

youth across the country in their mission to engage youth to reach their fullest potential and continues to enrich the lives of our youth throughout Merced County.

The program's goal to develop citizenship, leadership, responsibility, and life skills is accomplished through hands-on projects in agriculture, science, health, and civic engagement. In doing so, youth develop relationships with their advisors, who mentor them into and provide support to help them achieve their full potential. This enables 4-H'ers to develop into true leaders, entrepreneurs and visionaries ready to lead the next generation of our country.

In my own district, the first 4-H office opened in 1917. Since then, Merced County 4-H has helped thousands of youth throughout the different communities that comprise Merced County to become confident, independent leaders. All the while, each different 4-H club throughout the county has been guided by their mission to provide experiences where young people learn by doing hands-on projects and at the same time, created more opportunities for youth to be engaged in their community.

The program, delivered by Cooperative Extension—a community of more than 100 public universities across the nation, is led in California by the University of California Cooperative Extension, the research and outreach arm of the UC's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. This gives Merced County 4-H the unique opportunity to partner with UC Merced, the newest research university of the 21st century. Through this partnership, youth and advisors are connected to the scientific research of the UC happening in the San Joaquin Valley, to help better understand and solve problems in agriculture throughout California.

Honoring the organization showcases the incredible ways that 4-H inspires kids to do more and highlights the remarkable 4-H youth in Merced County, who work each day to make a positive impact on those around them. The 4-H National Network consists of nearly 500,000 volunteers and 3,500 professionals that provide caring and supportive mentoring to all 4-H'ers, helping them to grow into true leaders, entrepreneurs and visionaries.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Merced County 4-H. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor them and recognize the significant impact they have made and continue to make by empowering youth with the skills they needed for a lifetime.

HONORING ANN OGLE

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Ann Ogle for her contribution to our state and her community.

Ann has spent her career working at Cummins and dedicates much of her free time toward volunteering in the community. Bartholomew County and our state are better off today because of her extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, Ann and her late husband, Ted, are among my best friends in poli-

tics. They were among the first and most vocal supporters of my campaign for State Representative nearly twenty years ago. Jennifer and I cherish our friendship with the Ogles. They are great friends and wise advisers.

I want to thank Ann for her friendship and support of my work in Congress. I wish her continued success in all that God has planned for her family.

RECOGNIZING PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATOR STEWART GREENLEAF

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated public servant, Pennsylvania State Senator Stewart J. Greenleaf. Senator Greenleaf devotedly served the people of Bucks and Montgomery Counties in the Pennsylvania General Assembly for 42 years. A lifelong resident of Upper Moreland Township, Senator Greenleaf graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, where he played varsity basketball, and received his law degree from the University of Toledo School of Law. He is married to Cecelia "Kelly" Greenleaf. Early in his career, Senator Greenleaf served as Assistant District Attorney in Montgomery County and Chief of Appeals, writing briefs for cases that were appealed all the way to the United States Supreme Court. Stewart Greenleaf's career in the Montgomery County Courthouse was his first exposure to politics, which inspired his decision to make a life-long career of public service. Working as a prosecutor, he gained the insight into the criminal justice system and the judiciary that led to his decades-long chairmanship of the Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee. Senator Greenleaf has passed more legislation than any other member of Pennsylvania's 253-member General Assembly. He has been the prime sponsor of 160 bills signed into law, and the driving force of many other measures that didn't carry his name. Notably, he has authored the Clean Indoor Air Act of 2008, Pennsylvania's Megan's Law, the Grandparent Custody Law, the Rails to Trails Act, the School Pesticide Law, the Health Club Consumer Protection Act, the Puppy Lemon Law, the "No Means No" Law, the Amusement Ride Inspection Act, and the Missing Children Act. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Senator Greenleaf for truly dedicating his life to the service and betterment of others.

GUN VIOLENCE

HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because this weekend 11 Americans were shot and killed while at a bris at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA.

This synagogue is a staple of the Squirrel Hill community and a place used by Jewish Americans and their neighbors to celebrate life moments, community achievements and their faith in God.

Sadly, one man, with a hate-filled heart and an AR-15, turned this peaceful, loving community into victims of one of America's worst and most shocking mass shootings.

These are the names of the Americans that this Republican-controlled House failed with our failure to pass commonsense, broadly-supported bans of military-style assault weapons, like the AR-15: Jerry Rabinowitz, Cecil Rosenthal, David Rosenthal, Rose Mallinger, Bernice Simon, Sylvan Simon, Daniel Stein, Joyce Fienberg, Dr. Richard Gottfried, DMD, Irving Younger, and Melvin Wax.

In addition to the 11 fatalities within the synagogue, four Pittsburgh police officers were shot and wounded, two remain in critical condition.

Sadly, this hate crime was not the only hate-related shooting in America in recent days.

Another man, with a hate-filled heart and a gun, shot and killed two Americans at a grocery store in Jeffersontown, KY.

In Jeffersontown, we lost fellow Americans: Maurice E. Stallard and Vickie Lee Jones, to senseless gun violence. Mr. Stallard was at the store with his 12-year old grandson to buy poster board for a school project. Tragically, he witnessed the entire event.

Mr. Speaker, by this Congress' negligence and inaction, we have created a situation where grandparents and grandkids aren't even safe going to the store for school supplies. Where will the madness end?

Before entering the Kroger and beginning his rampage, the shooter had attempted to enter a predominately African American church—we sadly could have seen another Mother Emanuel had he been successful in entering that church.

So, once again, Mr. Speaker, I ask you: "where does it end?"

Our houses of worship are no longer safe. In fact, in the last three years, our nation has experienced not one, not two but three mass shootings in houses of worship around the country.

Nine were killed at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

Twenty-six were killed at First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas.

Now, eleven were killed at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Where will it end, Mr. Speaker? How many more praying people need to be gunned down before you will have the courage to act and save lives?

Even the Speaker's own Congressional District—Wisconsin's first—experienced as mass shooting at a Sikh Temple of Wisconsin in Oak Creek, which killed six.

Yet, still he did not act to save lives, even though his own constituents were gunned down for the loving and worshipping their God.

At what point did Congress become so beholden to the NRA that we can't find the political courage to save the lives of Americans exercising their First Amendment right to worship as they please?

It's past time for the madness to stop.

It's past time for Congress to act.

It's past time to stop arming hate while only offering half-hearted "thoughts and prayers" while places of faith become places of death by gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, will you act? Will you call Congress back into session and pass just one gun violence prevention bill?