

Teresa's long list of accomplishments include implementing the Virtual Medical Room program at the Central Arkansas VA and training primary care teams at five other VA Healthcare Network facilities on telehealth.

Teresa is a champion for the veterans community throughout Arkansas and the country, and I am proud to recognize her commitment to better serve our Nation's heroes.

HONORING THE WAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT AS IOWANS OF THE WEEK

**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2020*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the men and women of the Waukee Fire Department in Waukee, Iowa as this week's Iowans of the Week.

The firefighters and paramedics of the Waukee Fire Department are an integral part of the Waukee community, and their dedication to protecting the health and safety of those they serve is nothing short of exemplary. That dedication is just as evident in the Waukee Fire Department's community engagement efforts. They're a frequent face visiting local schools, leading fire station tours, and hosting engaging, educational children's birthday parties at the fire station. I am grateful that our children have these hardworking men and women to look up to as role models.

Right now, Iowa's police, fire, and emergency services personnel are continuing to provide essential services in their communities as Iowans stay home during the coronavirus outbreak. I know that this adjustment can make folks feel apart from their neighbors, especially in close-knit communities like Waukee.

But that's not stopping the Waukee Fire Department. Thanks to the creativity and imagination of Lieutenant Tony Clemen, the department is finding a new way to get out in the community. They're bringing the birthday party—the fire truck, lights and all—to the children; they even play "Happy Birthday" over the truck's loudspeaker. Needless to say, the idea's been a hit with kids and parents alike.

And now the community is joining in. On one recent visit, the Waukee Fire Department met up with locals before making a birthday visit. Together, they formed a birthday procession over twenty cars long, honking and waving to neighborhood kids along the way. I'm so glad that Iowans are coming together to spread much-needed joy and smiles as we work to slow the spread of coronavirus together.

Our firefighters across Iowa are responding to emergency calls across our great state. I know many of our firefighters don't have the protective equipment they need, like face masks, to protect themselves during this COVID-19 outbreak. As our firefighters work to protect our communities, I will work to protect our firefighters and ensure they can get the essential equipment, protecting, training, and assistance they need.

The men and women of the Waukee Fire Department are truly making a difference in their community, especially during these chal-

lenging times. I could not be more thankful for their hard work and service, and I ask the House to join me in recognizing them as Iowans of the Week.

RECOGNIZING THE FISCAL IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC ON THE TOWN OF CLINTON, 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 coronavirus pandemic continues to have on the Town of Clinton, New Jersey and many local governments throughout my district and the country. The coronavirus has decimated local revenues and increased costs and only Congress can provide a lifeline to small towns through direct and flexible funding.

As a mayor of a small town in NJ I am not only worried about my current year's revenue loss but also the implication of that lost revenue on my 2021 budget. We cannot anticipate in a future year more revenue that we actually brought in. What we do anticipate is probably a 15–20 percent reduction in miscellaneous revenue (which is approximately one quarter of my total revenue)—this would include our court fees, permitting, Energy Tax Receipts, hotel/motel occupancy fees as well as UCC fees. What does this mean? Services may have to be cut back or eliminated that residents count on, we would not furlough employees because this is not a savings for a small town like ours—we are a "pay as you go" unemployment. Any employees we lay off we would still be responsible for the two-thirds of the salary.

What communities like Clinton need to have is the ability to replace the lost revenue in the line items so that we do not see a longer term impact with future budget years.

I know that I am not alone in my concerns and other mayors are struggling to manage—we work with slim margins and any reduction creates havoc with municipal budgets and tough decisions that impact our residents.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF CARY CHARLES CHILDS

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2020*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Cary Charles Childs, who passed away on April 18th at the age of 54. Throughout his life, Cary had a deep passion for the cattle and farming industry and he was the owner and operator of Childs Angus and Hereford and AgriServices.

He was involved with state and national 4-H Livestock Programs where he inspired countless youth over many years. Cary also served as the President of the Tippah County Fair Association for nearly 20 years, he served on the Mississippi Angus Association Board for over two-decades, and he also served on

the Mississippi Hereford Association Board for many years. Cary had a passion for Mississippi State Athletics; however his greatest passion was for his family.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Mary Childs, his parents: Charles and Gara; his brother: Roger; his son Bob Glover; and his grandchildren: Snow, Graham, and Pierce Glover as well as many other close family members and friends. Cary Childs life was one of service, grace, love for his family, and community. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

AMERICA'S GLOBAL LEADERSHIP DURING COVID-19

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2020*

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, at the outset, I thank my colleagues, Chairman AMI BERA and Ranking Member TED YOHO, for their critical work on this pressing issue.

American leadership is fundamental to the peace and security of the international order. It's the conduit through which the world can partake in the fruits of international cooperation and is particularly critical to the cause of global health—a cause in which America has always led from the front.

From 2018 through 2019, the United States provided the World Health Organization (WHO) with over \$890 million, with \$656 million coming in the form of voluntary contributions. Since launching PEPFAR in 2003, the United States has devoted more than \$90 billion towards mitigating the effects of the HIV epidemic. In Fiscal Year 2019, the U.S. dedicated approximately \$11 billion towards global health initiatives. We're the best financer and promoter of international health efforts in the world—from government agencies to non-governmental organizations, our People give hope to billions. Progress in international health, however, will remain somewhat stunted unless we accept a brutal truth: despite America's best efforts, the constant and malicious false narratives peddled by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) are the world's greatest impediment to international cooperation and better health results.

The COVID-19 pandemic has once again demonstrated that the CCP is not worthy or capable of our trust—a fact we've known for decades. Since 1949, China has lied to the world and regularly placed the supremacy of the state above any other consideration. Following the 1989 Tiananmen Square Massacre, the CCP portrayed the pro-Democracy protests as a Western plot to discredit China; by crushing these peaceful protests, the government claims it was able to pave the way for a prosperous 21st Century. Official death estimates from the protests vary widely; China has never offered reliable data on this subject—but it remains likely that several thousands of young students and their allies were killed following a brutal military crackdown.

In 2000, the CCP immediately labeled Falun Gong—a Chinese spiritual movement—as a "heretical cult," and had many of the group's followers imprisoned. A 2019 report conducted by the China Tribunal—a panel created by the International Coalition to End Transplant

Abuse in China (ET AC)—indicates that “prisoners of conscience,” especially Falun Gong practitioners, were usually targeted for organ harvesting. In 2006, a tour guide told visiting European Parliament Vice President, Edward McMillan-Scott, that he’d seen the cadaver of his friend—a Falun Gong practitioner—with numerous stitches across his body. That tour guide received five years in prison for speaking with Mr. McMillan-Scott. To this day, the Chinese government denies harvesting the organs of Falun Gong practitioners, yet reports indicate that the number of Falun Gong practitioners who are victims of organ harvesting is in, at least, the thousands, if not the hundreds of thousands.

The way the Chinese treated, and continue to treat the Falun Gong runs contrary to standards laid out by the WHO; incredibly, the WHO refuses to acknowledge the reality of China’s organ harvesting campaign.

According to the Council on Foreign Relations, between 800,000 and 2,000,000 Uighurs and ethnic Kazaks have been imprisoned in Chinese “re-education camps” since April 2017. In these camps, the CCP has condoned the practice of forced abortions and sterilization procedures on imprisoned women. Many cases of sexual abuse emanate from these institutions as well. Prisoners are placed under constant surveillance and have been forced to renounce their religious and political convictions.

In 2003, the People’s Republic of China waited three months before notifying its own people, as well as the World Health Organization, about the SARS outbreak. This pattern of late notice was repeated again last year, when the CCP hid knowledge of a new coronavirus. By December 31, both the WHO and Chinese authorities were alerted by Taiwanese officials that this virus could be spread by human-to-human transmission; but Beijing didn’t tell its own citizens anything until January 20. In the interim, China began a wholesale purge of any whistleblowers; arresting Dr. Li Wenliang and eight other doctors. Earlier this month, Dr. Ai Fei, the Director of Emergency Services at Wuhan Central Hospital and a former colleague to Dr. Li, disappeared. Untold numbers of doctors, reporters, lawyers, and other civil activists have been reported missing for defying the government’s draconian restrictions on information sharing.

Silencing whistleblowers and ignoring Taiwan weren’t the only sins the Communist Party of China committed during the pandemic. On December 31, the CCP began censoring social media, and launched a campaign to find those who’d criticized the government’s response to the virus. Shortly afterwards, both the Hubei Provincial Health Commission and the National Health Commission ordered gene sequencing companies and institutions to destroy testing samples; all in the hopes of preventing the spread of new information regarding the virus. On January 5, the Wuhan Municipal Health Commissions stopped issuing daily updates about the virus for almost two weeks; on January 6, the CCP declined a U.S. CDC offer of assistance. From January 8–9, CCP health officials stated that there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission of the virus; and it also finally announced the COVID–19 outbreak in public.

On January 12, the CCP provided the WHO with the virus’ genomic information. On January 14, the WHO stated that there was no evi-

dence to suggest that the virus could be spread by human-to-human transmission. This raises many flags—given the fact that the WHO had access to the virus’ genomic information, and it’s troubling that an international institution would so quickly provide this kind of sweeping statement without a thorough analysis of the data.

Given the fact that the threat of COVID–19 was significantly downplayed by CCP’s health authorities, nearly 5 million people were able to leave Wuhan, China before the government imposed a quarantine on January 21. On January 22, the WHO stated that, while there was evidence of human-to-human transmission, more work was needed to determine the extent of the transmission. The very next day, WHO Director, General Tedros, voted against declaring the outbreak of the SARs–CoV–2 virus as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, justifying his vote by saying there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission outside of China.

On January 27, the Mayor of Wuhan admitted that strict regulations imposed by the Beijing government prevented him from saying much about the new virus. On January 29, the WHO praised China’s reaction to the coronavirus pandemic, while also declaring a Public Health Emergency of International Concern the very next day. President Trump wisely closed off U.S. travel to Chinese visitors on January 31.

Well over a month passed before China allowed a restricted visit to the WHO; yet that institution continued to parrot the CCP line. Numerous other infractions colored China’s response to the coronavirus—from threatening criminal charges against those using social media to spread information regarding COVID–19, to blaming the United States Army for the outbreak.

This Congress should demand that China be held accountable for its gross negligence and cover-up during the current crisis. My hope is that everything we’ve discussed today demonstrates that this is more than just a one-off botching; lies and obfuscation form an essential part of the Chinese government methodology. China has given us every reason to believe that it’ll never be a good faith partner, and so our future efforts must include taking targeted actions to mitigate its influence.

Many actions need to be taken; the first of which has already been done. I applaud President Trump and his Administration for committing to withhold all future funding to the WHO until extensive organizational change is made. The mind-boggling irresponsibility of the WHO during this pandemic just proves that it’s powerfully influenced and irreparably compromised by the machinations of the CCP. The second step is for the U.S. to strongly advocate for the inclusion of Taiwan in the WHO. Our Nation has withstood some of the greatest challenges in human history, and we’ll rise to this one. Time is of the essence, though. The CCP is presently the greatest enemy to both global health and the United States, and our policies must reflect that.

Despite this sobering reality, we dare to hope for a better future for ourselves and for the Chinese people—the first victims of their government’s oppressive regime. With full acknowledgement of the imposing task in front of us, we’ll once again demonstrate to the world why the cause of freedom and peace is in good hands.

RECOGNIZING ARKANSAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR POST-PEAK RESPONSE

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 1, 2020*

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and partnership of Arkansas medical professionals and state agencies in their efforts to combat the spread of COVID–19 and prepare to rebuild.

Governor Asa Hutchinson recently announced the formation of the Governor’s Medical Advisory Committee for Post-Peak COVID–19 Response.

Focusing on public health strategy after Arkansas reaches the peak of its COVID–19 cases, this committee is tasked to examine testing capabilities and social distancing protocols and make necessary recommendations to avoid a resurgence of cases.

This work is critical to ensuring the health and safety of all Arkansans while continuing to pave the way for the opening of our state.

On behalf of all Arkansans, I thank Governor Hutchinson, the members serving on this important committee, and all of the medical professionals and health care workers on the frontlines battling COVID–19.

RECOGNIZING THE FISCAL IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC ON THE TOWN OF DOVER, 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 coronavirus pandemic continues to have on the Town of Dover, New Jersey and many local governments throughout my district and the country. The coronavirus has decimated local revenues and increased costs and only Congress can provide a lifeline to small towns through direct and flexible funding.

Due to COVID–19 the Town of Dover has been forced to take unprecedented measures to educate the community on the virus and CDC guidelines to ensure the residents understand and practice social distancing and other protocols. These measures have forced the Town to have a higher number of expenses that were not included in the budget, therefore, the Town has to suspend a number of services and activities for the residents. Furthermore, the number of unemployed residents has increased which has created a very high demand for basic essentials like food, personal hygiene items, baby food and diapers. The Town was forced to suspend all parking enforcement, permits, and sports activities which all have negatively impacted revenues. The Town was not able to hire additional firemen during this very difficult time, which puts the existing personnel at higher risk. We desperately need financial support to help ensure that our community is able to bounce back from this health and economic pandemic.