

WORLD CIVILITY DAY

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

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Chuck Hughes, executive director of the Gary Chamber of Commerce; and Dr. Gordon Bradshaw, chairman of the public policy committee, for establishing the World Civility Day which was celebrated earlier this month on July 8.

In 2015, Mr. Hughes and Dr. Bradshaw created the Community Civility Counts initiative with the Gary Chamber of Commerce and established the World Civility Day in order to encourage all individuals to be more mindful of our actions and to bring more understanding, more tolerance, and more listening and empathy into our society.

I became a public servant in order to bring people together and solve problems, and that only happens when we treat each other with respect and civility.

I commend Mr. Hughes, Dr. Bradshaw, and all of the individuals and organizations engaged in this initiative for their leadership to recognize the timely and worthy goals of World Civility Day.

BIDEN'S CRIME CRISIS

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

Mr. ROSE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the alarming spike in crime happening across major cities in our Nation.

Right now American families are being forced to face an explosion of violent crime in their streets and in their neighborhoods. After the riots of the past year which saw the destruction of both public and private property, and as we undergo one of the worst crime waves in modern history, citizens are deservedly concerned about their safety and well-being.

One of the essential functions of our government is to provide security to all citizens. Yet the Biden administration, after months of refusing to acknowledge the crime wave, finally addressed it by claiming that crime is down. That misleading claim couldn't be further from the truth. Crime is actually skyrocketing, and it is plaguing cities across the Nation.

Homicides are up 533 percent—yes, 533 percent—in Portland, 50 percent in Minneapolis, 35 percent in Philadelphia, and 24 percent in Los Angeles compared to the same time in 2020.

On top of that, ambush-style attacks on police officers this year have increased 91 percent compared to this time last year. When Democrats defund the police, lawlessness is guaranteed to follow, complete with more crimes of all kinds, including murder. Left unchecked, such lawlessness will eventually destroy our Republic.

So how did a nation of law and order become a nation of lawlessness and chaos in such a short period of time?

Make no mistake, the socialist agenda of President Biden and far-left Democrats in Congress is to blame. Radical policies like defunding the police, abolishing prisons, and eliminating cash bail have contributed to the surging crime wave.

We cannot tolerate vandalism or violence, and we surely cannot normalize a culture of violence by failing to fully prosecute those who are working to dismantle our cities. Tennesseans cannot bear much more of Biden's crime crisis. The solution to countering the crime wave is clear: we must fund and support our law enforcement agencies across the country.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Indiana for his reminding us of the World Civility Day and its importance. I rise today in the spirit of civility, facts, and bringing people together.

First of all, we are all saddened by the surge of crime across America, and we are working with our communities, those who intervene, and those who are responding to the issues of depredation and danger that permeates many of our communities and many of our young people.

I believe it is important to ensure that the excessive amount of guns that are trafficked illegally are taken off the street. Soon in my community we will hold a gun buyback with the Houston Police Department because they are working with the community.

So I think it is important to state the fact that the Obama administration, President Joe Biden, and Vice President KAMALA HARRIS are strong advocates and have invested much to ensure that crime goes down. We know that it is a mixture of the toxicity of the COVID-19 pandemic, poverty, and, of course, those who are inclined to do the crime.

With that in mind, it is very important to factually make the point that there is nothing in the Biden administration's agenda or its funding packages or those of Democrats that deal with the defunding of police. We are reimagining and working with our communities collectively. As we say: Police community relations will improve and continue to improve, one, the finding of those who perpetrate the crime for them to be brought to justice fairly because crime does not look to the color of one's skin. It is without discrimination and hits all of America.

So I am very proud to have been an original cosponsor and lead on the Victims of Crime Act that was signed by the President last week that ensured that our communities will now have a

victims fund that our States will be able to deal with.

I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to go home and interact with the victims of crime. Show them that you care and work with your communities so that they are compensated in the full.

Let me also indicate that it is appropriate for us to move on H.R. 40. An enormity of Members of Congress have sponsored the commission to study slavery and develop reparation proposals. In civility, this would give us an opportunity to have a first federal conversation on race for a full discussion and analysis of the economy, political, psychological, scientific, and sociological effects of slavery in the United States.

The legislation makes no judgment on how to respond to the slavery of African Americans that began its sinful roots 401 years ago, but it points us to developing a response and a repair to deal with what is a continuing stigma of institutional racism. Mr. Speaker, you cannot ignore the disparities that exist in the community, and we cannot ignore the opportunity to have that discussion.

I am very grateful for the wide variety of individuals from the East, the West, the North, and the South of varying political perspectives who have supported this, the religious organizations that have supported this, the social justice organizations, or just plain people who raise their voices—57 percent in a recent poll.

So let us look forward to repairing, being a repair, the repairers. We know that our beloved pastor and leader who has provided us with the words that he is the repairer of the breach, and we thank him for that. And we thank all those who are willing to have a civil discussion to ensure that we can end the surge of crime and the scourge of crime and as well be able to discuss race in a manner of civility in a way that we can come together and repair it.

I know that it is the intent of those who cosponsored the bill and all of the vast supporters across America. It is certainly my intent as the lead cosponsor after the Honorable John Conyers, and I know it is the intent of the Congressional Black Caucus and all those who raise their voices for a civil discussion on the question of race. I think America is that good and better than that to be able to say that we can have that civil discussion. As has been said in our meetings of the Congressional Black Caucus: our power and our message.

DEVASTATING DROUGHT AFFECTING UTAH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to discuss

the devastating drought affecting Utah this year.

Ninety percent of the West is experiencing extreme drought conditions. This includes every county in the great State of Utah—already one of the driest States in the Union.

Drought impacts lives and livelihoods. One of the Juab County farmers in my district runs a farm that has been in his family for three generations. This year, his farm has yielded zero output because of the drought. Unfortunately, his story is not unique.

Aquifers are not recharging, springs are dry, wells are pumping harder than ever before, and farmers are facing increased power costs. This means fewer crops and fewer dollars in the pockets of our rural farmers. On top of that, Utah's drought conditions make devastating wildfires more likely and harder to fight.

Each one of us has an important role to play in conserving resources and adapting for the near future and beyond. Utahn livelihoods and generational family farms are at stake, and I stand ready to assist local leaders and our State's Federal delegation to ensure the safety and prosperity of every Utahn.

I call upon the Biden administration to step up their efforts on the inter-agency working group that is supposed to be addressing these severe conditions.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE SUE MYRICK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize former U.S. Representative Sue Myrick who has a landmark birthday this Sunday.

Congresswoman Myrick served the people of North Carolina's Ninth Congressional District from 1995 to 2013. Before that, Sue made history in 1987 when she scored a major upset against a two-term Democrat to become the first female mayor of Charlotte. Importantly, before politics, Sue was known for her faith life as a Sunday school teacher and private sector career as an advertising executive.

In Congress for the Ninth District, Sue was a notable and effective conservative chairing the Republican Study Committee. Protecting America from foreign threats and securing our border defined her congressional career. As important, she was and is kind and caring, and she provided legendary constituent service. I am honored to serve in her place today and fondly remember her campaign slogan: We need Sue Myrick in Congress because "Sue Myrick gets things done."

Happy birthday to Sue.

□ 1045

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 18, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABOR- TION ACT

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

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a staunch defender of the rights of the unborn, as a defender of the idea that human life begins at conception. But these ideals are being threatened today like never before.

This week, I join my fellow Republicans in speaking out in support of the Hyde amendment and other pro-life provisions stripped from appropriations bills by the Democratic majority.

The Hyde amendment is and has been a bipartisan provision included in every Federal spending measure for the past four decades. It has ensured that the lives of the unborn are protected and that no Federal tax dollars are used to fund abortions.

Very simply, the Hyde amendment saves lives.

I am committed to ending the blight of abortion on our Nation and to stand with all I have to fight to protect the rights and the lives of the unborn.

My Democratic colleagues are great at changing terms and changing names. By definition, healthcare protects and improves lives, yet Democrats changed "healthcare" to include abortion. But abortion does not improve or defend life; it takes life. It is not healthcare.

For this reason, Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18, and I ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the House is in session solely for the purpose of conducting morning-hour debate. Therefore, that unanimous consent request cannot be entertained at this time.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 47 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. SCANLON) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, bring this day into Your keeping. As much as we want to grab the reins and take charge, relieve us of our own need to control everything in our way, our inclination to disparage people with whom we can't see eye to eye, and our innate fear of the uncertainties that threaten our sense of security.

You alone have dominion over our days. You alone bring order out of chaos. May we yield our whole selves to Your authority.

Guide all our thoughts and feelings. Direct our energies that we would not become tangled in futile efforts and vain arguments.

Instruct our minds. May we not rely on our own understanding, but trust Your direction to make our paths straight. Sustain our wills and our bodies as long hours turn into late nights and little rest devolves into short tempers.

Into Your hands may we willingly and faithfully commend the business of this day.

In the strength of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. VALADAO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. VALADAO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

FUNDING PACKAGE THAT PRIORITIZES WORKERS, FAMIL- LIES, AND COMMUNITIES

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4502, a funding package that prioritizes workers, families, and communities.

This bill delivers in a major way for Buffalo and western New York. It will fight cancer in underserved neighborhoods by helping Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center establish a lung cancer screening registry.

It preserves local history at the Buffalo Naval Park and the Albright-Knox