

Louis was drafted into the Army, he was married and had a 2-year-old daughter.

Louis was a member of the U.S. Army 1st Infantry Division, which landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day. It was there, on the sands of that beach 75 years ago, that Private Martin gave his life, for the freedom of his family, his countrymen, and for future generations of Americans. We, as a nation, are forever indebted to him, and it gives me great pride to have him remembered here today.

I thank those who have served, and I extend my deepest condolences to Private Martin's family and friends. I thank Private Martin and all members of the Armed Forces who so bravely fought and so gallantly sacrificed their lives in the service of our Nation during the D-Day invasion.

It is with the greatest appreciation for their courage, determination, and fierce belief in this Nation, for which it stands, that I pay tribute to these fallen soldiers today. It is in their honor that I pledge to endeavor within this body to strive ever harder to fulfill the promise of this Nation proposed by our Founders and paid for with the blood of soldiers like those who fell 75 years ago on the sands of Normandy.

ILLEGAL ALIEN AMNESTY LEADS TO HEIGHTENED BORDER SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BROOKS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, as I speak, unprecedented tsunamis of illegal aliens swamp Customs and Border Patrol resources on America's porous southern border with Mexico.

What is the socialist Democrat response to this dangerous, life-threatening invasion? Today, they help make our border security crisis worse by pushing legislation that gives illegal aliens amnesty that, in turn, entices even more illegal aliens to cross our border.

What is the result of past socialist Democrat amnesty efforts? In the first half of fiscal year 2019, the number of illegal alien family units captured by Border Patrol roughly tripled over the previous year. Worst yet, the number of captured illegal aliens topped 100,000 in each of March and April. Further, the number of illegal alien caravans has skyrocketed from two in fiscal year 2017, to 13 in fiscal year 2018, to 104 large illegal alien caravans of 100 or more individuals, totaling 17,242 illegal alien captures in just the first 6 months of fiscal year 2019.

Border Patrol Chief Carla Provost recently testified to the Senate that, "Our apprehension numbers are off the charts. . . . We cannot address this crisis by simply shifting more resources or building more facilities. It is like holding a bucket under a faucet. It doesn't matter how many buckets you give me if we can't turn off the flow."

Thanks to socialist Democrats' betrayals of the American people, the crisis is not just centered on illegal aliens from Mexico and Central America. For the first time ever, on May 31, Border Patrol agents captured a large caravan of illegal aliens from Africa, including places like Angola, Cameroon, and Congo. Also, on May 31, Border Patrol agents captured the largest group of illegal aliens ever captured at one place: 1,036 illegal aliens at the El Paso, Texas, border.

Let me be very clear: Illegal alien amnesty only begets and encourages more lawless illegal alien conduct.

Socialist Democrats' callous disregard for American citizens plagued by illegal aliens demonstrates just how radical socialist Democrats have become. However, if you understand the underlying reason for the socialist Democrats' dangerous open borders policies, the inaction and callousness make sense.

About 70 percent of households with an illegal alien in them live off welfare and on the backs of American taxpayers. Since illegal aliens are heavily dependent on welfare, once they get the amnesty and the American citizenship socialist Democrats desperately seek to bestow, that makes them reliable socialist Democrat voters. After all, socialist Democrats are the party for taking much-needed money from hardworking American taxpayers to pay for welfare for those who prefer to vote for a living rather than work for one.

Quite frankly, socialist Democrats don't give one twit about the thousands of dead Americans who die each year because of illegal alien homicides. Socialist Democrats care not one twit about American blood on their hands. Socialist Democrats covet political power, and they see open borders, amnesty, and illegal aliens voting as the way to get it.

That is why so many socialist Democrat cities, like San Francisco, are passing laws that allow illegal aliens to register to vote, and vote, in American elections, regardless of how badly this denies American citizens control over their own governments.

This insult to American voters is so astonishing, it deserves repeating. Socialist Democrat cities, like San Francisco, are passing laws that allow illegal aliens to register to vote, and vote, in American elections, regardless of how badly this denies American citizens control over their own governments.

Mr. Speaker, I yearn for the day that socialist Democrats put the interests of American citizens above the interests of illegal aliens, above the socialist Democrats' craving for political power. Unfortunately, that day is not today.

FEDERAL EXTREME RISK PROTECTION WILL PREVENT GUN DEATHS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. MCBATH) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Federal Extreme Risk Protection Order Act of 2019.

This commonsense legislation will empower loved ones and members of law enforcement to prevent acts of gun violence. When people are in crisis and pose a threat to themselves or others, those closest to them are often the first to know.

Two-thirds of all gun deaths are suicides. Extreme risk protection laws can prevent these tragedies. These laws have the power to prevent mass shootings and intimate partner gun violence.

Fifteen States and the District of Columbia currently have extreme risk laws, and these laws have received bipartisan support.

It is our duty, as lawmakers, to ensure the safety of all Americans, and extreme risk laws are a powerful tool that should be available for every single community across our Nation. This is why we need the Federal Extreme Risk Protection Order Act.

Nearly 100 people die every single day in America as a result of gun violence. Inaction is no longer an option. We have the power, the ability, and the responsibility to change our laws to save lives.

This legislation will empower Americans to prevent gun deaths. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

I am a victim of gun violence, and I have worked many long hours, days, months, and years working with and talking to the victims who suffer needlessly from unnecessary gun violence.

It is a tragedy for this body to continue to not pass legislation that would save lives. That is what we are brought here to do. That is who we are. For us to continue to turn a blind eye to the number of people who continue to die every single day due to unnecessary gun violence is unconscionable.

I urge my colleagues to stand on the right side of preserving democracy and making sure that everyone in this Nation has the ability to be able to live here without the fear of being gunned down. That is their right, to live in this country with the freedom from unnecessary gun violence.

For every day that passes by and every tragedy that we continue to have, when we turn a blind eye, we do a great disservice to the American people. On behalf of all victims, like myself, the victims of Virginia, and the victims that we continue to see every single day, if we do not stand up to protect them, then we are not standing for democracy.

CONGRATULATING A GREAT PUBLIC SERVANT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Royce Nelligan for his 41 years of public service.

Earlier this month, Royce retired from his position as Minnesota's Small Business Administration district counsel after a 37-year career. Prior to Minnesota's SBA, he served in the U.S. Air Force and the National Park Service.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Royce for all of his years of service. I thank him for the work he did to help small businesses grow and prosper all across Minnesota. For all the opportunities he helped create and promote, he left our State and our communities better than when he started. I congratulate him on a job well done, and I wish him luck on his next chapter.

CONGRATULATING ANDOVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Andover Fire Department for being awarded the 2019 Fire Department of the Year by the Minnesota State Fire Department Association.

This award recognizes the department's efforts to provide outreach to seniors in the community, to recruit women, and for maximizing the use of available resources.

The department's Remember When fire safety program brings firefighters into Andover's senior communities to replace smoke alarms and mitigate any tripping hazards that exist.

The department has made significant strides to recruit women firefighters. In fact, Andover is one of the few departments to have a waiting list.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the women and men of the Andover Fire Department for keeping our community safe. Special congratulations to Chief Jerry Streich, Deputy Chief Mark Winczewski, and Battalion Chief John Wallace on earning this important recognition.

CONGRATULATING ELK RIVER MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Elk River Municipal Utilities for being a finalist for the 2019 Source Water Protection Award.

We often hear when government fails to protect our water, but today, I want to recognize a local utility for going above and beyond to protect our community's water quality.

Every year, the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Rural Water Association award community facilities for their work to protect community drinking water. This year, Elk River Municipal Utilities, also known as ERMU, of Sherburne County, Minnesota, was chosen as a finalist because of their diligence in prioritizing water quality.

ERMU sealed an abandoned well that could have posed a danger to the community's water supply. They consist-

ently examine stormwater ponds and their effects on the treatment of drinking water. They issue rebates for more efficient fixtures.

We are proud that this Sixth District utility is an example for our entire State.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Elk River Municipal Utilities for their selection, and I thank them for protecting the health and welfare of their residents and our drinking water.

□ 1030

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP, MICHAEL HEMESATH

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Michael Hemesath, President of St. John's University in St. Cloud, Minnesota, for his commitment to education and his service to the St. John's community.

Recently, President Hemesath announced he intends to retire at the end of the academic year. Including his time as a student, President Hemesath has belonged to the St. John's family for 42 years.

As President, Michael Hemesath continued and built upon the College of St. John's reputation for developing great talent and strong faith that is reflected in the alumni and Johnnie tradition.

In addition, President Hemesath leaves his alma mater with a balanced budget, a renovated Alcuin Library, and new buildings, like the Dietrich Reinhart Learning Commons and the St. John's Bible Gallery.

Mr. Speaker, I thank President Hemesath for all he has done for the College of St. John's. While he is moving on to the next chapter of his professional life, he will always be part of the Johnnie family.

HONORING VIRGINIA BEACH SHOOTING VICTIMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. LURIA) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LURIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today grieving for Virginia Beach, a great city in our district, where the year's most devastating mass shooting happened last Friday.

That morning, 12 innocent people left their homes for work, but they didn't return home to their families, and they never will. Eleven of them were devoted public servants with more than 150 years of combined experience, and one was a dedicated contractor. I am honored to remember them today.

Laquita C. Brown, a right-of-way agent who lived in Chesapeake, was an avid traveler who chronicled her trips to New York City, Europe, and West Africa. A friend of hers called her "Ms. Worldwide." Her 40th birthday was coming up in November.

Ryan Keith Cox, an account clerk who lived in Virginia Beach, had a golden voice and sang in his church choir. He had recently accepted his own calling to the ministry to follow in the footsteps of his father, a friend,

Pastor E. Ray Cox, and the pastor of New Hope Baptist Church.

During the shooting, Keith guided colleagues to safety, but did not join them so he could look out for others.

Tara Welch Gallagher, an engineer who lived in Virginia Beach, educated the public about clean water and served her city for 6 years. Tara's survivors include her husband and her 22-month-old son. Her husband told a reporter: "She was everything to me."

Mary Louise Gayle was a right-of-way agent who lived in Virginia Beach. A proud grandmother, she had just turned 65, and her children planned to take their mom to Portland later this month to celebrate her birthday.

Alexander Mikhail Gusev, a right-of-way agent who lived in Virginia Beach, moved from Belarus to seek a better life in America. He was a generous and thoughtful person, who was said to grab his lawnmower and cut his neighbor's lawn without even being asked.

Joshua O. Hardy was an engineering technician who lived in Virginia Beach. He was a loving uncle, a healthy eater and runner, he smiled on the job, and found time to write a beloved children's book that spoke to youth about strangers in their midst.

Michelle "Missy" Langer, an administrative assistant who lived in Virginia Beach, loved the Pittsburgh Steelers, Paul McCartney, and the ocean. A friend said, "I will miss her smile and her hugs. That is the hardest thing."

Richard H. Nettleton, an engineer who lived in Norfolk, helped design, install, and maintain Virginia Beach's water and sewer systems. An Army veteran, he enjoyed mentoring young engineers.

Katherine A. Nixon, an engineer who lived in Virginia Beach, was a devoted wife and mother to three daughters, one of whom is just 15 months old. According to her neighbor, her final call was to her husband just moments after she was shot.

Christopher Kelly Rapp, an engineer who lived in Powhatan, played the bagpipes and loved Scottish music. Compared by some to Mr. Rogers, he was known as encouraging and enthusiastic.

Herbert "Bert" Snelling, a contractor who lived in Virginia Beach and was visiting the Municipal Center for a permit; he led his church's security team, and in his work, he did everything from small handyman repairs to building homes.

Robert "Bobby" Williams, a special projects coordinator who lived in Chesapeake, worked for Virginia Beach for 41 years. He helped build the seawall in our city and planned on retiring this year to spend more time with his family.

The losses here will never be replaced, but so many heroes emerged to prevent further horror.

Over the weekend, I saw heroic first responders—police, fire, and EMS personnel—who ran into the line of fire to