

TIME TO END THE SHUTDOWN

(Mrs. CRAIG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, today, air traffic controllers in a regional facility in Farmington continue to work without pay, while support staff is furloughed. Adding insult to injury, in the last few hours, they received regularly scheduled earnings statements that read zero dollars and zero cents.

Earlier this week, I met with them in Burnsville and again in Washington. I heard their stories.

Joe, a new father with a baby born 10 weeks early still in the NICU, had his leave canceled because of the shutdown.

Jeremy, a father of three, may have to take out credit card debt just to pay the bills.

And Kelly, a trainee with student loan debt, doesn't know how she is going to make ends meet.

Each of them, on behalf of communities and passengers they may never know, remains committed.

It is time to end the shutdown and stop playing politics with people's lives.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL CHASE WHITE

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, on November 29, 2018, Deputy U.S. Marshal Chase White was senselessly killed in the line of duty while serving a warrant in Tucson, Arizona.

Born and raised in Peoria, Illinois, Chase led a life committed to serving his community and his country. Known as a leader amongst his peers, Chase entered the Air Force following graduation from the University of Illinois and served Active Duty from 2000 to 2007. He was set to leave for deployment as a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserves the same week he was tragically murdered.

A loving father of four, his mother, Reverend Lynnnda White of Peoria's Universalist Unitarian Church, described him as a "hero" to his children "because his family was his life."

This week, we recognized National Law Enforcement Appreciation. While we take one day to celebrate the service of those who protect our communities, it is important we never forget the brave men and women, like Chase, who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Each day, law enforcement officers leave their families with no certainty they will return home safe, yet they are willing to face these risks to keep their communities safe. I am grateful for the courageous men and women, like Chase, who button up their uniform each day, and we thank them for protecting our families so bravely.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I would ask for a moment of silence for Chase White.

HONORING ROBERT "BOB" MELSH

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of one of Riverside's finest citizens, Robert "Bob" Melsh.

Bob dedicated his life to community, to activism, and to making our society more just and equal for everyone. His commitment to the political process and to our democracy has been integral to the growth and political involvement in Riverside.

Through his work, he found a way to get everyone engaged and make everybody know their value in our democracy. He encouraged people to raise their voices and make sure elected officials listened.

Bob was an organizer. He knew what our community cared about; he fought for what we needed; and he was a force to be reckoned with. For Bob, social progress was inevitable but not without effort.

I had the honor to know Bob beyond the world of politics, and I will always remember him recounting his story of organizing a concert for the iconic Louis Armstrong, otherwise known as Satchmo, in Riverside.

Bob, I am going to really miss you. Riverside is going to miss you.

CONGRATULATING COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

(Mr. NEWHOUSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the workers at Columbia Generating Station for sending over 9.7 million megawatt hours of electricity to the Northwest power grid last year, a new record in its 34-year history.

Operated by Energy Northwest, the Columbia Generating Station is the third largest electricity generator in Washington State and has set five new power generation records in the last 7 years for its increased production. Its gross megawatt capacity can power a city the size of Seattle and is equivalent to about 10 percent of electricity generated in Washington.

Nuclear power and advanced technologies like small modular reactors are critical for safe, reliable, and clean baseload power generation in the United States.

As we begin the 116th Congress and as the Nation strives to depend more upon carbon-free sources of energy, I will be a steadfast advocate for the safe, clean power we receive from nuclear energy.

Congratulations to the Energy Northwest employees at Columbia Generating Station on a job well done. You

play a vital role for our State's and our Nation's energy security and independence.

SHUTDOWN AFFECTING FEDERAL WORKERS

(Ms. WEXTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, today is payday for Federal workers, but instead of receiving a paycheck, many, including thousands of my constituents, will be going without.

I had a visit from a constituent yesterday who is an air traffic controller at Washington Center in Leesburg, Virginia, one of the busiest air traffic control centers in the Nation. She worked 80 hours over the past 2 weeks and received a paycheck for zero dollars. You can't pay your mortgage with zero dollars. You can't buy groceries with zero dollars. You can't pay your medical bills or fill up your gas tank with zero dollars.

Madam Speaker, Federal employees want to go back to work. They believe in their mission and want to provide quality services for the American people. They shouldn't have to sell off their belongings or return their children's Christmas presents just to make ends meet. They shouldn't have to wonder how they are going to survive.

Our national parks are filling up with trash. Many TSA security screeners can't afford to commute to work. The FDA is not inspecting our food supply.

Our hardworking Federal employees are doing their jobs. It is time for President Trump and Senator McConnell to do theirs.

FUND THE GOVERNMENT

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is with a great sense of honor that I stand before you to deliver my first address on the floor of the people's House.

As legislators, one of our fundamental duties is to fully fund the government and to do it on time. But there are Federal employees, such as the brave corrections officers working at FCI Loretto, people whom, as their doctor, I have treated. These people continue to go without pay.

These hardworking men and women do not deserve this shutdown. No American does.

We are in this situation because Democrats refuse to compromise and fund the border wall, even though many of them have voted to do so in the past.

Today, I offer a question to my colleagues across the aisle: What changed? Are you really willing to reverse a previous position and keep government closed just so you can resist the President's agenda?