

CELEBRATING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate National Police Week.

This week comes at a time when Republicans have spent the past year trying to cut local law enforcement budgets to the bone. Current Republican Study Committee plans threaten to cut funding for nearly 30,000 law enforcement jobs nationwide.

Our police forces perform their duties with great honor and courage. However, Republican efforts to defund our local police will only make their jobs harder.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support COPS funding and ask them to please cosponsor our bipartisan legislation that equips our law enforcement with the tools they need to adequately address the ongoing mental health crisis in the field, our jails, and our prisons. H.R. 3501, the Law Enforcement Training for Mental Health Crisis Response Act, will provide funding to law enforcement at all levels for responding to behavioral health crises.

Our Nation has a severe mental health crisis. Law enforcement officers are often the first to respond. It is vital for them to have all the right tools and training to manage sensitive incidents safely and effectively.

Mr. Speaker, I send a big salute to our dutiful law enforcement officers in northwest Ohio and across our Nation, who we value.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FENTANYL AWARENESS DAY

(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 National Fentanyl Awareness Day, which was celebrated last week on May 7.

In 2023, a record number of our sons' and daughters' lives were taken by opioid overdoses, the majority of which were caused by illicit fentanyl poisoning. Fentanyl poisoning is the leading cause of death for Americans aged 18 to 45 and is predominantly sourced from our southwest border.

This is unacceptable. We must close that southern border, but there are additional steps we can take to ensure everyone, especially our youth, is protected. I have been a long-time advocate for naloxone, an overdose reversal drug, to be available over the counter. I am so glad the FDA finally took this step so that more people can access this lifesaving medication.

As a pharmacist, I understand just how important access to naloxone is. I carry it around with me in my backpack everywhere I go. I never had to use it, and I hope I don't have to use it,

but it is there just in case of an emergency.

I have introduced legislation, the Saving Lives in Schools Act, which would require schools to carry naloxone. Wherever you see a defibrillator, you should see naloxone. It is safe, effective, and easy to use, and it could save a life.

This National Fentanyl Awareness Day, we must band together and commit to ending the fentanyl poisoning epidemic for good.

HIGHLIGHTING AAPI HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, an annual celebration that recognizes the many historical and cultural contributions of Asian and Pacific Islander descent to the United States.

From science to medicine, literature and arts, sports and recreation, government and politics, activism, and law, our Asian-American community is so vital to our country's success.

I would like to shine a light on the Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce back in my home state of Michigan, which I had the honor of celebrating with for their 23rd annual anniversary and gala that included so many constituents, leaders from throughout Michigan. Yet again, Michigan continues to lead the way alongside our AAPI community.

CELEBRATING CATA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate 50 years of the Centre Area Transportation Authority, or CATA.

For the last 50 years, CATA has connected the borough of State College and surrounding townships with reliable transportation. Whether you are a college student looking to run errands or a full-time resident relying on CATA to help you get to your job, you can count on the bus to get you where you need to go.

Mr. Speaker, as State College continued to grow, so did CATA's services, originally starting out as Nittany Transit Company and growing to CATA in 1974. Today, CATA continues to develop and provide for residents.

CATA remains a premier small transit system and is continually recognized for its growth, service, and ingenuity. I congratulate CATA on 50 years of dedicated service to the community.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today in recognition of National Police Week.

Every day, our brave law enforcement officers respond at a moment's notice to keep our communities safe and secure. We have the responsibility to make sure they have the support and financial resources that they need to protect themselves and to perform their duties to the best of their abilities.

That is why, throughout my time as a Member of Congress, I have been proud to successfully secure community project funding requests and appropriation measures for police departments throughout northwest Indiana, including most recently for Gary, Hammond, Merrillville, Michigan City, and Munster.

Let us continue to build on this success and support our law enforcement officers and their families, not just during police week but every day throughout the year.

HONORING OFFICER JACOB DERBIN

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

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to recognize the service of Officer Jacob Derbin and to celebrate his life.

While responding to a disturbance, Officer Derbin gave the ultimate sacrifice when he was ambushed and killed in the line of duty last Sunday.

Mr. Speaker, from Brooklyn Heights, Jacob had joined the Euclid Police Department less than a year ago after serving in the Army National Guard. He protected his family, his country, his community.

Officer Derbin's fellow officers will remember him as an incredible person with a great heart and an incredible smile.

I echo Ohio Attorney General Yost in saying: "It is a cruel irony that a mother lost her son on Mother's Day and that this murder happened just as we prepare to solemnize our fallen during Police Memorial Week."

I am grateful for the service of our law enforcement officers, who have put their lives on the line every single day to protect us. My deepest condolences go to the family, friends, and fiancée of Officer Derbin and to the Euclid Police Department.

God bless Euclid. God bless Ohio.

CONDEMNING GREAT REPLACEMENT THEORY

(Mr. BOWMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, a gunman drove to a Black neighborhood with an assault rifle in his hand and hate in his heart, opening fire and killing 10 people in Buffalo, New York. He was radicalized by the great replacement theory, a white supremacist, racist, anti-Semitic conspiracy.

We are still mourning 10 souls lost to this senseless violence.

The only way to move forward is to acknowledge that what is killing us in droves is hatred and continued white supremacy. Congress cannot continue to ignore these hateful and discriminatory ideologies that are being promoted by far-right MAGA extremists.

I introduced a resolution to condemn the great replacement theory, racism, anti-Semitism, hatred, and bigotry in all its forms. We must stand up together and say clearly that white supremacy is an existential threat. We also need reparations for the Black community in Buffalo and around the country, like food justice for community members and free mental health to support and address community trauma.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in condemning the great replacement theory, repairing the harms of white supremacy, and fighting to root out hatred once and for all.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK RIDE-ALONG

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, after putting on a bullet-proof vest, I hopped in a police cruiser to help patrol the town. Joining Snow Hill Police Chief Josh Smith for a ride-along was enlightening.

During our patrol, Chief Smith and I spoke about equipment needs, funding challenges, and staffing issues police officers face. We also took a moment to connect with our community, waving at kids skateboarding and passing by memaw's house to make sure she was okay.

Dedicated officers work hard daily. Indeed, they are the backbone of our communities. As we observe National Police Week, let us recognize the bravery and sacrifice of our law enforcement personnel.

I thank Chief Smith and all the men and women who faithfully protect and serve communities across eastern North Carolina and the Nation.

HONORING FALLEN HEROES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KILEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, beginning on Sunday evening, the United States of America welcomed thousands upon thousands of men and women who wear the uniform and protect and serve their communities throughout this country.

Mr. Speaker, Police Week 2024 welcomes law enforcement professionals from every corner of this great Nation. Some are here to share important information. Some are here for training. Some are here for camaraderie. We have members of the Nassau County Emerald Society here celebrating their 50th anniversary.

The main reason we are here, Mr. Speaker, the key to why thousands upon thousands travel to Capitol Hill for National Police Week, is to recognize, remember, and honor the men and women of law enforcement who have laid down their lives for the sake of others.

Just last week, we gathered here on the House floor to pay honor to Syracuse Police Officer Michael Jensen and Onondaga County Sheriff's Lieutenant Michael Hoosock. We also paid tribute to law enforcement officers in North Carolina, who, on Monday, April 29, 2024, experienced the deadliest attack on law enforcement since 2016 when Joshua Eyer, Thomas Weeks, Jr., Alden Elliott, and Sam Poloché were killed in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, just minutes ago, the FBI released their 2023 law enforcement officers killed or assaulted report. There were 60 who were killed or assaulted in the line of duty across this country.

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Mr. Speaker, we are here on Capitol Hill for Police Week to honor the more than 26,000 law enforcement officers that have died or been killed in the line of duty since 1786.

Mr. Speaker, 136 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty in 2023, and their names are forever etched on the wall at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial just blocks from here.

Mr. Speaker, I was proud before coming to Congress to serve in what some would argue was the greatest police department in the world, the New York City Police Department, and I had the honor to serve with some of the best of the best, the greatest detectives as an NYPD detective.

Mr. Speaker, last year, 5,363 of my brothers and sisters from the NYPD were injured on the job. The NYPD PBA president Patrick Hendry has

been quoted as calling assaults on the NYPD a "full-blown epidemic." The 5,363 of my brothers and sisters that were assaulted or attacked in 2023 was 13 percent higher than the previous year.

Mr. Speaker, there are many reasons as to why we could argue that that number continues to rise, but I think all one would have to do is turn on the news or scroll through social media or perhaps listen to news radio.

Radical protests, an influx of criminal migrants at the hands of the Biden border crisis, cashless bail, and criminal justice reform—which has been a completely failed policy of Democrats in the New York State legislature starting with our Governor and working its way down through the senate and the assembly—has failed New Yorkers, and it has failed in places just like here in Washington, D.C.

What do these places have in common where we see criminals having more rights than law-abiding citizens? What is the common denominator in communities and cities and counties throughout this country that have emboldened criminals, that have literally taken the handcuffs off the gun belts of law enforcement officers?

Those handcuffs are now being utilized against police, not allowing them to do their job, not allowing them to go out there and live out the oath to protect and serve.

Mr. Speaker, what do those places have in common?

They are governed by Democrats, radical Democrats who continue each and every day to put criminals ahead of law-abiding citizens.

You see, we have seen the increase in police assaults. We have seen the increase in police officers being killed. Why?

Because of radical protests, an influx of criminal migrants, bail reform, cashless bail, criminal justice reform, anticop rhetoric, and soft-on-crime, rogue district attorneys like Alvin Bragg in Manhattan.

Mr. Speaker, 1,287 of my brothers and sisters throughout this country died from suicide between 2016 and 2022. Mr. Speaker, that number is startling. There are many reasons as to why we see law enforcement officers struggle, and it is one of the reasons as to why I am working with my colleagues to erase that stigma and to make law enforcement officers realize that there is help available and that their mental health is so critically important.

We cannot put our heads in the sand. We cannot ignore the fact that law enforcement officers are seeing even more stress because of the failed policies of so many so-called leaders throughout this country.

Law enforcement work is challenging and dangerous. Very often we hear a police officer responded to a routine 911 call. Mr. Speaker, and to those listening at home, no 911 call is routine. No car stop is routine.

Mr. Speaker, just months ago, Police Officer Jonathan Diller of the NYPD