

focus away from fighting terrorism. We cannot allow politics to distract us from coming together and passing commonsense gun reform.

We must stand up against hate in all of its forms and the weapons that allow our enemies to too easily violently express it. That is something we all stand for.

We must act. The victims and their families of Orlando deserve no less.

TUPELO POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

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

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the incredible work being done by the Tupelo Police Athletic League.

The Police Athletic League is a national organization that allows members of the police force to expand community outreach and connect with young people and their parents through athletics and other school-related activities. This organization has reduced juvenile crime and teaches our youth to appreciate and trust police officers.

During the National Police Athletic League conference, Major Anthony Hill of the Tupelo Police Department was named the national 2016 Male Volunteer of the Year. Additionally, Tupelo Police Department Lieutenant Michael Russell was appointed to the Police Athletic League national executive board.

I want to thank Major Anthony Hill and Lieutenant Michael Russell, among others, not only for their dedication to this program, but for their work to leave Tupelo a better place than they found it.

I have worked with both of these officers firsthand as a city prosecutor, and I have seen the love and dedication they have for their community and the youth, and the countless hours of overtime, nights, and weekends they spent away from their families to make sure they help our youth.

Police officers across the country make countless sacrifices to both protect and improve our communities.

Thank you for all you do, Major Hill and Lieutenant Russell.

HATE CONTINUES TO FESTER

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, 49 dead Americans: sons, daughters, husbands, wives, friends.

Whatever his ideology, whatever gun he used, this killer was driven by hate toward the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community.

Just as hate struck the LGBT community at the UpStairs Lounge in New Orleans or at Uncle Charlie's in New York City or the BeBar nightclub here

in Washington or the hundreds and hundreds other attacks that occur each year, it is because of the inaction of bodies like this, the Congress of the United States, to address discrimination, to ignore cries for equality, that this hate continues to fester.

The LGBT community deals with this fear and hate every single day, all for wanting to live and love and be who they are. And who they are, just like every member of the LGBT community, are sons, daughters, husbands, wives, and friends.

ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize June as Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month.

More than 80,000 Americans die as a result of Alzheimer's each and every year, which makes it the sixth leading cause of death among our Nation's senior citizens.

With over 5 million Americans suffering from Alzheimer's, research toward finding a cure, as well as the rehabilitation of patients, is crucial to eliminating this debilitating disease. That is why I am a cosponsor of the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act, which will increase access to care for those with Alzheimer's and ease the burden on their families.

Mr. Speaker, Alzheimer's and dementia have affected everyone in this country, in every congressional district across the country, in some way, shape, or form. A strong congressional response is critical to helping those struggling with this disease as well as their family and friends.

This month, I call on my colleagues to pass the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act, and I ask them to join me in raising awareness for this very important issue.

WE NEED MOMENTS OF SUSTAINED ACTION

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, the murder of 49 innocent people at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando last Sunday once again demonstrates the urgency of addressing gun violence in this country.

While I appreciate the moment of silence we observed earlier this week, what we really need are moments of sustained action to ensure that this never happens again.

We should immediately close the terror gap so individuals on the terrorist watch list cannot legally purchase a gun. If you are too dangerous to get on an airplane, you are too dangerous to own a gun.

We should move quickly to prohibit the sale and possession of weapons of

war, like the assault rifle that the Orlando gunman used.

We should also close the hate crimes loophole so that anyone convicted of a hate crime is prohibited from buying or owning a gun.

We should close the Charleston loophole so gun sales cannot go forward until a background check is completed.

These are commonsense measures that would immediately reduce the incidence of gun violence in this country.

It is on all of us, as the people's elected representatives, to take action today. Choosing to do nothing is an insult to the victims of these attacks and a danger to the safety of those we represent. There is no more solemn responsibility that we have than to protect the people we represent.

Let's get to work.

FARM CREDIT CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

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

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Farm Credit on its 100th anniversary.

On July 17, 1916, the Federal Farm Loan Act was signed into law, thus creating the Farm Credit System. Since then, Farm Credit has provided our Nation's rural communities with the financial tools they sorely need.

At a national level, Farm Credit has provided more than \$260 billion in credit to more than 500,000 rural customers. In my district, the Farm Credit System serves over 544 borrowers and customers, providing roughly \$160 million in credit.

As a large animal veterinarian, I have seen firsthand how Farm Credit has served generations of young farmers and ranchers who rely on these tools available to start successful businesses, businesses that keep American farming strong.

Without the Farm Credit System, our farmers in Florida and the Nation would not have access to the much-needed credit required to farm so that they can feed not just America, but the world.

DERELICTION OF DUTY

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

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, on June 12, the worse mass shooting in the history of this great Republic took place in Orlando, Florida. It was an egregious act of terror, a vicious hate crime directed at the LGBT community, and an attack on our democracy.

In times like this, the American people deserve real congressional leadership. The American people deserve legislation to prevent suspected terrorists on the no-fly list from being able to purchase weapons of war that are not used to hunt deer, but are used to hunt

human beings, such as the 49 individuals who were viciously killed in Orlando, Florida.

Instead, House Republicans brought us a brief moment of silence and then got back to business as usual. It is a shameless, shameful dereliction of duty, but it is what we have come to expect from this reckless Republican majority—and the American people deserve better.

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REMEMBERING ENDY EKpanya

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, there is great pain and agony in Pearland, Texas, and all across America. Pearland police officer Endy Ekpanya was killed in the line of duty while on patrol in Pearland. He was killed at 3:15 a.m. on Sunday. He died 45 minutes later at a hospital.

Endy was only 30 years old. He had been with the Pearland police force for less than a year. His fellow D squad officers said he was always eager to learn, and with that huge smile. Endy was the first Pearland policeman killed since 1973. As you can see, Endy leaves behind a wife and a young son.

Mr. Speaker, I will use my remaining time to say a silent prayer to honor Endy.

IT IS TIME FOR CONGRESS TO DO ITS JOB

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

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, once again, the United States Congress observed a moment of silence for the victims of a mass shooting, this time in Orlando, Florida. Once again, many in this Chamber remain silent on stopping more of the same.

Nearly a third of the world's mass shootings occur right here in our country; and yet, this Congress, defying the wishes of our constituents, refused to take any reasonable steps to keep dangerous guns out of the wrong hands.

This Congress has refused to ban military grade assault rifles whose primary purpose is to kill as many people as possible at one time. This Congress refuses to close the loophole that lets criminals buy firearms online or at gun shows without a background check. And, most shockingly, this Congress is refusing to prevent those suspected of terrorism from buying weapons that could be used in the next attack.

This Congress offers lots of thoughts and sympathies when people are massacred by firearms, but no action to stop the carnage. It is time for this Congress to do its job before we have to say more prayers for innocent victims.

RECOGNIZING VIRGINIA STATE PARKS

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

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of our Virginia State parks. From the Blue Ridge Mountains to the Chesapeake Bay, the Commonwealth boasts some of the most beautiful natural landscapes in the United States, and for the past 80 years, the Virginia State Parks have served as an avenue for families to enjoy the outdoors together.

Outdoor recreation is such an important part of our national heritage, and our 36 Virginia State parks have fostered that tradition by helping generations of Virginians explore and understand our natural resources. With more than 600 miles of trails and convenient access to Virginia's major waterways, our Virginia State parks offer no shortage of opportunities for Virginians to go places they have never been before.

I commend the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation for their role in maintaining the Commonwealth's State parks and for preserving our lands in the public trust.

I thank Virginia State Parks for keeping our Commonwealth beautiful. I wish them a happy 80th anniversary and many, many more to come.

REMEMBERING TWO YOUNG MICHIGANDERS KILLED IN ORLANDO

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember two young Michiganders who tragically were among the 49 people who lost their lives in Orlando on Sunday.

Tevin Crosby, from Saginaw, Michigan, was just 25 years old. He was on a trip visiting family in North Carolina and went on to Florida to see some friends and some colleagues. He was a young businessowner. He was described as a rising star, according to his friends and his colleagues. An employee at his company told The Saginaw News that he was always smiling and always positive.

Michigan also lost Christopher "Drew" Leinonen, who was a native of Detroit. His mother, Christine, told ABC that her son established the gay-straight alliance at his high school and received a humanitarian award for his effort. Juan Ramon Guerrero, the man he planned to wed, was also killed.

My heart aches for Tevin and Drew's families and their loved ones and all those who were killed over the weekend. This was an act of terror against the LGBT community.

As our Nation heals from this tragedy, Congress must turn our country's grief into action. There is no place for weapons of war on the streets of Amer-

ica's cities, murdering our children. This Congress has it within its hands to act, and this Congress needs to act.

RECOGNIZING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA CHARTER

(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 in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America Charter. On June 15, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the law granting a national charter to the Boy Scouts of America, which had been incorporated 6 years earlier in 1910.

I spent more than four decades in scouting as a scoutmaster, Juniata Valley Boy Scouts Council executive board member and Council president. In my own scouting experience, I was honored to become one of just 2,000 people since 1969 to receive the national Distinguished Eagle Scout Award.

It was my experience in scouting that first sparked my interest in public service, in the vein of the Boy Scouts model, which urges us in part to do our duty to our country.

In 2013 there were more than 2.6 million members of the Boy Scouts of America. In a time which has in many ways been highlighted by a decline of volunteerism, I know that our Nation's future is in good hands with these young men and young ladies.

It is my hope that this wonderful organization continues to contribute to the lives of youth for generations to come.

SICK OF SILENCE

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, our country continues to grieve with Orlando and the LGBT community in the wake of the deadly shooting at the Pulse nightclub.

The American people are angry; they are anxious; they are afraid; and they have good reason to be. This is the deadliest in a long list of recent attacks. Yet, after each mass shooting, many of my Republican colleagues have stood in the way of efforts to protect Americans from the next one.

Monday night we held yet another moment of silence on the House floor. I have lost track of how many moments of silence we have had since I have been in Congress. Mr. Speaker, I am sick of silence.

Forty-nine people were murdered this weekend in Orlando, and that is not just a number. Those are 49 young men and women who had parents and boyfriends and girlfriends who loved them and whose lives will never be the same. Moments of silence are not enough to