

REMEMBERING LIVES LOST AT MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS 1 YEAR AGO

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

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Mr. Speaker, today is a very difficult day for south Florida and for my community. One year ago, we lost 17 innocent lives at Marjory Stoneman Douglas in Parkland.

The pain of the family and friends of those we lost does not go away. I know. I lost my father to gun violence.

Shortly after the tragedy at Parkland, I met with the parents of the students who lost their lives. All you want to do is find a way to take away their pain, but you can't. You can listen to them, share their story, hold their hand, but you can't take away their pain.

When I spoke with parents like Regina Talabert, Romania Duque, Manny, Patricia, and other concerned Floridians, I made a promise that I would not stop until we changed our country's gun laws.

I want to be able to continue to look at those parents, those students, and all of those who have lost a loved one to gun violence and tell them that I will do everything that I can to prevent another tragedy from happening.

We cannot wait for another mass shooting, so I want to say that I am so proud of my colleagues that we passed H.R. 8 yesterday on the floor. We can work together to prevent another Parkland.

PROTECTING THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

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

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak for those who can't speak for themselves: the souls of our Nation's unborn and newborn children.

I have long championed pro-life legislation and initiatives, but recent events have shaken me and millions across our country, compelling me to address this body.

The act of abortion is tragic and heartbreakin; however, the termination of human life for abortion survivors is something worse—criminal, subhuman. But proposals exist in our State governments that would allow just that.

Allowing an infant to die or intentionally killing an abortion survivor is a disgrace and must not be allowed to happen in any circumstance.

I echo the calls from Republican leadership to immediately pass the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act to ensure the sanctity of life remains a fundamental principle in this country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SHANNON KENT

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

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Chief Petty Officer Shannon Kent, a true hero from Pine Plains, New York, who tragically lost her life in service to this country on January 16, 2019, in Syria.

Chief Kent was 35 years old and is survived by her husband, a retired member of the Army, and her two young sons.

After graduating with honors from Stissing Mountain High School on December 11, 2003, Chief Kent enlisted in the United States Navy, where she quickly rose through the ranks and served as a member of the Navy's Cryptologic Warfare Unit.

Chief Kent was fluent in five different languages and six dialects of Arabic and was one of the first women to complete the rigorous course required for troops to accompany Navy SEALS on raids.

Chief Kent could run a marathon in 3 hours 30 minutes, do a dozen full-arm-hang pull-ups, and then march for miles with a 50-pound rucksack—amazing.

A cancer survivor, Chief Kent had assignments in Iraq, Afghanistan, and, finally, Syria. Just 1 month into her deployment, Chief Kent was killed by a suicide bomber.

A recipient of the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star, Chief Kent gave the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country and will be remembered for her courage and determination.

RECOGNIZING THE IRREPLACEABLE WORK OF OUR COURT REPORTERS DURING NATIONAL COURT REPORTING AND CAPTIONING WEEK

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important and irreplaceable work done by our court reporters during National Court Reporting and Captioning Week, which is February 9 through 16.

As guardians of the record, court reporters have had and do have a large impact on capturing history for posterity.

During our nearly 250 years of American history, court reporters have been a cornerstone of our American justice system. From George Washington's farewell address to Lincoln's "House Divided" speech, these noble servants have transcribed some of the most important pieces of American history.

Today, with the help of new technology like that utilized by CART captioners, reporters have been able to expand beyond the courtroom to provide accessibility for millions of Amer-

icans who are deaf and hard of hearing by providing captioning in real time for live sporting and theater events, church services, movie theaters, and many other venues.

As I speak to you now, a stenographer, Julia, is seated next to me, quietly but promptly recording my every word.

So, on behalf of myself and all Members of Congress, thank you for all the hard work you do in support of this House.

WE MUST ACT ON GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8.

I serve on the House Judiciary Committee. Last night, after 10 hours of debate, our committee passed this bill to be brought to the floor, and it is vital that we pass it.

In Colorado and across our country, we have experienced undue devastation by countless tragedies of gun violence—Columbine, Aurora.

Mothers, sisters, brothers, husbands, wives, and young children have been lost at the hands of gun violence.

One year ago today, 17 lives were taken in 6 minutes and 20 seconds in Parkland, Florida.

There is no question we need to address the epidemic of gun violence in our country. We cannot sit idly by. Universal background checks are overwhelmingly supported by the American people, and 20 States, including my home State of Colorado, have either wholly or partially closed the background check loophole.

Americans understand what it takes to keep our communities safe from gun violence, and it is time for Congress to act as well.

So, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say, simply: Enough is enough. We must act on gun violence. We must pass H.R. 8 here on the floor.

PROTECT THE RIGHT TO LIFE

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

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, like so many others, I have been deeply disturbed by the news out of the New York and Virginia State Legislatures, where infanticide is being legalized.

Today I rise in strong support of H.R. 962, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

Mr. Speaker, a child born alive after a failed abortion is a living being just like any other baby born prematurely. Ending any life at 24 weeks or as a newborn is murder.

The law just adopted in New York legalizes abortion up to 40 weeks, essentially up to the moment of birth, and this is atrocious.

We are facing a moral crisis, and I fear for my children's future with today's officials supporting and signing bills into law like that of New York's.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to denounce the radical support for infanticide and join me in reaffirming and protecting the inalienable right to life.

Let's do the right thing. Let's bring the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act up for a vote in this House and pass this bill to preserve the sanctity of life.

□ 1230

REPLACE ENBRIDGE INC.'S LINE 3

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the critical need to replace Enbridge's Line 3, an aging pipeline dangerously corroding and operating at only 51 percent.

Line 3 pipeline replacement project is in its fourth year of review and has met or exceeded every single required environmental standard. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission unanimously voted to issue its certificate of need last year.

The project will create more than 4,000 construction jobs and enjoys the support of construction trade unions throughout the State of Minnesota. The project is supported by dozens of elected officials and thousands of Minnesotans. It will also generate an additional \$19 million in property tax revenue, providing a significant funding increase to rural schools.

With all this benefit, it was greatly disappointing to hear we would have further delays. Unfortunately, certain State officials in Minnesota feel beholden to, in the words of our operating engineers, "environmental extremism." These environmental extremists are the same folks who vandalized the current pipeline just last week, ironically creating a dangerous situation for themselves and the environment.

VA SALUTE TO VETERAN PATIENTS WEEK

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Nation's veterans and the work of those who care for them during National Salute to Veteran Patients Week. Across the country this week, VA hospitals are celebrating our veterans and showing appreciation for those who may not have loved ones with whom to spend Valentine's Day.

During last year's National Salute to Veteran Patients Week, 288,000 valentines were delivered to VA medical centers from schoolchildren and various organizations across our country. These efforts included more than 1,400 community groups and 9,000 volun-

teers. I hope that this year we can build on that effort and show even more gratitude to our veterans.

I am proud to see our Nation come together for a week like this one and all the volunteers who took the time to express their respect and appreciation.

To all our veteran patients, thank you for your service, and I hope that you have a wonderful Valentine's Day.

VALENTINE WISHES TO AMIE SUE SPANO

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, 28 years ago today was a very good day. In fact, it was one of the best days of my life. You see, it was the day that Amie Sue Wurzel said yes. She said yes to my clumsy marriage proposal.

Since then, we have been through a lot together. We raised four kids, completed undergraduate school and law school, moved eight times, started and grew a business, grieved the death of her brother and my father, struggled through my significant health challenges, and won six elections.

I loved her back then, but the days, months, and years of shared heartache, struggle, laughter, sickness, joy, commitment, and faithfulness have caused my love for her to grow stronger and deeper than my words can possibly express.

She has put up with and even supported my crazy ideas and dreams, even when they have required great sacrifice for her and for our family.

On this Valentine's Day, Amie Sue, even though we are apart, I need you to know and understand how grateful I am that you said yes and how very much I love you.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF REGENTS OF SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42–43), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution:

Ms. MATSUI, California
Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, California

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO UNITED STATES GROUP OF THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Member on the part of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly:

Mr. VELA, Texas

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 2(a) of the National Cultural Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76h(a)), amended by Public Law 107–117, and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts:

Mr. KENNEDY, Massachusetts
Mrs. BEATTY, Ohio

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Joint Economic Committee:

Mr. BEYER, Virginia
Mr. HECK, Washington
Mr. TRONE, Maryland
Mrs. BEATTY, Ohio
Ms. FRANKEL, Florida

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 2302, and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council:

Mr. DEUTCH, Florida
Mr. SCHNEIDER, Illinois
Mr. LEWIS, Georgia

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1827

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE) at 6 o'clock and 27 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives: