

year-old Anne T. Smedinghoff, who grew up in River Forest, Illinois, in the Seventh Congressional District where her family still lives, became the first U.S. State Department officer to die in Afghanistan since the 1970s. She had less than 4 months left to serve in Afghanistan.

Secretary of State Kerry said in Istanbul, where he is on a diplomatic trip:

A brave American was determined to brighten the light of learning through books written in the native tongue of the students that she had never met, but whom she felt compelled to help, and she was met by cowardly terrorists determined to bring darkness and death to total strangers.

Anne was killed while delivering donated textbooks to children at a new school. For Anne, who could have remained relatively safe in the embassy, delivering these books was essential to her mission, just as appearing on one of the most watched Afghan television shows to explain to the Afghan people the similarities between Eid, a Muslim holiday that celebrates giving and sharing, and Thanksgiving. Both give thanks for life's blessings, and Anne Smedinghoff discussed how she and her family celebrated back at home.

Anne recently worked on a campaign to end gender violence by producing and distributing videos to the press across the country and was rewarded when she and her colleagues saw photographs of Afghan men in markets wearing purple ribbons, a symbol of the campaign.

Her parents, Tom and Mary Beth Smedinghoff, said the foreign service was a calling, and Afghanistan was her second deployment, an assignment for which she had volunteered after a tour in Caracas, Venezuela. She died her parents said, doing a job she thought must be done. They said:

She particularly enjoyed the opportunity to work directly with the Afghan people, and was always looking for opportunities to reach out and help make a difference in the lives of those living in a country ravaged by war. We are consoled knowing that she was doing what she loved and that she was serving her country by helping to make a positive difference in the world.

Before she joined the State Department, Anne served on the board of directors for the Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults' 4K for Cancer program, spending a summer cycling across the United States to raise money and awareness. She was full of life and hope. She rode her bicycle from the Red Sea to the Dead Sea. She was once photographed with a boa constrictor around her neck in South America.

□ 1010

The residents of the Seventh Congressional District join me in honoring her life and work. Her bravery, her focus on using public diplomacy for positive change, her vision of the human potential, wherever it might be, sets a standard that it behooves all of us to try and emulate.

Today a flag is being flown across the United States Capitol in her honor in

recognition of her service to our country. My thoughts and prayers are with her parents, brothers, sisters, and friends during these difficult days. She is indeed a hero.

WHO WILL SPEAK FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED WOMEN?

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

Mr. PERRY. I'm wondering who will speak for underprivileged women, not only in the United States, but very particularly in Philadelphia.

I'm here today to talk about an uncomfortable subject which no one seems to want to talk about. It is the Gosnell trial in Philadelphia. The media doesn't want to talk about it—not NBC, CBS, ABC, CNBC, not Fox, and not the leaders of our Nation, not the President. It is uncomfortable, and I'd ask you to bear with me while I read to you some of the testimony that comes from this trial because I feel we must.

This man is charged with killing seven babies and murdering one woman. The prosecutors believe Mr. Gosnell killed hundreds of infants and destroyed the related records so we will never know. Mr. Gosnell "induced labor, forced the live birth of viable babies in the sixth, seventh, eighth month of pregnancy and then killed those babies by cutting into the back of the neck with scissors and severing their spinal cord." He called it "snipping." Sherry West, one of his clinic employees, testified on Monday that one newborn at the clinic was 18 to 24 inches long when it was killed:

There were scores more. At least one other mother died following an abortion in which Gosnell punctured her uterus and then sent her home. He left an arm and a leg of a partially aborted fetus in the womb of another woman, and then told her he did not need to see her when she became sick days later, having developed a temperature of 106 degrees. He perforated bowels, cervixes, and uteruses. He left women sterile.

The clinic reeked of animal urine. Furniture and blankets were stained with blood, and instruments were not properly sterilized, according to the grand jury report.

These women are the most vulnerable women in our society, and they were, indeed, most likely at their darkest hour. They went to this clinic to seek help, and they did not know that this man was not qualified nor was his staff qualified to perform any of the procedures that they performed:

There were bags and bottles holding aborted fetuses scattered throughout the building. There were jars lining shelves with severed feet that he kept for no medical purpose.

These women came because they were probably the product of violent home lives, where they felt they had no options. They came to this care provider, who was essentially unregulated. This does fall into the purview of the

United States Attorney General because these patients oftentimes traveled across State lines.

This is an isolated incident. It would be disingenuous to think that all caregivers fall into this category because we know that they do not. But we also know that if there is one, there may likely be others, and that is, indeed, sad.

Prosecutors say that none of Gosnell's staff were licensed nurses or doctors and that a 15-year-old student performed anesthesia with potentially lethal narcotics.

Abortions after the 24th week are illegal in Pennsylvania. However, Gosnell allegedly aborted and killed babies in the sixth and seventh month of pregnancy and charged more for bigger babies. He also took extra precautions with white women from the suburbs, according to a grand jury report. He allegedly ushered them into a slightly cleaner area because he thought they would be more likely to file a complaint.

The abortions of the biggest babies allegedly were scheduled for Sundays, when the clinic was closed. The only person allowed to assist with such cases was Gosnell's wife, Pearl Gosnell. She was one of nine employees charged with him as well in this, and she has not obtained a lawyer at this time. He allegedly took the files home with him from the patients that he dealt with and then disposed of them.

I would say this. It gives me great pain and sorrow to have this entered and read into the RECORD. But since the media outlets refuse to cover this because it's uncomfortable, because it might not meet with their agenda, and because many of the leaders of this country refuse to discuss it, I think it's important that we have it read into the RECORD so that this history and their stories don't remain untold—the stories of these women in their most desperate hours, and the stories of these little babies that will never know the privilege of being an American, that will never realize their dream.

I would make this charge today: Mr. President, your silence is deafening. Are you so blind, are you so intractable, are you so extreme that you yourself can't even call this out for what it is, something that is reprehensible? Pro-life or pro-choice, this is reprehensible. As a father, as I am, of two little girls, it is worthy of your attention, it is worthy of your leadership, it is worthy of your direction.

DON'T FILIBUSTER GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Today, the bodies of this Congress have an opportunity to save lives. In fact, they have an historic moment. They actually have the ability to act for once after a tragedy of the proportions of

Newtown, having not acted over the years—after Columbine, the theater in Aurora, the horrific tragedy at Virginia Tech, and many, many others, including that of our colleague in Arizona.

So I am hoping that as we stand here today that the right consciences of those who have the opportunity in the other body to pass sensible gun legislation will do so. In order to aid them, to listen to the voices of the people, 50 Members of the United States House of Representatives have asked for those in the other body not to filibuster any gun legislation, but to have an up-or-down vote. The reason we say that is because of the massive numbers of loss of children, some 80 children who die every month by gunshot, the thousands of teenagers who pick up guns to resolve differences, and the million people who were killed by guns since the assassination of Martin Luther King and John F. Kennedy.

This is a Nation that is gunned, but not safe. The tragedy that happened in my area just a few days ago with the slashing of students by another student at a community college. Just imagine—14 people were injured—if that person had had an assault weapon with multiple rounds, similar to the heinous acts that occurred in Newtown, when 155 rounds were shot in 5 minutes. So I'm hoping that this letter will move those Senators not to filibuster and to let us have an up-or-down vote.

I also rise today to encourage us to do the right thing and to vote “no” on the National Labor Relations Board legislation that wants to stop the President from his Presidential authority, and that is to make sure that the government runs by appointing people to the NLRB through recess appointments, among others, just like President George Bush did 140 times, to make recess appointments to be able to move the government forward. In contrast to the D.C. Court of Appeals decision that ruled that our President cannot, three other decisions and other court decisions said you can.

We need to vote “no” on this legislation. It is destructive, it is only to stall government, and it is only to stop the work of the NLRB, where workers and corporations come together to solve their problems.

What we should be doing is working to create jobs. That's what Americans want us to do. They want us to make it in America. They want us to build up manufacturing. They want us to create and pass legislation, as we introduced yesterday with whip HOYER, 38 pieces of legislation that we all are joining to support to create jobs.

One thing they don't want us to do is to pass anything with a chained CPI on Social Security because Social Security is solvent. Those people are not the fault of any deficit or any debt; they are hardworking people. I will not ever vote for a chained CPI. And I am not a whiner.

□ 1020

I, frankly, see those people in my district who are supported by Social Security and Medicare, which they earn because they work for it. They did not have it as a handout, because seniors are important and seniors believe in young people. We should protect our seniors; we should invest in education.

I salute the President for his early pre-K initiative, that every child should have the opportunity to be in a pre-K program, supporting our teachers. So here we are; this is what we should be doing. We should be promoting job creation to bring down unemployment and to, in fact, get those who are underemployed and those who have completely gone out of the marketplace. They can be hired, they have skills, including our disabled.

Then we should continue to invest in education, including higher education, making it easier for parents to get the Parent PLUS Loans to send their children to college and putting the burden on colleges to make sure that these young people finish college and not go in and get debt and, therefore, come out with a large debt and no degree.

This is what America is about, investing in young people, protecting our seniors, and realizing that the chained CPI is not the way to go on Social Security. It's to save it because they earned it.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DEBATE COACH WILLIAM “BILLY” TATE, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of William Woods Tate, Jr., a beloved educator and high school debate coach, who was an extraordinary mentor to me and so many others. Coach Billy Tate, as he was known, was an accomplished speech and debate coach in Alabama and Tennessee for over 40 years. Coach Tate, sadly, passed away suddenly on Saturday, April 6, 2013, at the age of 69, leaving behind a legacy defined by his commitment to developing the oratorical skills of future leaders.

At the time of his death, Coach Tate was a five-diamond debate coach at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville, Tennessee, where he taught speech and coached winning debate teams for more than 30 years. He was an outstanding teacher and an inspirational leader in the National Forensic League, the oldest and largest honor society for high school students in speech and debate.

During his illustrious career, Coach Tate had multiple national finalists in policy debate and extemporaneous speaking. In 1999, his policy debate team reached the national finals, and in 2006 Coach Billy Tate made coaching history as two of his policy teams

closed out the national finals winning the first-ever NFL co-citizenship in policy debate.

He was an extraordinary individual. Not only did he teach his students so brilliantly. In his spare time, he loved bridge. He was a devoted son, who always saw to the care of his beloved mother in Selma. Coach Tate also managed to keep up with his debate students through the years and relished their life successes. He demanded excellence from his students, teaching them not only the importance of debate prep and strategy, but also took great pride in exposing his students to the very best restaurants, and that included important table etiquette that accompanied such an experience.

Although Coach Tate spent the bulk of his career at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville, he began his speech and debate experience in 1975 at Selma High School in his beloved town of Selma, Alabama. I know that his students at Montgomery Bell Academy believe they had his best coaching years; but I am here to tell you from personal experience that the 1970s and 1980s at Selma High School honed his craft and greatly influenced his strategy. He produced some of the finest high school debaters the State of Alabama has ever seen to date, and I am proud to say that I was one of those students.

Billy Tate was my debate coach for 3 years at Selma High School. For a public high school in rural Alabama, we dominated the competition and won many State championships. For many years, the walls of Selma High School's library were lined with the hundreds of debate and speech trophies won by the teams coached by Billy Tate. Debate was more than an average extracurricular activity; it was a serious discipline. Those of us who had the privilege of being coached by him knew that it was a serious time commitment, a commitment of both time, money, and talent.

To be on Billy Tate's debate team, a student had to commit to attending summer debate camps and countless weekend travel to tournaments all across Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Georgia during the academic year. It was not the average debate class. I know that my life journey would not have been possible were it not for my debate experience under the tutelage of Coach Billy Tate at Selma High School.

I know that I speak on behalf of all the debaters at Selma High School and Montgomery Bell Academy in expressing our sincere gratitude for Coach Tate's guidance, his dedication, and unwavering belief in our abilities. I especially dedicate this tribute to the Selma High School debaters I had the privilege of competing with—Tom Bundenthal, Lawrence “Bubba” Wall, Derek Edwards, Max Andrews, John Polk, Leslie Looper, and Crystal Boykin, to name a few.

To say thank you to Coach Tate seems woefully inadequate, but I do