

success into a successful run for Congress. I am extremely proud of him.

Deb, Steve, and RODNEY gave their blood, sweat, and tears to me for 24 years. Some say that they still do. I want to thank them here today.

GET SERIOUS ABOUT FUNDING STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, one of the most dynamic and striking figures in American history was General George Patton. He was famous for saying: Lead, follow, or get out of the way.

Mr. Speaker, those words were given at a time of world crisis when he was leading the Third Army through France and Germany and still ring true today. We are in a world crisis.

This morning, the government released its GDP numbers, and it showed that, in the second quarter, the U.S. economy shrunk by 10 percent. That is the largest number since the government started recording GDP numbers since 1947. Annualized, that is a 33 percent hit to the economy.

What is even more, I think, concerning, is that the new numbers in terms of new first-time unemployment claims this morning grew again this past week to 1.43 million claims.

Yesterday, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, Jerome Powell, foot-stomped the fact that not just the numbers from last quarter are of concern, but, again, looking out in the future, the Federal Reserve sees trouble ahead. The amount of credit card activity is dropping, and again, as I said, new first-time claims are growing.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Powell, back in May, warned us that the CARES Act was not going to be enough. This economy needed more fiscal stimulus, and the House did show leadership because we passed the HEROES Act, which was a package of fiscal measures whose cornerstone was extending unemployment compensation and State and local assistance, again, following the lead of the Federal Reserve Board Chairman, who said that those are the most efficient ways to make sure that this economy does not falter.

Well, here we are today, finally, after the Senate responded with sort of a package, which, again, is completely missing any relief for State and local government and which has this convoluted unemployment extension, which Secretary Scalia, President Trump's own Secretary of Labor, said would take 8 weeks for State government departments of labor to implement.

It is totally inadequate, totally insufficient to deal with the magnitude of the challenge. Again, when we look at State and local assistance, there is not a Member in this body who does not have a board of education, a local council, or a finance board that is

struggling with making sure that public safety, public education, and public works are going to continue because revenue is cratering just the way the government showed this morning that the economy is cratering.

We have this debate about defunding the police. Not voting for the HEROES Act was, de facto, defunding the police. How are local governments, which primarily fund police departments, going to have the resources in this economy to make sure that people's public safety ranks are, in fact, protected?

Mr. Speaker, MCCONNELL's plan, which he released earlier in week, his own people called it a mess, a mistake—TED CRUZ. The President said it is semi-irrelevant.

It is time to wake up and get serious. The blueprint is there with the HEROES Act, in terms of making sure that we heed the warnings of President Trump's own economic advisers—Chairman Powell—and look at these numbers this morning: historic, jaw-dropping.

We need to act. It is time to listen to General Patton: Lead, follow, or get out of the way.

RESILIENCY OF FLORIDIANS

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the resiliency of the people of my home State of Florida.

Floridians have long been recognized for their ability to persevere amidst crisis and hardships. From hurricanes to flash floods, from war efforts to pandemics, our homestead is the most resilient place in the world, but it is the people who make it truly special.

During these difficult days, I have traveled throughout our district, meeting unsung heroes in our communities. From first responders and medical personnel risking their lives and health to small business owners adjusting to continue serving their community, the dedication and passion for others and for our community is truly inspiring.

It is during trying times that we truly get to know who we are, what we are made of. And I can tell you this: The good people of Florida 15 stand strong.

Whether you live or work in Hillsborough, Polk, or Lake Counties, you know how special our district and Main Streets truly are. So today, I thought I would take just a moment to say thank you to all those who make Florida 15 what we call it, our home.

HONORING LAKELAND CITY MANAGER TONY DELGADO

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Tony Delgado for his 23 years of service to the city of Lakeland, Florida.

Mr. Delgado began his service to city residents in 1997 as a facilities assistant director and, through hard work and dedication, quickly climbed the

ranks to become Lakeland's city manager, known as someone who is approachable and always accessible to his colleagues, his staff, and the city's residents.

Mr. Delgado leaves behind a legacy of accomplishments, an impact that won't soon be forgotten. Mr. Delgado has always been known as someone who builds bridges and brings people together. In my time of knowing him and his team, they have been nothing but helpful and professional, exuding the values of our district.

A loving and devoted husband to his wife, Robin, I want to wish them both the very, very best in the next chapter of their lives.

Tony, all the best to you. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your hard work and your dedication. Lakeland is a better city, a better community, because of your selfless service.

SUPPORTING BORDER SECURITY

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to once again express my full support of President Trump's efforts to secure our borders, restore law and order, and complete the wall on our southwestern border.

Since I joined Congress, time and time again, Democrats in this Chamber and their allies have sought to stop the President from securing our borders and protecting the American people.

Even this week, Democratic leadership has continued this attack on the President and on the American people. In multiple portions of the bills meant to fund the government next year, Democrats have not only prohibited funds from being used to build the wall, but they have also sought to rescind funds already allocated for border security by President Trump.

I have traveled to the border myself, and I will tell you this: Walls work. And the Border Patrol officers I spoke with when I was there agree: Walls work.

According to Customs and Border Protection, during the first 6 months of 2020 this year, 180,000 people were apprehended or deemed inadmissible. In 2019, last year, during the same period, this number was almost 600,000. That is a reduction of 416,000 people, or a whopping 70 percent.

A more secure border means safer communities across America, and as of July 27, 256 miles of the border wall system has been completed.

As our Nation experiences social unrest from coast to coast, it is critical that we restore law and order, to include our borders. President Trump has pledged to continue to do just that, and I am proud to stand with him in this effort.

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REMEMBERING CHAUNCEY LEE VEATCH III

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and in memory of Chauncey Lee Veatch III.

Chauncey was a natural leader with an incredible passion for life, education, and helping others. He was a tremendous educator, a lieutenant colonel in the United States Army, National Teacher of the Year, and a mentor to so many in the Coachella Valley.

It was a high privilege to call him my friend.

Chauncey personally inspired me, encouraged me, and guided me as well as my friend and current assembly member, Eduardo Garcia, and Riverside County Supervisor Manny Perez and many students and teachers from the Coachella Valley.

Chauncey was exceptionally brilliant. His brother, Gregory, said, even in middle school, his teachers knew he was smarter than they were.

He paired his unique intelligence and gifts with an extraordinary work ethic. He studied history at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, where he was inspired by the civil rights work of Cesar Chavez, and helped register voters as a United Farm Workers volunteer.

After college, he went on to the University of Notre Dame, where he obtained his juris doctor degree. Chauncey then served in the U.S. Army Infantry and the Medical Service Corps for over 20 years, retiring in 1995 as a lieutenant colonel.

After retiring from the Army, Chauncey began his service as an educator at John Kelley Elementary School in Thermal, California, later becoming a teacher at my alma mater, Coachella Valley High School. Coachella Valley Unified School District was fortunate to have such a devoted and fine man.

As a teacher, he was renowned for his ability to present complex material to his students in simple, understandable ways and to mentor each of them on an individual basis, helping them to achieve their fullest potential.

Later in life, Chauncey served on The Desert Sun newspaper's editorial board for more than 7 years. In 2010, he co-led the Coachella Valley Healthcare Initiative with me, bringing together the community to address the healthcare access crisis in our disadvantaged and underserved communities.

In each of his endeavors, he gave everything he had. In a word, Chauncey's life was full: full of joy, full of generosity, and full of love. He saw the best in people.

Not only that, he drew out the best in people. He saw in others what they did not see in themselves, and he would not rest until he helped them achieve what he knew they were capable of. In fact, a lot of people are where they are today because their paths crossed with Chauncey's.

He helped many of his students achieve their dreams of becoming a teacher. Serving disadvantaged students, he also helped many become the

first in their generation to go to college, even helping them get into good schools and elite schools like Notre Dame and Harvard.

His leadership was in his acts, his words, and his presence. He showed people the way. His brother called him a builder of dreams. I call him an architect of goodness whose deep commitment and mentorship to his students turned barriers into opportunities, disadvantages into strengths, and transformed our communities for generations to come.

Our world has lost a light, our community has lost a leader, and I have lost a mentor and a close friend. Today I mourn with his family and celebrate his full life, knowing that he was a good man, an outstanding citizen, and a veteran whose impact will live on in our communities. My wife, Monica, and I will miss him very much.

THANK YOU TO PA-15 CONSTITUENTS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight several of my constituents who have gone out of their way to make a positive impact during the coronavirus pandemic.

Over the past few months, it has been easy to feel surrounded by nothing but negative news. In an effort to highlight the good news that we weren't seeing enough of, I started a social media campaign called PA-15 Cares. PA-15 Cares highlights all of the volunteers who have gone above and beyond during this pandemic to lend a helping hand, to help their neighbors in need, and to brighten the spirits of all those impacted by COVID-19. Today, Mr. Speaker, I would like to share a few examples of those who rose to the occasion during this pandemic.

Many chose to make masks for frontline workers, including high school student Morgan McConnell of Cambria County. While her school was closed, Morgan made good use of her time and made more than 500 masks in just the first week. It is her way of helping others, and she has given many of the masks to local hospital employees free of charge.

Selfless small business owners, even those who may be struggling financially as a result of the pandemic, have stopped to ask: How can I help?

Rick Ardini, owner of Rik-N-Nik's restaurant in Ebensburg, has provided countless meals for those out of work, children, the elderly, and anyone else who needed them. He also gave great advice: "Talk to each other, learn about each other, spend some time, and play some games. Be a family. Slow life down."

Another small business which also happens to be in Ebensburg has been providing a critical service for the first

responders. SERVPRO partnered with the Dauntless Volunteer Fire Department to provide free cleaning and sanitation services for emergency response vehicles.

The Girl Scouts of Western Pennsylvania have also stepped up to give back to their community. They have started a Hometown Heroes program to give free cookies to frontline workers, including medical professionals, first responders, nursing home staff, the Army National Guard, and more.

Lastly, I would like to highlight Samantha Schrecengost of Punxsutawney. Samantha, a Senior Corps volunteer, and the folks at Community Action started a Phone-A-Friend program for seniors. Due to COVID-19, many elderly Americans have been cut off from loved ones, and isolation can take a mental and emotional toll. Volunteers of the Phone-A-Friend program call seniors two to three times a week to check in, see how they can be helpful, and just share a few minutes of friendly conversation with our seniors.

Mr. Speaker, I am encouraged to see how the communities in my district have come together in such an unprecedented time of crisis to find a way to support one another.

SALUTING EARLY EDUCATORS AND CHILDCARE WORKERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Mrs. TRAHAN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the early educators and childcare workers who have sacrificed so much for our children and their parents across the Nation throughout this pandemic.

As a working mom, I know how critical they are to our families and to our economy. The fact is, had our childcare workers not done their part, many other essential workers like our nurses, firefighters, police officers, postal workers, food service and sanitation employees, and grocery workers could not have done theirs.

The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated what we have known to be true all along, that our childcare workforce is essential. That is why I was proud to cast my vote yesterday for the Child Care Is Essential Act. The House advanced bold legislation to ensure that our childcare workforce has the support it needs to operate childcare centers safely.

I would like to commend my colleagues, Representatives ROSA DELAUNO, BOBBY SCOTT, and KATHERINE CLARK, for their leadership on this critical issue.

The fact is, even before the pandemic, enrolling an infant or toddler in a quality childcare program could be enormously expensive. Frankly, there was inadequate support to make those programs fit in the household budgets for many families.