

Agency Task Force. In this role, he identified best practices for pain management and issued recommendations for addressing the opioid epidemic. These findings are now used by Congress to advance legislation on this issue.

I am honored to call Dr. McGraw my friend, and I know I speak for many in East Tennessee when I say congratulations and best wishes for a happy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH SWEAT, JR.

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joseph Alton Sweat, Jr., a journalist, longtime civil rights and good government advocate and a friend, who died Friday at the age of 83.

I knew Joe as a lobbyist for and executive director of the Tennessee Municipal League, which he represented when I was in the state Senate. He was highly respected as a lobbyist and was always well-informed and he wrote a regular column on politics and legislation for the municipal league newspaper that members of the General Assembly always appreciated. Before that, he had been a respected reporter for The Associated Press, covering Elvis Presley's return to Memphis in uniform; the plane crash that killed country music star Patsy Cline in 1963; and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1968. Joe also created the news bureau at Vanderbilt University and edited The Vanderbilt Hustler and later was the first lay editor of The Catholic Register.

As a representative of the Tennessee Municipal League, he twice served on the board of directors of the National League of Cities. Later, representing the National Democratic Institute, he was sent to Bulgaria and Ukraine as the former Soviet satellites transitioned to democracies. After retiring in 1998, Joe joined his good friend Hedy Weinberg in lobbying for the American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee and became a board member of both the Tennessee and national ACLU.

Joe and I shared a love of Memphis State University and Memphis politics as well as a devotion to justice. I want to express my sincere condolences to his wife Marilyn; his sons Joseph, Stephen and Michael and daughter Cynthia and their extended families; and his many friends and colleagues. His was a life well-lived.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 556; YEA on Roll Call No. 558; YEA on Roll Call No. 559; YEA on Roll Call No. 560; YEA on Roll Call No. 573; YEA on Roll Call No. 585; YEA on Roll Call No. 615; YEA on Roll Call No. 616; YEA on Roll Call No. 617; NAY on Roll Call No. 618; YEA on Roll Call No. 619; NAY on Roll Call No. 620; YEA on Roll Call No. 621; YEA on Roll Call No. 622;

NAY on Roll Call No. 623; and NAY on Roll Call No. 624.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Mr. MOULTON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from the floor on Monday, November 18, 2019 and missed three votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 625, YEA on Roll Call No. 626, and YEA on Roll Call No. 627.

CONGRATULATING THE ST. FRANCIS BORGIA VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2019 CLASS III STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the St. Francis Borgia Knights volleyball team for winning the 2019 Missouri Class III State Volleyball Championship.

This is St. Francis Borgia's eleventh state championship win in the history of their volleyball program. This team and Coach CJ Steiger should be commended for their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the St. Francis Borgia Knights volleyball team for a job well done.

REMEMBERING ROBERT LAVENTURE

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and service of Robert LaVenture, a committed organizer and unyielding advocate for workers, who devoted over 49 years of his life to fighting for the American worker in the labor movement.

Robert first became involved in labor organizing after graduating high school when he began work at an International Harvester foundry in Waukesha. During his time in Waukesha, Robert's stalwart advocacy allowed him to proudly serve as trustee, local union steward, vice president and of Local 3740. His dedication was recognized by his peers and led him to be elected president of the union. As president, Robert helped to create the state of Wisconsin's first employee education center and later developed other centers throughout the state when he served as Wisconsin's AFL-CIO Coordinator.

Robert embodied the greatest traits of a union organizer by devoting himself to building the labor movement and improving the lives of workers across the country. After serving as

state coordinator for the AFL-CIO, Robert served as a United Steel Workers International Staff Representative in the San Francisco Bay Area and then in Oklahoma. In 2009, recognizing Robert's tireless and effective work on behalf of United Steel Workers, he was made district director of District 12, coordinating USW work in Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah and Washington. While serving as director, Robert used his decades of committed work to successfully negotiate countless contracts on behalf of steel workers across the western U.S.

Robert's legacy is that of a tireless union organizer, devoting countless hours to fighting on behalf of American industry and workers in the U.S. and abroad. Robert's work will continue to help the lives of countless people and his spirit will be missed. Please join me in celebrating his life and his memory.

RECOGNIZING FIRST LADY OF ANDREWS, SC, MAJOR DANISHA L. McCLARY ESQ.

HON. TOM RICE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Danisha L. McClary, a United States Army veteran and First Lady of Andrews, South Carolina.

Major McClary has served our nation with honor and distinction. As a Judge Advocate General, she served as the Chief of Administrative Law for the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea, Trial Counsel for the 1st Brigade Combat Team at Fort Hood, Texas, Chief of Foreign Claims for the Multi-National Division in Iraq, and as the Chief of Military Justice at Port Jackson, South Carolina.

Additionally, Major McClary served as the Program Manager for the U.S. Army Sexual Assault Prevention Program at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. She earned high awards and accolades including the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, and Army Commendation Medal.

Major McClary officially retired from the Army in the summer of 2016 and immediately opened her law practice. Since then, she has served her community as chair of the Andrews Economic & Community Development Committee and as a member of the Georgetown County Accommodations Tax Committee.

Madam Speaker, I join the people of Andrews in recognizing Major Danisha L. McClary for being chosen as the Grand Marshal of the 2019 Veterans Day Parade in Andrews, South Carolina. We honor her and thank her for her past and continued service to her community and the nation.

RECOGNIZING CHARLES ANDERSON AS CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, this Veterans Day, it is my honor to announce