

forever. It was 1971 when Mickey Gilley officially opened the doors of his famous honky-tonk, Gilley's.

Gilley's reputation grew so much that Hollywood even took notice with the hit movie, "Urban Cowboy"—some of y'all have probably seen it—where he even made an appearance alongside John Travolta, Debra Winger, and Johnny Lee.

Inspired by the real-life romance of a pair of the club's patrons, "Urban Cowboy" put Gilley's on the map, revived music careers, launched other careers, introduced two-stepping to a whole new audience, and created a lifestyle that has been adopted by millions.

□ 1815

Following his role in "Urban Cowboy," Mickey Gilley found himself performing in the main showrooms in places like Las Vegas, Reno, Tahoe, Atlantic City, and even traveling to Europe to perform. Gilley even performed for Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. Over the decades, Gilley appeared in a number of popular television series, including "The Fall Guy," "Fantasy Island," "Dukes of Hazzard," "Murder, She Wrote," and "CHiPS."

Not only will Mickey Gilley's music live on in the hearts of so many who loved his music, but his cultural influence cannot be understated. "Urban Cowboy" became an American phenomenon, and it was influenced by the real-life stories of Gilley's patrons Dew Westbrook and Betty Helmer. "Urban Cowboy" told the story of a west Texas farmhand new to the area and working his job at a refinery.

This film introduced country-western dance to America and created a lifestyle adopted by millions. Even more surprisingly, it directly resulted in the most unlikely outcome of all, country-western music becoming mainstream. Once considered outdated hillbilly attire, cowboy hats and belt buckles were back in, and they became high fashion.

Recently, on Saturday, July 29, Mickey Gilley came to the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce's celebration: "The 50th Anniversary of Gilley's and the 42nd Anniversary of Urban Cowboy." It was a great celebration with thousands, and Mickey sang for us, delighting the crowd. We even presented him with a copy of a tribute I did to him on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives and a plaque commemorating the event.

Mickey Gilley will be missed, but his legacy will live on not only in the hearts and minds of those who loved his music, but also in America's love for country music. Wrangler jeans, cowboy boots, and pickup trucks will all be remembered because of him. Mickey Gilley has even been featured in the popular "Texas Hot Country Magazine."

Gilley was preceded in death by his wife, Vivian, who passed in 2019. He is survived by his wife, Cindy Loeb Gilley; his children, Kathy, Michael,

Gregory, and Keith Ray; four grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and his cousins Jerry Lee Lewis and Jimmy Swaggart.

Thank you, Mickey Gilley, for introducing our way of life to the world. You will forever be a legend.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF KEN CLARK

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I have one more notable who has passed in our great district, so will also commemorate him.

I rise today to mourn the loss of our great Galveston County Precinct 4 Commissioner, Ken Clark. He was Galveston County's longest-serving elected official. Ken had become a commissioner in 1998, and he has been an active member of our community for even longer.

Ken has been an instrumental community leader for several decades and a dedicated public servant. In his time, he has served on the State Republican Executive Committee, he has served as Sergeant at Arms of the Republican Party of Texas, he has served as Galveston's Municipal Utility District president, and received the Republican Party's Volunteer of the Year award. Ken also worked extensively with a wide variety of community organizations and tirelessly worked to improve the lives of those who lived in Galveston County.

I first met Ken when he worked on former Congressman Steve Stockman's campaign. Ken was a go-getter, a great conservative, and a great Republican back then and even more so now. Ken was a devoted public servant, a husband, a father, and a mentor. He loved Jesus Christ, and it showed.

Commissioner Clark, you will be sorely missed, but we will see you again. In the meantime, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your wonderful wife, Sherry, and y'all's seven children.

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his remarks. I thank you, Madam Speaker, for allowing me to host this Special Order today. It was great to hear from each of my colleagues on the importance of our Guardsmen and Reservists. I thank all who participated, and I look forward to working together on the issues that lie ahead.

Finally, I thank all our National Guardsmen, our Reservists, and their families. The work you are doing is making America better, you are making America safer, and I yield back the balance of my time.

ABORTION IS NOT HEALTHCARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, tonight we are going to be taking some time to talk about life. I know today on the floor of the people's House we observed the one millionth death from COVID.

When I came to work today, I saw that the flags were at half-mast, and I didn't know why they were at half-mast, and then I found out why. It was because we were observing the loss of life during the time of COVID-19. Loss of life is always a critical issue in the people's House and in the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER), my good friend from the 12th Congressional District and the young man who I stood with today as we did take that moment to observe the one millionth death.

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY) for allowing me to speak on such an important issue. As my colleague mentioned, my friend, any loss of life is tragic. What is even more tragic is the loss of life that could have been prevented.

I want to make sure that there is no doubt where I stand when it comes to defending human life, especially the life of the unborn. That is why every day I wear this pin on my collar that represents the size of a baby's feet at 10 weeks after conception, a baby that has a heartbeat, a baby that is alive.

I have two children and three granddaughters, and after holding each one of them in my arms for the very first time after they were born, I know what we all know, that before they were born, they were children. They are human life, and they deserve the opportunity for that inalienable right of life.

When two healthy individuals go to the doctor for a procedure and only one life comes out of that procedure, that is not healthcare. In fact, it is the exact opposite of healthcare.

We hear a lot of people talking about reproductive rights, and I am all about people being able to exercise all of their rights, but when an individual exercises their reproductive rights, the baby, the child, deserves to be born.

The left has said many times that overturning Roe v. Wade is radical. Well, from what we have heard about the decision, it simply puts it back into the legislatures of the States. Overturning Roe v. Wade is not radical. What is radical is allowing abortions up until the day of a baby's birth. That is radical. One thing that I want to be remembered for when the good Lord calls me home is the fact that during my lifetime, if nothing else, I will be remembered that I fought for life. I fought to defend those babies before they were born.

The chart that we see over here says that there have been 327,649 abortions so far this year. That is almost 2,500—it is 2,482 abortions per day in the United States of America. I call that a pandemic. And that is one that is preventable.

I think we should be doing everything we can in the people's House to make sure all the babies in the United States of America have that constitutional right, that inalienable right to

life. I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Pennsylvania. I think today as we look at this, and I know it has become such a horrible thing to even talk about, so when we enter this floor, the people's floor, the people's House, and we are not willing to talk about an issue like this and do it civilly, but it erupts in some type of anger that just, quite frankly, is not understandable.

Madam Speaker, I am sure many of the folks watching at home know the Supreme Court is in the midst of one of the most important cases in American history, but many folks might not fully understand the issue before the Court. So I wanted to take a moment to lay out the facts.

In 2018, the State of Mississippi passed a law protecting life after 15 weeks in the womb. After this law was passed, the Jackson Women's Health Organization, the last remaining abortion place in the State of Mississippi, filed suit against the State, alleging the 15-week protection was unconstitutional.

The Jackson Women's Health Organization believed there is a constitutional right to an abortion, a right legal experts have said for years that doesn't really exist. But despite this, the Jackson Women's Health Organization has persisted in arguing their case. So after years of trials and multiple rounds in the Federal courts, the Supreme Court decided to step in and settle the question once and for all, which brings us to today.

Now, the question before the Court fundamentally is whether there exists a constitutional right to an abortion. We believe the answer is clear, and Justice Alito and his colleagues appear to agree.

The Declaration of Independence affirmed our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Nowhere in the Constitution is there a right to abortion. I know there are times in our lives that it is inconvenient for the birth of a child, but the right to life is fundamental.

One last thing I think is worth noting about this Supreme Court: The case was brought by the Jackson Women's Health Organization, which is the last abortion clinic remaining in Mississippi. The organization, which has devoted itself to aborting lives, unborn lives, chooses to call itself a women's health organization despite the fact that more than half of all the lives they end each day are female. Little boys and little girls are aborted each day within those walls, yet abortionists who work there continue to fight for their right to abort.

That is a point we must never forget. Abortion is not healthcare. It is the only medical procedure, as my friend Mr. KELLER just pointed out, where at least one of the patients always dies.

Ultimately, the leak at the Supreme Court was unacceptable, and we need

to get to the bottom of it, but we shouldn't let that leak distract us from the real issue here. That is the victory, the possible victory for the unborn.

The truth is, we don't really know how many babies die each year from abortion, but the best estimates are that 906,000 babies will die in the United States this year alone. That is nearly two babies per minute.

We are engaged in this great observation of what is taking place in Ukraine, and we talk every day about the loss of lives, and we talk about how could the Russians be so cruel to bomb a hospital where there are expectant mothers and end the life not only of the expectant mother but also of the unborn child. But that is what we worry about. So we turn our eyes to Ukraine, and we shade our eyes from what is happening in the United States of America. Because if we don't see it, we don't have to admit that it is happening.

Look, about 870,000 babies are estimated to have been aborted last year, and that number keeps getting higher and higher, but this statistic doesn't capture the true numbers. Some States don't report accurate information or require abortionists to collect data. The CDC doesn't properly catalog this information, either.

□ 1830

Chemical abortions further complicate the picture because these are drugs that can be taken at home with no doctor's oversight and no data reporting at all.

Totally unrecognized, totally uncounted, totally ignored. All of this results in an incomplete patchwork of abortion data that hides the true number of deaths.

Contrary to the claims of the abortion industry, chemical abortion drugs are not safer or easier for expecting mothers. Women experience severe pains, heavy and prolonged bleeding, vomiting, and infections that can become as severe as sepsis. These complications can be deadly for expecting mothers.

One study found that one-fifth of all chemical abortions results in complications. It also found that chemical abortions are even more deadly than regular abortions. So chemical abortions are not safe, they are not safer. Yet, the abortion industry keeps promoting them to women as an easier alternative to eliminate the life of an unborn baby. Isn't it great to put it as an "easier alternative"?

Now, despite this evidence, in December 2021, the Biden administration announced it was removing the requirement that the chemical abortion drug, mifepristone, be dispensed to a pregnant woman by a healthcare provider. Look, this change does possess a serious threat to women across America and has serious implications for the unborn. So many on this side have always been champions of life, all life, from its conception to its natural end.

I have a piece of legislation called the Heartbeat Act, which was intro-

duced by former Representative, STEVE KING. And this is a very simple bill. No abortion can be performed if a heartbeat is detected, except in cases where a mother's life is directly in danger.

And I hear people tell me, Listen, you shouldn't be using that as an indicator. Yet, any time I have ever gone in for my medical procedure, either the doctor or whomever is there helping them, the first thing they do is grab my wrist and try to see if my heart is beating through the number of pulses, or they put a stethoscope on. And I am assuming they are trying to find out, is this guy still alive. The way they do it is by listening to my heart through a medical device.

We worry so much about life. We worry so much about protecting life. We worry so much about this horrible type of activity that is taking place all over our globe, and we are more concerned about what the Russians are doing in Ukraine than what we are doing right here in the United States of America. The numbers pale in comparison to what we are doing.

Now, we can continue to ignore this, and we can continue to argue over this, but we can't defy the one basic fact: That we are eliminating a life. It is undebatable.

Now, I think as Republicans, we always believe in the sanctity of life. And I will guarantee you there are people on the other side of the aisle, many of them feel the same way, they are just limited on that which they can speak. And it goes back to the old adage, There are no secrets in our house. There are just a lot of things we don't talk about.

Now, we can never compromise on this. I tell people all the time, Look, I know there are times in your life where this is an inconvenient pregnancy, and that the birth of this child could be an inconvenient burden on the family. That is why we have the adoption option. That is why we have foster care.

We have thousands upon thousands upon thousands of loving families that would love to take in this new, little baby girl or this new, little baby boy; it isn't that there is not a home for them. And while it may be inconvenient at the time, there is nothing more precious than life.

Mr. KELLER referred to this board that we brought in that said: Abortions as of May 12, 2022, 327,649.

Now, we went a little step further. We are talking about deaths by decision. Since we started this talk, 17 more lives have been ended. So the 327,649 more accurately should read 327,666.

Madam Speaker, I would ask all of our colleagues to stop and think about what we have done. Some of us fight for life and others of us fight for another issue. I'm not sure I ever understood it, because usually where it ends up is a screaming match as opposed to a debate in saying, What in the world are you thinking? Why do we allow the slaughter of these innocents?

Now, I know people don't like it because they say, I don't like you describing me as that and I don't like being accused of that, and so what I would rather do is not talk about it at all.

Madam Speaker, I had the honor when I first got elected to Congress to have lunch with Justice Scalia. We talked about the life issue. Justice Scalia looked at me and said, You know what, Mr. KELLY, I find it abominable that 50 States who have the responsibility and the jurisdiction choose to give the issue to nine former lawyers to make a decision for them.

On this issue, we should never, ever cower away from it. We should never, ever deny that it is happening. We should never, ever say that my personal preference is for life. But the Supreme Court deemed that it was their responsibility.

The real test will take place if the decision goes back to the States and the States and their elected officials make the decision. At that point, I would expect those who say, Well, my personal preference would be to stand up and defend life because the Supreme Court is no longer your barrier, no longer your excuse, and won't be taken into consideration.

Madam Speaker, we have these conversations from time to time, and we find them very uncomfortable, and we talk about things like, well, words matter, words hurt. Can't we just avoid this?

By doing so, we are ignoring the fact that we are ending a human life. I just tell all the Members that I come in contact, Aren't you glad that your parents were pro-life, and you had the chance to actually weigh in on it in your time and make a difference?

It is an issue I don't think should ever go away, and I think it is the most important issue that faces us today. I am very concerned about what is going on in Ukraine. I am more concerned with what is happening in the United States of America and our fellow citizens looking at us to say: You need to make a decision. And we are saying to them, your individual States with the people you elected should have that debate and they should make that decision for you.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

SUPREME COURT'S IMPENDING DECISION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I am joined by my friends here this evening to talk about the impending decision of the Supreme Court and, of course, the things surrounding it, including the unfortunate, unprecedented leak of the information from the Court, as well as the, I think, heretofore unprecedented

protesting at the homes of the Justices that can only legitimately be described as an attempt to influence and change their decision. We are going to get into all that.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP), for some comments on this subject.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) for yielding.

The gentleman is right. You can't help but notice and perhaps be distracted in an unseemly way by the stream of insidious attacks on the institution of the United States Supreme Court. It began with ideas about packing the Court, the well-known threat by the majority leader in the Senate that, "You won't know what hit you" to the Justices of the Supreme Court, followed by that unprecedented leak—unprecedented in the history of the United States Supreme Court for a draft opinion to leak to the public.

But we weren't done then, because in the ensuing two weeks, there was the online publishing of information about the residences of the Justices of the Supreme Court and the appearance of mobs outside their houses to intimidate them.

And we were not done then. Last night, in the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, there were the most unseemly attacks on the institution of the Court.

We can look forward and we are still not done, because that committee, the Democratic majority of that committee, has scheduled for next week a hearing on the Dobbs case as it pends for decision on the calendar of the Court, another unprecedented trampling of institutional norms by a majority who reminds us constantly of their desire to protect democracy.

But as I say, all of that threatens to cover over what should be a hopeful moment for this Nation in which we may, for the first time in 49 years, set aside a regime that has resulted in the loss of 61 million innocents.

We may soon see in this Nation that no longer will tiny babies at the instant of their formation and their first weeks of growth when their formative heart begins to beat and they can sense pain, be forcibly ripped, limb from limb, as they are extracted from their mother's womb by an abortionist.

We can aspire now, given the hope that emerges from what was intended for evil, but God may use for good, this opinion that says no longer will the deficient logic and willful action of a Supreme Court majority in 1973 dictate the course of this Nation and commit us to a continuing abomination against the most innocent.

The aspiration that it may come to pass that the abomination of *Roe v. Wade* will join *Dred Scott* and *Plessy v. Ferguson* and *Korematsu* on the ash heap of history, a stain upon the history of the United States, to be sure,

but one that the Nation and those who have the good fortune to live within her confines may yet live to see redeemed.

Aspiration, hope, faith that this Nation may yet indeed see the living out of its creed. That is what I aspire to tonight.

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and those are indeed inspiring and hopeful words as we stand ready to hear the Court's final decision, not trying to leak it, not trying to persuade it unduly, doing the work of democracy, of the representative Republic, speaking on behalf of the people that we represent, our bosses, so that they can decide, not just a few folks across the street here in robes, making decisions for the whole country.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the good gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

□ 1845

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman PERRY for getting this colloquy together.

DAN BISHOP put it well. America is getting a front-row seat to a left, unhinged group that, on an opinion that was leaked—that is illegal on its face—can inspire people, before the decision is even rendered, to go to the homes of the Supreme Court Justices and attempt to change their minds. It is illegal.

It is in Federal statute. It is punishable by a year in prison. Merrick Garland, we call on him to enforce the law, to start arresting people.

When is it going to end, folks? When is it going to end when a decision that the left doesn't like, in anticipation, is going to the houses of the Supreme Court Justices and all the neighbors, disrupting a complete neighborhood and disrupting the lives of Justices who are not political figures? They are elected for life.

When will we see fences stop being put up around the Supreme Court? Who would imagine? The Founders would have never guessed that this would have been coming to effect.

Do you know what is so appalling? The comments from this administration and from its supporters. A quote by one person who is on the abortionist side: "If abortions aren't safe, then you aren't either."

Another quote: "The time for civility is over, man. Being polite doesn't get you anywhere."

This is just a replay of the vandalism that took place all across this country—over 537 cities torn up—and a decision has not even been rendered.

Folks, it is time for a change. It is time for this to stop. It is time for all Americans to voice their opinion and displeasure over this, the killing of a child.

When you follow the money, that is where you know where the priorities are. For Title X funding, in the '23 budget, this administration is putting