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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 2002*

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on March 19, I was in Florida participating in my close friend Ted Winpenny's wedding as his best man and therefore, missed four recorded votes.

I take my voting responsibility very seriously and would like the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted yes on recorded vote number 65, yes on recorded vote number 66, yes on recorded vote number 67, and yes on recorded vote 68.

#### CONGRATULATING THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE U.S.A. ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 2002*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, this month the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. (GSUSA) is celebrating its 90th anniversary. Additionally, the Girl Scout Council of Kenosha County is celebrating its 80th anniversary. I would like to recognize the accomplishments of the Girl Scouts in Wisconsin's First Congressional District: the Girl Scout Council of Kenosha County, the Girl Scouts of Badger Council, and the Girl Scouts of Racine County.

Juliette Gordon Low believed girls needed a supportive community for girls and young women to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. On March 12, 1912, Ms. Low assembled twelve girls in Savannah, Georgia, for the first Girl Scout meeting. The idea spread quickly. In 1918, six years after that inaugural meeting, Kenosha County organized its first meetings and joined the Girl Scout movement. Four years later, in 1922, the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. awarded the Girl Scout Council of Kenosha County its official charter.

The Girl Scout Law, on which the Girl Scout mission rests, encourages all girls to uphold values such as honesty, fairness, and responsibility, while developing respect and compassion for the world around them. Girl Scouts continue to build on this foundation by adopting the practice of these values to the contemporary issues facing girls today.

In contrast to those first twelve Scouts 90 years ago, Girl Scouts today is comprised of over 2.7 million girls and 900,000 adult volunteers in the U.S. Globally, that number tops 10 million members in over 140 countries. Currently, the Girl Scout Council of Kenosha County proudly maintains an active membership of 3200 Scouts. To put that in perspective, one in nine girls are involved in Girl Scouting nationwide, while in Kenosha County, one in every five girls is a Girl Scout.

Girl Scouts depends on its volunteers and its community. As with all Girl Scout Councils, the secret behind the success of Scouting is

the hard work of the adult volunteers. This well-qualified team of volunteers works with the Council to organize and encourage the Scouts. Additionally, the support of the community is integral to the Girl Scouts. Troop meetings take place in local schools, churches, and other community centers, and outreach activities require the cooperation of community businesses and organizations. The strength of these relationships is visible in Southeastern Wisconsin. The adult members, businesses, and organizations work together to open doors for young women to learn and expand their horizons.

For 90 years, Girl Scouts has empowered girls with the values and skills it takes to become the next generation of leaders. The Girl Scout Council of Kenosha County, the Girl Scouts of Badger Council, and the Girl Scouts of Racine County, like Councils all over the world, are helping girls to grow strong and build the necessary foundation to be successful in all they do. It is with admiration that I congratulate the Girl Scouts and all who support them on the first 90 years of remarkable service, and with enthusiasm that I wish them all the best on the next 90 years.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE "GUN SHOW BACKGROUND CHECK ACT OF 2002"

### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 2002*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Gun Show Background Check Act of 2002", legislation designed to close the loophole in federal gun laws which allow criminals to buy firearms at gun shows. I am joined by Representatives FRANK, BERMAN, NADLER, LOFGREN, WATERS, MEEHAN, DELAHUNT, WEINER, ACKERMAN, ANDREWS, BROWN, CLAY, CROWLEY, CUMMINGS, DAVIS (IL), DEGETTE, HASTINGS (FL), JACKSON (IL), KILPATRICK, LEE, MARKEY, SCHAKOWSKY, and WEXLER.

As you know, under current law federal firearms licensees are required to maintain careful records of their sales, and under the Brady Act, to check the purchaser's background with the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) before transferring any firearm. However, a person does not need a federal firearms license—and the Brady Act does not apply—if the person is not "engaged in the business" of selling firearms pursuant to federal law. My bill corrects these deficiencies by (1) requiring background checks for all firearms sales at gun shows, (2) defining gun shows to include any event at which 50 or more firearms are offered or exhibited for sale and (3) by improving firearm tracing measures—in the event that a firearm becomes the subject of a law enforcement investigation.

I do not believe we can close a loophole by opening a dozen more. We should not weaken the Brady law by shortening background checks to 24 hours—thereby allowing more than 2,200 additional felons, fugitives and stalkers to purchase guns in an 18 month period; we should not allow states to limit the search of individual records to "disposition information"—which, as you may know, excludes mental health records and restraining

orders; and we should not create an unprecedented exemption that would allow a gun trafficker to sell thousands of guns from his home without conducting any background checks.

Considering the many recent tragedies and threats of violence we have had in our nations schools and the recent reports indicating that the U.S. gun industry sold numerous guns to members of Osama bin Laden's "al Qaida" terrorist network, the importance of enacting legislation that will promote a more secure nation can not be overstated.

It's time for smarter, better gun safety prevention and enforcement. The bill we are introducing today will move us in that direction, I am hopeful that Congress will move quickly to enact this worthwhile and timely legislation.

#### HONORING P.J. CORR

### HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 20, 2002*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor P.J. Corr. Mr. Corr will be recognized on Saturday, March 23rd for his many achievements, and for his years of loyalty to the Cavan P&B Association.

P.J. Corr was born in the parish of Mullahoran in Ireland. He is the eldest son of the late Patrick Corr and Cecilia Corr, nee Lynch. They were the proud parents of four children, P.J., Thomas (deceased), Peter who lives in England and Nuala who resides in Dublin.

Mr. Corr completed his formal education at Loungduff National School and was later employed in Dublin by James Caffrey of Jarvis Street, a well-known Cavan man. After four years in Dublin, Mr. Corr immigrated to New York where he found employment for eight years in the A&P Supermarket.

In late 1957, Mr. Corr joined the fighting 69th Regiment serving on active duty for six months and the reserves for eight years, eventually reaching the rank of Company Sergeant. In 1965, Corr went to work for Danny Brady, also a Cavan man. After two years, he joined the staff of Killarney Rose and remained there for twenty years. After working in the financial district, he moved on to the restaurant business, working as a manager at the Greentree Restaurant for fifteen years.

In addition, Mr. Corr is very socially involved. He has been a member of the Cavan P&B Association for the last forty years and was the President of the football club from 1985 to 1987. An ardent golfer, Corr is also a member of the Cavan Golf Club. He presently serves as the President of the Mullahoran Social Club, and is a member of clubs such as the Irish American Society of Nassau, Suffolk and Queens, the Greenville Irish American Club, the Michael J. Quill Irish Culture Center in East Durham and the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 9 Bronx County.

On a more personal note, Corr met the lovely Kathleen McGovern from Blacklion West Cavan in 1959. In 1963, the couple was married. Together, they have three children; Patrick, who is one of the New York's Bravest, Thomas, a member of 32BJ and Noreen who is married to NYPD Sergeant Gerry Dowling. In 1992, Kathleen passed away, God rest her soul.