

and all papers and do all other acts for me under the name of the Clerk of the House which they would be authorized to do by virtue of this designation, except such as are provided by statute, in case of my temporary absence or disability.

This designation shall remain in effect for the 115th Congress or until modified by me.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

IN MEMORY OF SERGEANT MARK J. BASERMAN

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in remembrance of a remarkable community servant, a faithful friend and husband, and a brave veteran: Sergeant Mark J. Baserman.

A corrections officer who devoted many years of service at the State Correctional Institute in Somerset, Pennsylvania, Mark tragically lost his life in the line of duty on February 26, 2018. Known throughout Johnstown and by colleagues as a man of integrity, bravery, and strength, thousands attended his remembrance service to pay their respects to Mark and his family.

A 1975 graduate of Greater Johnstown Vo-Tech High School, as a young man, Mark volunteered many years with the Oakland Volunteer Fire Company and he served in the Army. Before becoming a corrections officer, Mark worked more than 20 years as a first responder with East Hills Ambulance Service.

Mark's life history of public service is evident. Putting others first, including his wife, Rebecca, and mother, Lucille—both who have physical disabilities—is a powerful testimony and a shining example.

Mr. Speaker, as we grieve the loss of this honorable man, I offer my deepest condolences to Mark's family, friends, and the Johnstown community.

SCHOOL AND GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

(Ms. BONAMICI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that we must refuse to accept gun violence as normal. Today, I stand with students from Oregon to Florida, who are courageously and peacefully demanding that their elected leaders take real action to prevent gun violence in their communities.

This past weekend I met Madeline, a high school student from Beaverton, Oregon. She said that now when she enters a classroom, her first thought is: where can she hide, and how could she escape.

As a mom, that broke my heart. And I heard from students in McMinnville, Oregon. They told me they are terrified when they hear a fire alarm because

that is how the Parkland, Florida, massacre started.

How have we become a country where our students are afraid in their classrooms?

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to Madeline and to all of the students around the country to protect them from violence and to keep them safe in school and in their communities.

The STOP School Violence Act is a modest first step, but we must do more. We must listen to the voices of the students and work toward creating a safer future for them and for everyone.

FEDERAL COURT DISRESPECTS WORLD WAR I VETERANS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in 1925, the American Legion erected a memorial in Bladensburg, Maryland, to honor the 49 men who were killed in World War I. The mothers of those who died decided to erect a large cross to mirror the cross-shaped grave markers in the foreign cemeteries where their sons were buried. The 40-foot-tall memorial became known as the Peace Cross.

Even though the monument is secular, and after almost 100 years, an agnostic Federal court ruled the historic monument must be torn down, all because it is in the shape of a cross.

The wrong-headed decision to tear down the 93-year-old monument is proof that this Federal court has no respect for the sacrifices of Americans killed in World War I. Instead of destroying monuments, we should erect more.

What is next? Are Federal judges going to chisel off the crosses on grave markers at veterans' cemeteries?

We will see.

Keep the Memorial Peace Cross memorial. Heaven forbid, don't remove the cross.

And that is just the way it is.

HAPPY PI DAY

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, every year on March 14, mathematicians and dessert lovers around the world come together to celebrate a shared constant in our lives. It may sound irrational, but it is actually transcendental.

Pi Day is a day dedicated to celebrating everything fascinating in the world of mathematics by recognizing its most famous number: 3.14.

Pi represents the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, and has been calculated to over 1 trillion digits. It was first discovered in Ancient Greece and has captivated mathematicians like myself for over 1,000 years.

While Congress officially recognized Pi Day in 2009, it was in 1988 that the

transcendental number got its day of dedication, when physicist Larry Shaw organized the first Pi Day at the San Francisco Exploratorium science museum.

Today, pi is used in all kinds of applications and can be found throughout our lives.

So to my fellow mathematicians, dessert lovers, and all of those celebrating today, I wish you a happy Pi Day.

CONGRATULATING MINNESOTA STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, although Minnesota is known for hockey, I rise today to recognize the impressive high school wrestling programs in Minnesota's Second District.

This season, Shakopee and Apple Valley continued their strong, outstanding records in wrestling. In fact, Apple Valley held 12 straight State titles until this year, when Shakopee edged them out in the sectionals.

And while Shakopee did not bring home the State title, wrestlers from both Apple Valley and Shakopee put up some extraordinary victories.

Trey Rogers from Hastings finished his season with a perfect record.

Shakopee's Alex Lloyd won his third State championship.

And Apple Valley's Gable Steveson concluded his high school career with a winning percentage of 0.986, the best in State history.

I am proud to have such driven State athletes in my district. Their dedication and hard work will continue to bring them success for years to come, and I look forward to seeing future victories from our Second District wrestlers.

CHILDREN OF OUR NATION

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, the children of our Nation are raising their voices. In the last couple of days in my district, many young people representing the 140,000 DACA-status young people in Texas and 800,000 in the Nation walked and shouted and asked and cajoled and spoke eloquently about the ridiculous malaise of this Congress, where we have not reauthorized DACA when there is a bill ready to move.

Do we care about our children? Do we care about the doctors, lawyers, and astronauts? Do we care about the teachers? Do we care about the parents—mothers and fathers—all DACA-status individuals who love this Nation?

And then today we heard from the voices of those who raised their hands

and said: I do not feel safe in school. I do not feel safe.

So they left their schools and honored those who died in Florida just a few weeks ago. They begged for this Nation and this Congress to get out of its stupor and to begin to pass real gun safety legislation.

Raise the age. Ban the bump stocks. Have universal background checks. The children's voices are crying.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, where in the world does General Sessions get in his mind that he can fire FBI Directors, Assistant Directors? And where in the world does the President get in his mind that he can fire the Secretary of State in such a disgraceful manner?

□ 1800

PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Public Schools Week.

A quality public education is among the most important gifts we can provide to our children.

As a product of a terrific public school, where my son also attended and graduated from 30 years later, I understand the challenges our local schools, administrators, and teachers are facing in public schools.

Ninety percent of American children attend public school, making the local school district in most communities the largest and most significant employer.

I had and will continue to be a strong advocate for public schools throughout our communities and throughout our Nation.

Throughout my time in office, I have called for responsible increases in education and resources to our public schools, that are increasingly having to take on unfunded mandates and face many of the societal challenges that are now brought into the school districts.

As a former member of the New York State Assembly Education Committee, I fought against a very unfair school aid formula that indirectly and unfairly impacted our upstate public schools.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the public schools and thanking those teachers, administrators, and custodians who provide guidance and provide leadership and a lifetime of memories to our students.

Communities are stronger and schools are better when we work together to support public education.

NATIONAL SCHOOL WALKOUT

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, today, high school students got up from their desks and walked out of their classes to take a stand against gun violence and for school safety. From the east coast of Florida to the central coast of California, students left their classrooms for 17 minutes to remember the 17 lives lost at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and to demand that Congress take action on gun violence.

Now, today, Mr. Speaker, I commend you. We acted together to pass the STOP School Violence Act for school safety and security, but with all due respect, Mr. Speaker, that is not enough, and it is time we come together to pass commonsense reforms that have broad support across our Nation, from banning bump stocks to repealing the Dickey amendment, to fixing our system of background checks.

We all appreciate the emotion and passion by the high school students all across our country, but we realize, as they do, that thoughts and prayers only go so far. So now it is up to Congress to govern not just by crisis, but actually by leadership to make our schools, our communities, and our country safer.

THE LIBERAL MEDIA

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, the American people hate the # inhuman liberal media more and more every day. The last example? A Washington Post op-ed, titled, "I Would Have Aborted a Fetus With Down Syndrome." My entire hometown of Sugar Land, Texas, was disgusted by those nine words.

I sent the hurtful article to Ammie, Massey, and Kristin, three friends with gorgeous Down kids. Ammie was stunned, because The Post basically said:

If you knew your child would have cancer, cerebral palsy, diabetes, be deaf, blind, mute, or autistic, they should be aborted.

Ammie's Sadie has Down. Ammie says about her daughter:

Even on my hardest days, her smile can take all the difficulties away from my day. I will forget them. Through my tears, I typed this note.

Mr. Speaker, none of us is perfect and none of us should be aborted because we are not perfect.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLESTON HARTFIELD

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

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of Charleston Hartfield.

Charleston was a military veteran who served for 16 years and was de-

ployed to Iraq. He had received a Presidential Citation for extraordinary heroism in Iraq, along with numerous other individual commendations and achievement medals.

After the military, Charleston began his career with the Las Vegas Police Department, where he had worked for 11 years while also being an active member of the National Guard.

Along with protecting our Nation, he also enjoyed coaching youth football. Although he had no experience in football, he bought and studied books about coaching.

Charleston was a husband and a father to a son and a daughter.

He attended the Route 91 music festival on October 1 in Las Vegas with his wife, who was his high school sweetheart.

Charleston died trying to save the lives of concertgoers. As gunfire erupted, he immediately jumped in to usher people to safety.

He was loved by many and touched many lives.

As a published memoir author, Charleston's story will always be remembered. He was a selfless man who dedicated his life to protecting the community and country he loved.

We also grieve the loss of Charleston's mother, who died 2 days after his funeral from what many people said was a broken heart.

I would like to extend my condolences to Charleston Hartfield's family and friends. Please know that the city of Las Vegas and the State of Nevada and the entire country grieve with you.

PALMETTO WOMEN'S CENTER

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

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight a pro-life pregnancy center in my own district, the Palmetto Women's Center.

The Palmetto Women's Center is focused on uniting hope, health, and healing to women as they bring a child into their family. The center provides women with pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, Biblical counseling, education from nurses, connections within the community for access to resources, and much, much more. For example, the center partners with the Rock Hill Salvation Army to ensure that soon-to-be mothers can have access to maternity clothing and baby supplies.

The Palmetto Women's Center will be able to reach more women in my district as they begin operating in their new mobile unit. This will allow the staff of the center to travel throughout the district and provide women with the center's free services.

Palmetto Women's Center is working to lower the number of abortions in South Carolina and supporting women as they choose life for their children. I