

someone who has joined Tom on KVRE for several interviews, I can attest to the familiar and personal environment he and his family have curated in Hot Springs Village.

Tom has not only been able to capture and maintain the nostalgia of hometown radio with local personalities and local news, but he has adapted with the times. You cannot only listen at 92.9 locally, but you can also listen worldwide at KVRE.com.

It is with great honor that I rise today to recognize Tom Nichols and his 65 years of service in radio broadcasting.

HONORING JOSE DE SOSA

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true champion for community empowerment and civil rights in the San Fernando Valley and beyond, the incomparable Jose De Sosa.

Jose De Sosa dedicated over six decades of his life to tirelessly advocating for justice, equality, and the well-being of our community. His passing leaves a void that will be felt by all those lives he touched.

Born in Panama City, Panama, Jose later migrated to New York City where he enlisted in the United States Air Force and served our country for over 10 years.

That service was one of the many milestones he accomplished throughout his life.

Jose met his beautiful wife, Juanita, in 1959. They got married and moved to Pacoima where they raised seven outstanding children.

In his life's works, he demonstrated his commitment to justice and equity over the course of his 36 years working for Pacific Telephone Company which later became AT&T.

In fact, he was a leader in pushing the Pacific Telephone Company to recruit from the Los Angeles Unified School District's Skills Center, improving economic opportunity for Black and Brown students and enabling hundreds of people to secure work and provide for their families in those good-paying jobs.

But Jose's biggest impact on the San Fernando Valley was through his positions with the NAACP, where he served as president of the local chapter, and his various roles as a board member in regional and State-level organizations.

He was the first Afro-Latino to be elected president of a local and state-wide NAACP, and he used his Black and Latino heritage to build working relationships between both communities and beyond.

In challenging times during the 1980s, when Pacoima grappled with issues of police brutality from the Los Angeles Police Department, Jose De Sosa emerged as a fearless leader. His un-

wavering commitment to justice was instrumental in banning the use of the carotid choke hold by the LAPD, a pivotal step towards safeguarding the rights, safety, and dignity of all individuals.

He worked with many of my colleagues, such as the legendary Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS and also Congresswoman Diane Watson to hold LAPD accountable.

It is these examples of his incredible leadership that makes Jose De Sosa's impact felt both locally and nationally. This advocacy on behalf of the safety of his community even led to a landmark Supreme Court decision sharply limiting the use of battering rams by law enforcement.

His dedication to protecting the civil rights of all people reverberated throughout our community and set a precedent for justice.

Even in his later years, Mr. De Sosa continued to serve his community with passion and vigor. He remained accessible and responsive to our community, making phone calls and sending emails whenever his assistance was needed to help a good cause.

These efforts included actively informing people about programs that save money through solar energy, demonstrating his commitment to both the environment and sustainability and economic empowerment for all communities.

He also continued to serve on various boards, such as the Valley Interfaith Council, Alicia Broadous-Duncan Multipurpose Senior Center, Boys & Girls Club of San Fernando Valley, Greater San Fernando Valley Optimist Club and Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County.

In fact, the Neighborhood Legal Services' community room in Pacoima is named in his honor.

Mr. De Sosa's legacy is one of resilience, determination, selflessness, and service to all. His life's work has left an indelible mark on the landscape of civil rights and the community and advocacy overall. As we reflect on his contributions, let us remember Mr. De Sosa as an inspiration to us all—a true force for positive change.

May his memory be a guiding light for future generations as we strive to continue the fight for justice and equality for all. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends, and all those who were fortunate enough to know this remarkable individual.

I had the honor of recognizing Mr. De Sosa last year right here on the United States House of Representatives floor to commemorate Black History Month as one of our leaders in Pacoima and the San Fernando Valley.

A few years later, we honored him in the community at the Boys & Girls Club of San Fernando Valley. We shared stories and laughed and even cried together.

Mr. De Sosa was married to his wife and partner, Juanita, for 61 years. She

passed recently. They were world travelers, and they instilled that in their children and their descendants.

He leaves grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, friends, and acquaintances. We all miss him. May his legacy endure and inspire us to build a more just and compassionate society for everyone.

CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. MALLIOTAKIS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight how President Biden's open-border policies and Senator SCHUMER's inaction and refusal to pass our Border Security Act is resulting in everyday Americans dying.

In 2023, the overdose death rate topped 112,000 individuals, setting a new record.

Fentanyl is still the number one killer of Americans aged 18 to 45. Mr. Speaker, 70 to 80 percent of all fentanyl in the U.S. comes from the southern border. That is not just me saying it, that is what the Drug Enforcement Administration is saying.

Drug cartels are making \$32 million a week smuggling individuals into our country. Yes, every asylum seeker, migrant, illegal immigrant, whatever you want to call them, that is coming through our southern border is paying the drug cartels, who, in turn, then use that money to continue to poison our children by selling drugs.

The DEA seized 384 million doses of fentanyl. That is enough to kill every single American. The DEA stated that in December of 2022, most of the fentanyl being trafficked was from two cartels, and it is being mass produced at secret factories in Mexico with chemicals being sourced largely from China.

In May of last year, the DEA conducted an operation that resulted in over 3,000 arrests, the seizure of almost 44 million fentanyl pills, more than 6,500 pounds of fentanyl powder, more than 91,000 pounds of methamphetamine, roughly 8,400 firearms, and more than \$100 million.

Yes, the DEA is doing a great job, but look at the pressure we are putting on this agency simply because the President insists on having an open border, and Senator SCHUMER refuses to do his job.

We passed legislation here to add fentanyl and all its analogues to schedule 1, and he refuses to do it over there. We passed the Border Security Act in May, and he has been sitting on it since then. We took action to halt and put sanctions on Chinese entities that are manufacturing and producing this fentanyl, and, yet again, the Senate refuses to take action.

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According to the DEA, Mexican criminal organizations are now the

most prominent wholesale-level heroin traffickers in Chicago, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and Washington, and they have a great presence in my city of New York.

Let's talk about New York City. Last year, we saw more than 3,000 people die from drug overdoses in New York City, 80 percent of which were tied to fentanyl. That number has doubled since the New York Democrats and the legislature passed the 2020 bail law allowing traffickers and dealers to be released automatically back onto our streets.

Look at these headlines: "Suspects accused of running \$7M fentanyl ring released without bail"; "NY's lax bail law lets lethal fentanyl peddlers off scot-free"; "NY bail laws required most of 30 drug dealers busted on [Long Island] for peddling 'tranq,' cocaine and fentanyl to be 'automatically released'"; "Mexican cartel smugglers nabbed with \$1.2M worth of meth in NYC—then released thanks to lax bail laws"; "New York man busted with 20K fentanyl pills released without bail"; "Six people busted as part of \$7M drug trafficking ring in Bronx released without bail under new State law," which Kathy Hochul and the Democrats refuse to fix.

The Federal policies of the Democrats, coupled with the policies of my State government, have been a complete failure and disaster, and Americans are dying as a result.

Once again, I urge my Governor and the State legislature to do their job, and I urge our colleagues on the other side in the Senate to do their job. We took action here in the House. We passed multiple pieces of legislation, most predominantly the Border Security Act. I expect CHUCK SCHUMER to care about what is happening in his own State of New York and do the same.

REINSTATE LIMIT ON HIGH-CAPACITY MAGAZINES

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

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, last year set the record for the highest number of mass murders with a firearm in more than a decade. In fact, 2023 marked yet another year where there were more mass shootings than days in the year.

These events continue to retraumatize our communities and our Nation because no community has been untouched by this deadly epidemic.

One common denominator in these mass murders is the use of large capacity ammunition feeding devices, or high-capacity magazines. These magazines hold 30, 40, or even 100 rounds of ammunition, and they have been used in all 10 of our Nation's deadliest mass shootings. High-capacity magazines increase a shooter's ability to kill or injure large numbers of people quickly.

One event that I still remember starkly is the shooting in Aurora, Colo-

rado, at the movie theater, which is just a few miles from my home. One single perpetrator used an assault rifle and a 100-round magazine to fire 65 shots within just minutes, killing 12 people and injuring 70 others.

Despite the fact that many members of the audience for that movie were either Active-Duty military or veterans who were trained to respond to a situation just like this, they were unable to respond because the volley of bullets was simply too extreme. The high-capacity magazine allowed that shooter to continue firing, pinning people down as shot after shot rang out.

There are so many more examples of this terrible, terrible destruction: Columbine, also right outside my district; Dayton; Las Vegas; Parkland. No other developed country experiences this level of violence from firearms.

Now, I recognize there is not one single piece of legislation that will completely end gun violence, but something must be done. In mass shootings with four or more people killed between 2015 and 2022, high-capacity magazines led to more than twice as many people being killed and nearly 10 times as many people being wounded per incident on average.

It makes sense if you think about it because if you have just a few rounds of ammunition, then those highly trained soldiers and veterans in that movie theater audience would have been able to stop the shooter, tackle him, and disable him after he stopped shooting. Instead, when you can shoot up to 100 rounds in rapid fire, this is not possible.

High-capacity magazines were designed for war. They weren't designed for hunting. They weren't designed for self-defense. Yet, they continue to be used against our fellow citizens in our hometowns and communities.

Experts agree that reinstating the limit on high-capacity magazines would be an effective step in protecting our communities.

Today, Representatives TITUS and SCHNEIDER, along with the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force and I, are announcing that we are filing a discharge petition to bring the Keep Americans Safe Act up for a vote so we can reinstate the U.S. ban on high-capacity magazines.

My bill would prohibit the sale or transfer of any high-capacity magazine capable of holding more than 15 rounds of ammunition. This is legislation that has been passed by this Chamber two times 2 years ago as part of the Assault Weapons Ban and the Protecting Our Kids Act.

It is our obligation as Members of Congress to keep the American people safe and to protect our communities. Now is the time to reinstate the limit on high-capacity magazines.

The petition will now be filed at the desk, and I urge all of my colleagues to sign it. It will take 218 signatures to bring this bill to the floor and to move us one step closer to eradicating the

terrible ravages of gun violence for the American people.

TRUE THREATS TO DEMOCRACY

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, President Biden marked the third anniversary of the January 6 Capitol riot by calling it a "day that we nearly lost America," and he asked: "Is democracy still America's sacred cause?"

That is an important question. What happened on January 6 was a national disgrace. A riotous mob disrupted the Congress and its congressional responsibility to observe the counting of the votes of the electoral college. To conclude that "we nearly lost America" to a lunatic wearing buffalo horns that day is hysterical hyperbole, to say the least. True insurrections are made of sterner stuff.

When the last of these yahoos was kicked out of this building a few hours later, Congress calmly completed the electoral count and confirmed Joe Biden's election.

Nevertheless, Mr. Biden is correct to raise concerns about the growing threats to our democracy, and he is right that democracy depends on the loser of an election accepting its outcome as the legitimate will of the majority. Many Democrats refused to do that in 2016 and many Republicans in 2020.

Why do so many voters no longer trust the integrity of our elections? Could it be that so many of the safeguards that assure a fair election and an accurate count have been stripped away?

For hundreds of years, we all looked our neighbors in the eye as they handed us our ballots. We all cast our votes in curtained booths where no one could influence us. We all watched our ballots placed in locked containers. At 8 p.m., we knew exactly how many votes had been cast, and a few hours later, we knew the outcome of all the elections.

We all had our say during the campaign, and we waited until the debate was over to make our decision on election day. It was very hard to cheat, and everyone could trust that process.

All that has changed. In recent years, the leftist Democrats have rigged election laws to extend voting over an entire month, accept ballots after election day, harvest ballots by political operatives, use mail-in ballots where there is no chain of custody, prevent observers from unobstructed views of ballot counting, and suppress debate and hide critical information from voters.

Freedom of speech is the beating heart of democracy, yet the left-leaning bureaucracies, increasingly independent of the will of the voters, actively colluded to influence elections by intimidating political opponents, starting with the Tea Party. They have