKI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 1, 2020

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the devastating impact the