

The Coronado Theatre was built in 1927, and over the years it has hosted many legendary performers including Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, Louis Armstrong, and more recently, Jerry Seinfeld.

Between 1999 and 2001 the theater underwent an \$18.5 million renovation, thanks to the support of the community, the City of Rockford, and Friends of the Coronado, a non-profit dedicated to ensuring the theater will continue to be a community asset for all to use and share. The renovation preserved the theater's history while making much-needed improvements to ensure future generations would be able to enjoy all the theater has to offer. The Coronado Theatre's staff, Friends of the Coronado, and the entire Rockford community should be truly proud of this milestone birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to congratulate Coronado Theatre on this momentous birthday, and wish them much success over their next 90 years.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF THURGOOD MARSHALL

#### HON. NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD the following Proclamation to commemorate the extraordinary life of Thurgood Marshall and declare October 2, 2017 to be Thurgood Marshall Day in California's 44th Congressional District:

Whereas in 1940 while an attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Thurgood Marshall won the case of *The State of Connecticut v. Joseph Spell*, which helped lay the groundwork for the Civil Rights Movement to come; and

Whereas Thurgood Marshall was the Chief Counsel in the case of *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954, the landmark Supreme Court decision that declared state laws establishing segregated public schools to be unconstitutional; and

Whereas the Honorable Thurgood Marshall, on October 2, 1967, became the first African-American appointed to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States of America; and

Whereas date of October 2, 2017, marks the 50th anniversary of this historic achievement; and

Whereas the legacy of Thurgood Marshall continues to serve as an example and inspiration to both individuals and groups that continue to fight for justice and equality for all throughout the United States of America: and Now therefore

I declare and hereby recognize October 2, 2017 to be Thurgood Marshall Day in the 44th Congressional District of California.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO COLONEL CHRISTOPHER J. BARRON

#### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Colonel Christopher J. Barron

upon his retirement from the Army Corps of Engineers.

For 27 years, Colonel Barron had dedicated himself to serving our nation with the Army Corps of Engineers. Colonel Barron, a native of Goshen, New York, was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers in 1991. His overseas deployments include combat, reconstruction, and peacekeeping missions in Somalia, Haiti, Macedonia, Bosnia, and Iraq. In his last assignment, Colonel Barron served as District Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in New England from July 31, 2014 to July 19, 2017. Prior to this post, Colonel Barron served as the U.S. Army War College's Visiting Defense Fellow at Queen's University in Ontario, Canada.

While serving as District Commander of the New England District, Colonel Barron had many accomplishments including dredging projects, navigation improvement, flood risk management, and environmental restoration. It was an honor to work with him on a wide array of dredging projects in my district and across the Connecticut coastline, and I will certainly miss his knowledge of and passion for water resource programs in our area. He was always accessible and open to input from my office which I greatly appreciated.

Please join me in congratulating my friend, Colonel Barron, on an impressive career of service with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and wishing him a wonderful retirement.

#### IN HONOR OF PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM'S 500TH WIN

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 500th win of the Piedmont High School Football Team in Piedmont, Alabama.

On December 1, 2016, Piedmont High School won the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) Class 3A football state title for the second year in a row. The team's very first win was over Cave Spring High School in October of 1924 under Coach J.O. Ogle.

Piedmont High School's football team has had two All-American players, over 100 All-State players and 215 All-County players with six alumni players who have been inducted into the Calhoun County Hall of Fame.

Congratulations to Coach Steve Smith, the football team, Piedmont City Schools and all their loyal fans.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 500th win by the Piedmont High School Football Team. Go Bulldogs.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CARTHAGE LODGE 197

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Carthage Lodge 197 on its 150th

birthday. On the 7th of October, members of this Freemason lodge will gather to celebrate this landmark occasion.

The first organized Grand Lodge met in 1717 in England. Freemasonry has promoted a strong sense of pride, family values and intellectual development in its members over the centuries. Furthermore, Freemasonry has deep roots in the United States, with George Washington himself being initiated into Freemasonry in the year of 1752.

Freemasonry has been part of Missouri and the city of Carthage for generations. The Grand Lodge of Missouri chartered a lodge in Carthage, Missouri in 1849. In 1861 this lodge was destroyed, but no one is exactly sure how this lodge was destroyed. Most likely it was destroyed in the Battle of Carthage during the Civil War. In 1867, former members of the previous lodge and other Freemasons gathered to organize for the chartering of a new lodge to be located in the city. The current Carthage Lodge 197 was granted its charter on October 19, 1867. Members of the lodge meet in this location to this very day.

I am honored to recognize the 150 years of the Carthage Lodge 197 in southwest Missouri. This is truly a historical achievement. On behalf of Missouri's 7th Congressional District, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of Carthage Lodge 197 on its 150th birthday.

#### HONORING MR. GORDON KLASNA ON BEING SELECTED MONTANA'S PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

#### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gordon Klasna on his recent selection as the Montana Principal of the Year by the Montana Association of Secondary School Principals.

Mr. Klasna has been principal of Lockwood's Eileen Johnson Middle School since 2011. Founded in 1954, it provides an education to over 1,250 students. Mr. Klasna is passionate about educating Montana's students and is a positive influence on his students. He is renowned as a hard worker who dedicates much of his time to his vocation. Mr. Klasna is a strong advocate for his school, serving on the School District 2 High School Trustee Board representing Lockwood.

Teachers and students at Eileen Johnson Middle School describe Mr. Klasna as a gracious, polite public servant who demonstrates his passion to help students every day. During his tenure as principal, Mr. Klasna has encouraged the growth of special elective courses to include robotics and journalism.

I wish Mr. Klasna the very best as he works to continue the pattern of excellence at Eileen Johnson Middle School. He is a great example of an educator going the extra mile to help our children succeed. I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Gordon Klasna on his outstanding achievement.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES FOR  
THE VICTIMS OF THE SENSE-  
LESS MASS SHOOTING IN LAS  
VEGAS, NEVADA

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my condolences to the victims of the Las Vegas country music show mass shooting massacre.

I offer my deepest condolences to those personally affected by this cowardly act, and call for the restoration of federal law banning the sale and purchase of assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

On October 1, 2017 the deadliest mass shooting in the history of the United States occurred in Las Vegas, Nevada when, in a heinous act of terror and hatred, 58 persons were killed and 515 others were injured in a shooting at an outdoor concert near the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas.

Until yesterday, June 13, 2016 marked the deadliest mass shooting in the history of the United States in Orlando, Florida, when, in another heinous act of terror and hatred, 49 persons were killed at Pulse, a popular nightclub, meeting place, and sanctuary for Central Florida's vibrant and dynamic LGBTQ community; sadly, the Las Vegas mass shooting surpassed that dreadful shooting in numbers of dead and injured.

The horrifying events in Las Vegas on Sunday night mark the 273rd mass shooting in the U.S. in the 275 days that have passed so far in 2017, according to Gun Violence Archive.

Mass shootings are a near daily occurrence in America, but what happened in Las Vegas stands out: It was the deadliest such incident in U.S. history, with more than 58 killed and 515 injured.

Including that massacre, the four deadliest U.S. mass shootings have occurred over the past 10 years.

A mass shooting is defined by Gun Violence Archive as any incident in which four or more are shot and/or killed in a single event, at the same general time and location not including the shooter.

Recent U.S. mass shootings include:

1. Las Vegas, 2017: 50+ killed
2. Orlando, 2016: 50 killed
3. Virginia Tech, 2007: 32 killed
4. Sandy Hook, 2012: 27 killed
5. San Ysidro, 1984: 21 killed
6. San Bernadino, 2015: 14 killed
7. Edmond, 1986: 14 killed
8. Fort Hood, 2009: 13 killed
9. Columbine, 1999: 13 killed

There have been more than 11,600 deaths linked to gun violence so far in 2017, which is roughly equivalent to nearly four 9/11 attacks in terms of the total number killed on September 11, 2001.

Comparatively, more than 15 thousand were killed by gun violence in 2016, and there were 383 mass shootings.

It is horrifying to admit that gun violence now seems to be a staple of American life.

The United States ranks No. 1 in the world in terms of firearms per capita—with 88.8 guns per 100 people—and it has the highest homicide-by-firearm rate in the developed world.

The problem is so endemic that gun violence is now the third leading cause of death for children in the U.S.

An average of 1,297 children die annually from gun-related injuries.

Guns are linked to roughly 33 thousand deaths in the U.S. per year; about two-thirds of them are suicides.

According to Pew Research Center, a majority of Americans (across partisan lines) support gun policy proposals such as barring people with mental illnesses from buying guns; prohibiting gun purchases by people on federal no-fly or watch lists; and background checks for private gun sales and sales at gun shows.

The majority must cut its close ties to the powerful gun lobby to facilitate useful gun control legislation necessary immediately.

America has six times as many firearm homicides as Canada, and nearly 16 times as many as Germany.

United Nations data shows that America far and away leads other developed countries when it comes to gun-related homicides.

America has 4.4 percent of the world's population, but almost half of the civilian-owned guns around the world.

In December 2012, a gunman walked into Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, and killed 20 children, six adults, and himself.

Since then, there have been at least 1,518 mass shootings, with at least 1,715 people killed and 6,089 wounded.

The fairly broad definition of "mass shooting" includes not only shootings in which four or more people were murdered, but shootings in which four or more people were shot at all (excluding the shooter).

Even under this broad definition, mass shootings make up a tiny portion of America's firearm deaths, which totaled more than 33,000 in 2014.

On average, there is more than one mass shooting for each day in America.

Whenever a mass shooting occurs, supporters of gun rights often argue that it is inappropriate to bring up political debates about gun control in the aftermath of a tragedy.

For example, former Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, a strong supporter of gun rights, criticized former President Barack Obama for "trying to score cheap political points" when Obama mentioned gun control after a mass shooting in Charleston, South Carolina.

But if this argument is followed to its logical end, then it will never be the right time to discuss mass shootings.

Under the broader definition of mass shootings, America has nearly one mass shooting a day.

So if Congress is forced to wait for a time when there is not a mass shooting to talk gun control, Congress could find itself waiting for a very long time.

States with more guns have more gun deaths.

Within the United States, a wide array of empirical evidence indicates that more guns in a community leads to more homicide.

Higher populations, more stress, more immigrants, and more mental illness does not correlate with more gun deaths.

States with tighter gun control laws have fewer gun-related deaths.

A 2016 review of 130 studies in 10 countries, published in *Epidemiologic Reviews*,

found that new legal restrictions on owning and purchasing guns tended to be followed by a drop in gun violence—a strong indicator that restricting access to guns can save lives.

The good news is that all firearm homicides, like all homicides and crime, have declined over the past two decades—although that may have changed in 2015 and 2016, with a recent rise in murders nationwide.

There is still active debate among criminal justice experts about why this crime drop is occurring—but one theory that researchers have widely debunked is the idea that more guns have deterred crime—in fact, the opposite may be true, based on research compiled by the Harvard School of Public Health's Injury Control Center.

Although America's political debate about guns tends to focus on grisly mass shootings and murders, a majority of gun-related deaths in the U.S. are suicides.

Research that shows greater access to guns dramatically increases the risk of suicide.

The states with the most guns report the most suicides.

Perhaps the reason access to guns so strongly contributes to suicides is that guns are much deadlier than alternatives like cutting and poison.

Reducing access to guns can be so important to preventing suicides: stalling an attempt or making it less likely to result in death makes a huge difference—it opens the opportunity for someone to help or for the suicidal person to reach out to someone to help.

That is why limiting access to lethal means is so powerful.

Since police shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, on August 9, 2014, police have killed at least 2,902 people as of May 2017.

Given that states with more guns tend to have more homicides, it is not too surprising that, as a study in the *American Journal of Public Health* found, states with more guns also have more cops die in the line of duty.

Researchers looked at federal data for firearm ownership and homicides of police officers across the U.S. over 15 years.

They found that states with more gun ownership had more cops killed in homicides: Every 10 percent increase in firearm ownership correlated with 10 additional officers killed in homicides over the 15-year study period.

The findings could help explain why U.S. police officers appear to kill more people than cops in other developed countries.

For police officers, the higher rates of guns and gun violence in America means they not only will encounter more guns and violence, but they can expect to encounter more guns and deadly violence, making them more likely to anticipate and perceive a threat and use deadly force as a result.

Over the past 20 years, Americans have clearly shifted from supporting gun control measures to greater support of "protecting the right of Americans to own guns."

This shift has happened even as major mass shootings, such as the attacks on Columbine High School and Sandy Hook Elementary School, have received more press attention.

Although mass shootings are often viewed as some of the worst acts of gun violence, they seem to have little effect on public opinion about gun rights.

That helps explain why Americans' support for the right to own guns appears to be rising