

I know that everyone in this Chamber came here to make their mark, to better their communities, to strengthen our Nation. We must seize this moment. We must seize it for Trisha and Jed. We must seize it for their children. We must seize it for their children's children.

We must show the Nation that Congress is up to the task that is before us now. We must and will act now.

RECOGNIZING INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY BANKERS ASSOCIATION

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

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Independent Community Bankers Association and Little Rock's Venture Center. Together, they have renewed their partnership and commitment to the ThinkTECH Accelerator program for an additional 3 years.

The ThinkTECH Accelerator brings community banks and fintech innovators together to develop new technologies specifically for community banks and the customers they serve. Not only has it received high praise from local government and top business leaders, but this renewal will keep tech entrepreneurs coming back to Arkansas for mentorship and much-needed capital.

I look forward to working alongside the ICBA, the Venture Center, State leaders, and our entrepreneurs to continuously aid our small banks and enhance our economy here at home.

RECOGNIZING KAYLE BROWNING

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Kayle Browning's great achievement of representing Arkansas and the United States of America at the Tokyo Olympics as a part of Team USA's Olympic trap team.

Kayle is from Wooster, Arkansas, and graduated from Greenbrier High School. She went on to attend the University of Central Arkansas.

Kayle started shooting at the young age of 8 in the yard with her dad, who is also an avid sporting clay shooter.

She began her target shooting career in sporting clay and then made the All-America Team at the age of 12. Kayle also represented Arkansas and Team USA as an alternate in the 2012 Olympics in London.

Kayle has shown dedication and determination over the years, and I am proud to have her represent our State on the national stage as an Olympian.

I congratulate her on her achievement of joining Team USA's Olympic trap team.

RECOGNIZING COACH MARCUS DAVIS

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Coach Marcus Davis on his recent retirement from the Little Rock School District.

Coach Davis has been an integral member of the Little Rock School Dis-

trict for 36 years, 33 of which were spent at Cloverdale Middle School.

In his tenure in the Little Rock District, Coach Davis has served as the head boys basketball coach, head girls volleyball coach, and the head girls track coach. In addition, Coach Davis taught both physical education and health education.

The lasting connections Coach Davis made with his athletes and students over the course of nearly four decades is truly inspirational.

On behalf of all Arkansans, I thank Coach Davis for his devotion to educating and coaching our youth, and I congratulate him on a terrific career and a well-deserved retirement.

CONGRATULATING LITTLE ROCK ON BICYCLE FRIENDLY AWARD

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the city of Little Rock, Arkansas, for being awarded the Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community Award from the League of American Bicyclists.

As a biker and former board member of Bicycle Advocacy for Central Arkansas, I am pleased that my hometown was honored for its commitment to improving biking and safer streets for everyone.

The Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community Award recognizes the city of Little Rock for creating transportation and recreational resources that benefit its residents of all ages and abilities while encouraging healthier and more sustainable transportation choices.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the League of American Bicyclists for highlighting Little Rock's efforts to make biking a safe, accessible option for people whether they are commuting to essential jobs or simply enjoying our growing, amazing network of trails.

SUPPORT STRUCTURAL CHANGE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

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

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday of last week, I was proud to join my colleagues to vote for the historic George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

This legislation represents the first of many steps we need to take to achieve structural change in our criminal justice system, our police, and our society. The American people are demanding action, and they are not interested in more studies or talking points or half measures.

I have been inspired by what I have seen in the Illinois communities that I represent, in places like Naperville, Aurora, and Joliet, where people of all backgrounds have come together to say enough is enough. I have been proud to stand with those in my district and across the country who are calling for change, and I am proud to help amplify their voices.

We are all frustrated that prior action was not taken to prevent the hor-

ror that we have witnessed far too often of Black Americans being unjustly killed at the hands of law enforcement.

For a lot of people, the video of George Floyd being killed when a Minnesota police officer knelt on his neck for nearly 9 minutes was shocking and put this problem front and center, as did the senseless and brutal killing of Breonna Taylor in Louisville.

But for Black Americans, this is not a new problem. It is just more of the same, more senseless, unjust killings of Black Americans by abusive police officers, who often seem to be protected by law enforcement systems plagued by structural racism.

Black Americans shouldn't have had to wait this long for Congress to take action. They deserve a Congress that is responsive to this longstanding crisis, and they deserve a President who wants to lead our Nation to a more just place for people of color instead of the opposite.

□ 0930

No, Mr. President, white power is nothing to celebrate.

So I am proud that the House took action and a step in the right direction with the Justice in Policing Act, which includes key reforms like banning chokeholds and no-knock warrants, mandating the use of body cameras, ending racial and religious profiling by the police, demilitarizing the local police departments, and strengthening accountability measures to hold abusive police officers accountable for their actions.

Most Members of this House can share stories of similar incidents in their own districts, often leading to the deaths of their constituents that should have been prevented. And I know that my colleagues join me in honoring the memory of Black lives that have been unjustly lost to police brutality.

As I cast my vote, I carried with me with one of Naperville's very own, Sandra Bland. Sandra grew up in Naperville before moving to Texas to pursue her education and earn a degree in agriculture. She then returned to Illinois, where she was a brave activist who worked for social justice and community engagement.

A few days after celebrating the Fourth of July with her family back in Naperville, Sandra went back to Texas to begin a job at her alma mater, Prairie View A&M, a historically Black State university.

On July 10, 2015, she was pulled over on an empty suburban street for failing to signal a lane change. She was arrested and 3 days later found hanged to death in her jail cell.

Sandra Bland should never have been arrested. She should be alive today and looking forward to celebrating another Fourth of July with her family this weekend, just like George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and the countless Black Americans who have been the

victims of discrimination and brutality throughout the history of our country.

Two months before her death, Sandra Bland posted a video raising awareness about this important and deadly issue. “Black lives matter,” she said. “They matter. In the news that we’ve seen as of late,” Sandra said, “you could stand there, surrender to the cops, and still be killed.” That is what Sandra said 2 months before it happened to her.

Well, I am here on the floor of the House to say that Sandra Bland’s life mattered, George Floyd’s life mattered, Breonna Taylor’s life mattered, and Black lives matter, and it is past time that the laws of our Nation reflect it.

HONORING GROCERY AND CONVENIENCE STORE WORKERS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, America found itself in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is a crisis, the likes of which many have not experienced in their lifetimes. There are those who run from the crisis, those who run toward it, and those who find themselves right in the middle without any say in the matter.

Today, many of those in the middle are the men and women stocking, sanitizing, and serving our communities in grocery and convenience stores throughout our country. These employees are among the unsung heroes in the fight against COVID-19 who have been overlooked not only in appreciation, but also in our support.

Grocery stores and convenience stores play a critical role in our Nation’s food supply chain, and reliable access to healthy foods is essential for all Americans, as we have seen throughout this crisis.

To thank them for working around the clock and putting themselves at risk throughout the pandemic, I would say that the employees working our grocery stores and our convenience stores have probably had more exposure to the public than any other position out there.

To thank them for what they do, I have introduced the Giving Retailers and Our Convenience Employees Relief Act, or the GROCER Act. The GROCER Act would alleviate the Federal tax burden for grocery store and convenience store workers from February 15, 2020, to June 15, 2020, for individuals making less than \$75,000 a year. The bill also gives the Treasury Secretary discretion to extend this benefit for an additional 3 months.

The hardworking men and women stocking our shelves are among the unsung heroes during the COVID-19 pandemic. These frontline workers are putting in overtime to ensure that we have the resources we need to weather this storm.

In times of crisis like these, we learn to fully appreciate these workers who

play a valuable role in our food supply chain. Food is something that connects all of us, and access to food is something we all depend upon.

I am proud that this is a bipartisan bill, and I would like to thank my colleague, Congressman DWIGHT EVANS from Philadelphia, for joining me to lead this effort.

The GROCER Act is a simple way to say thank you to these workers who leave their families each day, risking exposure to the virus, in order to ensure that our families and constituents have access to the food and resources we need. Without these workers, millions of Americans would struggle to access necessities.

The GROCER Act is a commonsense way to compensate and support our grocery and convenience store workers. The Federal tax holiday for these workers would put more of their hard-earned money back into their pockets to support themselves and their families.

I would like to urge my colleagues to join me in thanking these frontline workers by supporting and cosponsoring the GROCER Act.

REBUILDING AND RENEWING AMERICA

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, people every day are struggling to make sense of the most challenging times our Nation has seen in more than a century, and that is saying something.

A hundred years ago, we were recovering from the Spanish flu pandemic that hit America hard and people around the globe. Ten years later, we had the stock market crash, the Great Depression, and massive unemployment.

But today, we have all of those circumstances and more. We are in the middle of a pandemic. We have the resulting economic upheaval. We reached near depression-era levels of unemployment, and rather than take 3 years, as happened in the 1930s, it has happened in a matter of 3 weeks.

We have the climate crisis which my colleagues have addressed so eloquently today both in terms of the challenge and what we can do about it. Luckily, the world is finally acknowledging that, but it is still too slow to respond.

We have some lessons that we, I think, have learned from what we quaintly called the Great Recession of 10 years ago. As somebody who was legislating in the middle of it and watching the impact in my community and around the country, it seemed horrific. But it pales by comparison with what people are facing today and the demands for racial justice.

My colleagues in introducing their handiwork of the Select Committee on

the Climate Crisis all acknowledged that that is at the forefront of our thinking. There is a recognition that demands for racial justice, long overdue and now widely acknowledged, is more than just law enforcement and criminal justice reform.

Racial justice means addressing the dramatic health disparities that have been put in the spotlight as a result of the COVID-19 disaster. It means they must address the housing defunction in this country, the lack of affordable housing, a crisis of homelessness, people on the verge of losing their homes to eviction, and foreclosure that is looming on the horizon.

We need more affordable housing and we need more of it if we are going to deal with those demands for racial justice. We need safer, sustainable communities and economic justice and opportunities.

Luckily, the House this week is dealing with ways to advance a vision that addresses all of those. The climate blueprint that has been acknowledged, the hard work of the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis to protect the climate, protect the planet, also has embedded in it: opportunities to improve the quality of life in every community, new economic opportunities that will be widely shared, reducing costs for families, and strengthening the capacity of local government to meet their climate challenge.

H.R. 2, the handiwork of my friend and colleague, PETER DEFAZIO, the chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, is a modest 1,067 pages. It is full of opportunities to rebuild and renew America in a sustainable fashion, to share economic opportunity, to have a low-carbon future, energy efficiency, and electrification of the transportation system. Part of it rescues the post office, replacing hundreds of thousands of their vehicles with electric cars which will help build the platform for further electrification.

These are a variety of elements that, woven together, is a new vision for Congress and this country. It can start yet before we adjourn this Congress. I hope that we will have some bipartisan cooperation to embrace these critical principles and move that forward.

But the extent to which there is delay, we are setting the stage for the next Congress, for the next administration being able to engage people around the country with a new way of rebuilding and renewing America, making our families safer, healthier, and more economically secure.

RECOGNIZING KIM CHAMBERLAIN

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to recognize my good friend Kim Chamberlain for her service to Shasta County.

Kim was born and raised in a pear orchard just out of Seoul, South Korea,