

they are free to ravage our neighborhoods and our communities, our children's playgrounds, and our schools. I say, if they are going to do the crime, they need to do the time.

Project Exile finally focuses prosecution on criminals rather than laying the blame on firearms. Laws on guns only affect law-abiding citizens. Criminals, by their very nature, do not obey laws. We need common sense enforcement of existing law.

For decades, the anti-second amendment lobby has attacked gun manufacturers and law-abiding citizens, demanding laws and restrictions that further impede the inalienable rights of Americans to protect themselves, their loved ones, and their property. The anti-second amendment lobby has used a series of lies and half truths to spew a message and strike fear in the hearts of America.

David Kopel recently wrote an excellent piece in the April 17 issue of the *National Review*. He listed many of the prominent lies of the anti-gun crowd.

I believe it is critical in any debate that we discuss the merits of any issue based on fact, not on myth. Today I want to correct some of the misinformation that is out there so that we can base our decisions on fact alone.

The first myth is that, up to 17 children are killed every day in gun violence. I agree that even one child killed by a gun is one too many. Parents who choose to have guns in their home need to be cautious, conscientious, and aware of the gun, where it is, and absolutely certain that no child has access to it.

However, this statistic that 17 children die of gun violence every day is not exactly a fact. For that to be true, one has to include 18- and 19-year-olds as well as even some young adults. Nearly all of the deaths that are counted in this statistic are members of gangs, those in the act of committing a crime, or, unfortunately, those committing suicide. The actual gun death rate for children under the age of 14 is less than the rate of children who drown in swimming pool accidents.

The second lie is the so-called gun-show loophole. If any individual is engaged in the business of selling firearms, no matter where the sale takes place, whether it be in a store, his home, or a gun show, the seller must file a government registration form on every buyer and clear the sale through the FBI's National Instant Check System.

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To hear the President and Vice President say it, and other anti-second amendment people, one would think that 98 percent of crimes occur with guns that were bought at gun shows. In reality, according to the 1997 National Institute of Justice study, only 2 percent of guns used in crimes were purchased at gun shows.

The third lie is that the average citizen is committing many of these gun

crimes out there and that Americans are too ill tempered to be trusted with guns. But as my colleagues might guess, the facts tell a different picture. Seventy-five percent of murderers have adult criminal records. And a large portion of the other 25 percent have arrests and convictions as juveniles that are sealed under the cloak of youth of-fender protections, or they are actually teenagers when they kill.

Another interesting note is that 90 percent of adult murderers have adult criminal records. Why do we pretend, when we discover that criminals commit crimes, why do we pretend to be shocked? Over 99 percent of the gun owners in America responsibly use the guns that they have for hunting or protection. Why does the liberal anti-second amendment crowd want to continue placing burden upon burden on the 99 percent of gun owners who are law-abiding citizens?

With the passage of Project Exile: The Safe Streets and Neighborhoods Act, we are trying to protect law-abiding citizens from these hardened gun-shooting criminals, criminals who have no respect for life nor for any other individual. Americans for too long have been held hostage by the thugs and drug dealers, the robbers and the gang members, and the lawless and the outlaw. We must reclaim our streets and reclaim our communities and reclaim our American heritage. We need to move forward with other important legislation like this.

WORKER COMPENSATION FOR NATIONAL LABORATORY EMPLOYEES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the issue of worker compensation. Today, the administration, Secretary Richardson, President Clinton, and Vice President GORE announced a worker compensation program for workers at the national laboratories all across this country.

This has been a very sad chapter in the history of the United States. Workers have worked at these nuclear establishments and plants for many years, and they have been injured as a result, many of them have been injured, the Department now acknowledges, as a result of occupational exposures. The Department has decided to turn over a new leaf, and I applaud their position on that; and I rise today to put a piece of legislation in the hopper to deal with this situation.

In New Mexico, about 3 weeks ago, I attended a hearing in my district where workers came forward. They talked about how patriotic they were; they talked about how they were serving their country for many, many years and, as a result of their work,

they believed they came down with cancers, with beryllium disease, with asbestosis, with a variety of other illnesses. They were very heart-wrenching stories.

Today, I introduce a piece of legislation that will be comprehensive legislation. It will deal with all of these injuries that occurred and that were talked about at Los Alamos. It is comprehensive in the sense that it will cover beryllium, it will cover radiation, it will cover asbestos, and it will cover chemicals that these workers were exposed to.

The legislation provides that the workers will be able to come forward, very similar to the Workmen's Compensation program that is in place for the Federal Government. They will be able to demonstrate their exposure and what the illness was.

My legislation will also provide that during the 180-day period, while their claim is pending, that they will be able to get health care for free at the nearest Veterans Hospital.

And the burden is on the Government, because many of these individuals came forward and talked about how they had worked their whole life, and they knew there were exposures; but then, at the end of their period of time, they asked for their records and there were no records. Their records were lost. So under those circumstances, we clearly have to put the burden on the Government.

So I would urge my colleagues today, while my bill is specifically directed to New Mexico, I know there are many other colleagues around the country that have this same situation in their district. There are Democrats and Republicans. All areas of the United States are represented. So I think this is a great issue for us to join together in a bipartisan way and craft a solution to this problem at the national level.

The reason I think it is so important is that these workers were true patriots. They were people that loved their country and cared about their country and worked for it at a very crucial time for us, so we need now to do something for them.

COMMEMORATION OF THE LIFE OF HERMAN B. WELLS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. WILSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PEASE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PEASE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Herman B. Wells, the 12th president of Indiana University, and the only person to serve that institution on three different occasions as its chief executive officer.

In 1937, he was appointed acting president. From 1938 to 1962, he was president; in 1968 he was interim president; and from 1968 to 2000 he served as chancellor. He died in Bloomington on March 18 and was buried the next week

in Jamestown, Indiana, his ancestral home.

Part of Monroe County, where Indiana University is located, and all of Boone County, where Chancellor Wells was laid to rest, are in my district, the seventh, of Indiana. As the representative of that district in Congress, it is my privilege, indeed my honor, to mark with pride the life and contributions of this amazing son of Indiana. As one whose personal life was also touched by this wonderful man, I am humbled by the realization that it was in part his influence on my life that made it possible for me to be here in the well of the House to share these thoughts.

Though he would undoubtedly object to the personal characterization, observing the work of so many others, Herman B. Wells transformed Indiana University from a modest Midwestern State institution of 11,000 students to a world-class institution of research, service, and teaching with more than 30,000 students in Bloomington, the main campus, and more than 80,000 students on eight campuses across the State. His insistence on academic excellence from faculty and from students, and his willingness to actively support the excellence he encouraged, resulted in the development of one of the world's finest schools of music, the attraction of eminent scholars, including Nobel laureates, the development of one of the finest collections of rare books in the world, and much more. He was a fierce defender of academic freedom, as witnessed among other things by his steadfast support of the Kinsey Institute, at its time one of the most controversial research centers in the Nation.

He has served on more national and international cultural, educational, and development commissions and agencies and been honored by more national governments, nongovernmental organizations, and international entities than I can list in the time allotted me today. Suffice it to say that he was a man of incredible vision, equally incredible talent, and a commitment to humanity that transcended race, gender, religion, and national borders.

Yet he never lost the personal touch, grounded in his intense interest in each human being he met as simply a person and, thereby, imbued with an innate dignity that warranted treatment with respect. And that is, in the final analysis, what made this man a giant in American education and culture.

Chancellor Wells once listed what he calls his "Maxims for a Young College President, or How to Succeed Without Really Trying." His autobiography, "Being Lucky," derived its title from the list, where he said, "My first maxim is, be lucky."

Perhaps he was, though I suspect that he made more of his luck than just happened to come his way. I know this, though, that those of us who attended his Indiana University, and especially those of us who, like me, came

to know him personally, were most assuredly lucky; and our lives have been enriched in ways we could never before have imagined as a consequence of our contact with him.

From the nationally and internationally recognized faculty in whose classes I studied, to the fraternity system based on the finest traditions of ethical behavior that he fostered and from which I benefited, to an enduring idealism and assuredness in the future that imbued the IU campus, even in the midst of the difficulties of the late 1960s and early 1970s, my life has been shaped in many ways by my experiences at Indiana University. And everyone who experienced Indiana University was touched by Herman Wells.

Chancellor Wells often said that it is not what you do that counts; it is what you help others to do that makes progress. I know no finer example of this maxim than the chancellor himself. Indiana has lost one of its greatest sons. I have lost a mentor and friend. And yet our grief at this inestimable loss is assuaged by the realization that the university he helped build endures as one of the world's great institutions, stamped with his principles and personality. And for those of us who knew him personally, there is the memory of the sparkle in the eye, the engagement of the intellect, and the smile in the heart that was and remains Herman B. Wells.

With apologies to the lyrics of our alma mater for this temporary emendation, "He's the pride of Indiana." We loved him, we will miss him, we are better because of him.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF LANCE CORPORAL SETH G. JONES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I rise today with profound sadness to honor the short, yet exceptional life of Lance Corporal Seth G. Jones, who perished last Saturday, along with 18 fellow Marines, in an aircraft crash near Marana, Arizona.

Madam Speaker, Lance Corporal Jones was only 18 years of age. A native of Bend, Oregon, and a graduate of Mountain View High School, he joined the Marine Corps in February of 1999. After graduating from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California, Seth fulfilled his long-held dream of serving in the infantry. At the time of his death, he served as an assaultman assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, stationed at Camp Pendleton, California.

Remembered by friends and family alike as a motivated young American with a steadfast sense of patriotism and duty, Lance Corporal Jones was, quite simply, what parents want their children to grow up to be. His high school ROTC instructor remembered him as "more than enthusiastic, ener-

getic and intense. Seth was turbocharged." Seth's hockey coach recalled meeting him after he completed basic training and saying, "In that short time he had gone from a teenager to an adult. He had grown up."

Madam Speaker, nothing is more tragic than a life so full of promise cut short before its time. And there is no worse grief than that suffered by parents who must bury their child, because it is not the way life's journey is supposed to go.

Lance Corporal Jones answered his country's call and he knew the meaning of the word duty. While he did not die in a hail of gunfire, Seth gave his life for his country nonetheless. Training for the day when he might be called upon to defend his native land, he gladly shouldered a responsibility few of us can fully appreciate. In an age when most kids are worried about what they are going to wear on Saturday night, Seth was jumping out of helicopters and practicing hostage rescue.

Madam Speaker, surrounded by the luxury of our system of government that is afforded us, we often forget that there are still people among us whose job it is to carry rifles into battle, who shoot at our enemies and are in turn shot at, so that we may continue to live as a free people. There are men like Lance Corporal Jones who are familiar with the chill of a night spent in a foxhole and the exhaustion of a forced march who protect those of us who are not.

John Stuart Mill once wrote, "A man who has nothing he cares about more deeply than his personal safety is a miserable creature who has no chance of being free, unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself." Lance Corporal Jones, and the Marines who lost their lives, were the very guardians of our liberty, Madam Speaker, the men whose exertions keep us free. To his family, to his country, and to his Corps, Lance Corporal Jones, like his fellow fallen Marines, was as the Marine Corps motto reads: Always faithful.

While the cause of this tragic accident is still unknown, this morning I met with Lieutenant General Fred McCorkle, deputy chief of staff for the Marine Corps Aviation, to underscore the need for a full investigation to be undertaken to ensure that the equipment used by our men and women in uniform does not subject them to unnecessary risks.

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In this time of grief, my deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Lance Corporal Jones as it does to the entire Marine Corps family.

COMMEMORATING ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. WILSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) is recognized for 5 minutes.