House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Mary Lott Walker of Blackshear, Georgia, who passed away on May 12 at the age of 85.

Mary loved her city of Blackshear, her State of Georgia, and her country, the United States of America, devoutly.

After graduating from Georgia State College for Women, Mary began her influential career in public education.

Mary was also involved in politics, becoming the first woman in Blackshear to serve as mayor pro tempore.

Through her work in Georgian education, politics, and historical preservation, Mary inspired young people to achieve greatness.

Above all, she devoted more than 67 years of membership and leadership to the Blackshear Presbyterian Church.

Mary's profound community impacts will be felt for generations to come.

My thoughts and prayer are with her family, friends, and all who knew her during this most difficult time.

THE CARE ECONOMY IS THE HEART OF AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

(Ms. JACOBS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACOBS of California. Mr. Speaker, even before COVID–19 hit, the care economy was at the heart of our communities.

Care workers keep our kids safe, our families healthy, and our businesses open.

Last week, I met with a group of childcare providers in San Diego, extraordinary women who do this work because they have a passion for helping kids. They love their jobs and they love the kids they care for, but that doesn't mean they should have to accept low wages and job insecurity.

When the pandemic hit, thousands of childcare centers across the country closed, including more than 500 in San Diego County, leading to devastating job loss in an industry that is 95 percent women.

The American Rescue Plan included $39 billion in grants to help parents afford childcare, and funding to help providers stay open and pay workers.

Now we need to go further.

The American Families Plan will create universal pre-K, make childcare affordable to all, and pay care workers a living wage.

Mr. Speaker, let's make sure that we care for the amazing workers who care for our future.

RECOGNIZING FLAG DAY AND CELEBRATING THE UNITED STATES ARMY'S 246TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Flag Day and celebrate the United States Army's 246th birthday that we observed on Monday of this week.

Every year, just a few days after Memorial Day, on June 14, our country celebrates Flag Day and the Army's birthday.

Flag Day is a celebration of our Stars and Stripes, which the Second Continental Congress designated as the symbol of our Nation on June 14, 1777.

While our flag has changed over the years to celebrate our growing country, it remains a glorious symbol of hope for our brave servicemen and -women who salute it; defend it; serve it; and, in some cases, die for it, to protect our freedom and liberty.

Since our founding, our flag has flown from sea to shining sea and around the world. Old Glory remains one of the most powerful symbols on Earth.

June 14 is also the U.S. Army's birthday. Without our Army 246 years ago, we would not be the great Nation that we are today.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, our great Nation celebrated our Army and our flag, both of which symbolize America being the land of the free and the home of the brave.

AMERICANS MUST GET VACCINATED

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, we are not normal. We are not over the pandemic. We are not over coronavirus and COVID–19.

Many people in our country, over a majority in my State of Tennessee, have not been immunized, have not had the vaccine.

I urge everyone to get vaccinated.

When I was a young child, 5 years old, I got polio. Four months before I got polio, my father gave the polio vaccine to second graders in a test in Tennessee. He gave it to my brother in the second grade. He took some vaccine home to give to me, but decided it was outside of his call and didn't do it. I got polio. It has affected me every day of my life since, and it affected my father as well.

I urge everybody to get the vaccine, not to regret it. Keep your children, your family, and your neighbors safe and free from illness.

A MOMENT OF THANKS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is not often when you can stand on the floor of the House and use the terminology: I feel full or filled.

It is a terminology that many of us are familiar with in the religious communities of our Black American tradition.

But after a journey of 10 years, I just want to take this moment to thank all of my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, who showed America that there is unity in the understanding of our history, that the history of slavery is the original sin and should never be ignored.

But now we have a national independence holiday for Juneteenth. Let us come together.

I thank Senator MARKEY; Senator CORNYN; Senator SMITH; our friend DANNY DAVIS; Doug Matthews; the Moody family; and, of course, Reverend Thomas and many others from the Galveston area; Opal Lee; and the father of Juneteenth, the late Representative Al Edwards.

Opal Lee still lives. She brought 1.6 million petitions to the United States Congress in the dead of summer.

On behalf of all who have waited for this, I thank them. And to the Congressional Black Caucus, JOYCE BEATTY as the Chair, we stand here as the conscience of the Congress thanking them with all my colleagues.

Again, we say our message is our power. We are here to serve, and there is more to come in changing lives for justice, equality, and freedom. That is what happened today.

IN SUPPORT OF SMALL LOCAL FARMERS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service, small family farms account for 90 percent of all U.S. farms. These farms are vital to local communities and economies, and they provide fresh produce for their local farmers' markets, farm-to-school programs, soup kitchens, and a host of other local consumer activity. Sales attributed to these farmers can total up to $12 billion annually.

I was thrilled to see President Biden's administration, through the Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, recently announce $400 million in funding to support local, regional, and socially disadvantaged farmers. This is dedicated funding that will go directly toward local producers and local and regional food systems to help revitalize the essential farming that makes America proud.

I was also pleased that the administration included Secretary Vilsack in its new Supply Chain Disruptions Task Force. This will address the unfair trade practices that have allowed for cheap and unjust agriculture labor practices to continue at home and abroad.

They have allowed large agriculture companies to thrive and put their food all over grocers' shelves, while our