

Unions and represents approximately 25,000 members. The council has two divisions; the Council and Field Mobilization Department. Sheila was responsible for supervising six staff, running the day-to-day operation with oversight of all records and managing the financial operation that included a budget of approximately \$600,000 dollars. Further, under separate authority, the Milwaukee Area Labor Council houses The Labor Community @ Work a nonprofit, 501c3 charity organization that helps those in need. Some of the services provided under the auspices of The Labor Community @ Work include: operate food drives for Pathfinders, collect toiletries for the Health and Hygiene Drive for the Homeless, construction of "little libraries", cooks for the St. Ben's Community Meal grill out BBQ dinner, and provides funds for Laborfest and Wisconsin Election Protection. Sheila Cochran sits on the non-profit board The Labor Community @ Work as an at large member.

Sheila was hired at Delphi /Delco/E&S in 1979; she began her work in the labor movement while employed there in 1989, when she was elected as Recording Secretary of UAW, Local 438. In 1999, she was elected to the then Milwaukee County Labor Council. The Milwaukee Area Labor Council was formed in 2008 when it merged the Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Washington County Labor Councils.

Sheila has served on numerous boards, commissions, and councils over the years including: The Fair Lending Coalition, WTRP/BIG STEP Board; Member Milwaukee Area Technical College Board of Directors, National Board of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, Chair of Wisconsin Election Protection, and Elected Member United Way Board of Greater Milwaukee. In fact, she holds the position of the longest-serving member of the area United Way Board of Greater Milwaukee.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know and work with Sheila for over 25 years. She has provided invaluable counsel and advice over the years. I am so pleased to be able to join with friends and colleagues at her retirement dinner celebration on May 19, 2017, where she has asked that all the proceeds from the dinner are to be donated to The Labor Community @ Work. I wish her much success as she transitions into a different phase of her life. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Sheila and I am proud to call her friend. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin are privileged to have someone of her ability and dedicated service working on their behalf for so many years. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Sheila Cochran.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH AMENDMENT

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, May 5th marks the 25th Anniversary of the ratification of the Twenty-Seventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The Twenty-Seventh Amendment guarantees that the Members of Congress may not adjust their current salaries, and that any changes in pay

will not take effect until the next session of Congress. James Madison originally proposed this amendment in 1789. However, it would take 202 years for this amendment to be ratified by the states. Gregory Watson, a constituent of the 21st District of Texas, helped restart the push for ratification in 1982. Mr. Watson's involvement helped to ratify the amendment on May 5, 1992. This anniversary marks an important day for the nation and for Mr. Watson. His efforts exemplify superb civic duty and should inspire other to become active in our government. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing May 5th as the Anniversary of the ratification of the 27th Amendment and Gregory Watson for the important role he played in its ratification.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday May 2, 2017, I was unable to vote on roll call No. 244: Final Passage of H.R. 1180 "Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT FALLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 75th Anniversary of the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department in Great Falls, Virginia. Established in 1942 and originally named the Forestville Volunteer Fire Department, the Department formed as an auxiliary to the McLean Fire Department to enhance Virginia's domestic readiness during World War II. The original membership of 29 volunteer firefighters has doubled, and the department now includes paid ranks, operational members, and administrative members, and today is a fixture of the Great Falls community.

Through exemplary leadership, community support, and working in coordination with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department has experienced immense growth since its inception in 1942. Originally, the Department only had a small barn, a single 1942 Chevrolet truck with a 500 gallon tank, and 29 volunteer members. But over the years the department expanded, and in 1961 the department moved to its current location to accommodate the additional firefighters and the overnight staff. After recent renovations, the department reopened their current station in 2011, and this state of the art facility is certified as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold building for its use of green technologies, making it the first of its kind among Fairfax County Government Buildings. The once one-truck department now has five emergency vehicles and was the first Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Station to have four-wheel

drive ambulances. And today there are 22 career firefighters on duty 24/7, and 40 volunteer members, serving in both operational and administrative roles.

In addition to their efforts to keep our community safe, the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department provides support at community events all over Fairfax County, including parades, festivals, and fundraisers, and throughout the years, the Great Falls community and its leaders have offered continuous assistance to the Department.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department for their years of selfless service and heroism and to again congratulate them on this historic milestone. I would like to personally express my gratitude to the men and women who selflessly put themselves in dangerous positions on behalf of their neighbors, friends, and community, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. STEVENSON'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. Stevenson's 3rd grade class at Deerfield Elementary in Novi, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. Stevenson's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual "Color my Capitol" Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. Stevenson's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Stevenson's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. Stevenson and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

HONORING SEAN MACKIN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a businessman, a humanitarian, an advocate for Irish American Causes, but most importantly, a dear friend. I have known Sean Mackin for many years and I cherish the friendship he and I have forged over that time. I am honored to be able to recognize his many accomplishments.