

CONSTITUTION DAY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today is the 233rd anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution by our Founding Fathers in Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The seven articles of the Constitution give clarity to our three branches of government: the executive, legislative, and judicial branches, and explains the separating of duties for each.

As an attorney, a retired member of the United States Armed Forces, a Member of Congress, and a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I appreciate the Constitution each day and hold fast to how the Founding Fathers envisioned limited government to provide for expanded freedom. I encourage all Americans to read and discuss the U.S. Constitution today with family, friends, coworkers, and others in honor and celebration of Constitution Day.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

RECOGNIZING DALE BRIGHT'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO LABORERS 242

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to rise to recognize Dale Bright on his many years of service as a laborer and then as the Political Director of Laborers Local Union 242 and congratulate him on his retirement.

My staff and I were lucky to have the privilege of working with Dale on labor rights for several years. Dale has always been a champion of workers' rights and through his advocacy he has been able to improve the lives of countless workers in Washington. Dale has fought relentlessly to ensure everyone has access to a fair and equal workplace including living wages, good benefits, and more. He was instrumental in implementing Community Workforce Agreements and apprenticeship utilization throughout the region. This work has had a profound impact on historically marginalized communities. These programs have proved to be incredibly successful and helped many people start union careers.

Dale continually demonstrated time and again that he is a community builder and passionate leader. Dale encouraged and helped facilitate civic engagement and voter registration among members of the Laborers Local Union 242. His leadership, knowledge, and personal efforts greatly contributed to one of the strongest labor unions in the country. The thoughtfulness, work ethic, and enthusiasm Dale brought to the Laborers as Political Director will be deeply missed by all.

Madam Speaker, I thank Dale Bright for his dedicated service to the Laborers 242 where he never stopped working to advance the rights of workers, and I wish him a happy retirement.

HONORING DR. HELEN LEVINE

HON. CHARLIE CRIST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. CRIST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Helen Levine, the Regional Vice Chancellor for External Affairs at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg (USFSP), for her 14 years of service to the USF system and for being a remarkable and powerful force for good in the Pinellas community.

During a tenure that spanned multiple campus administrations, Dr. Levine used her position to fight for the advancement of higher education. From her work championing the construction of the historic Kate Tiedemann College of Business to her advocacy on behalf of the internationally recognized La Florida Project, which tells the story of Spanish Florida, Dr. Levine has changed many lives for the better. She is someone who has long lived up to the ideals of bipartisanship and civility, working across the aisle with city councils, the state legislature, and Congress to secure funds for research, scholarship, and a more equitable University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

Madam Speaker, to speak for just one minute on the full legacy of Dr. Levine is impossible. She is a groundbreaking leader, a champion for education, and a role model for all who seek to improve the lives of others in their community. As she retires from her senior position at USFSP, it is my privilege to wish her the best in all her future endeavors both personally and as a valued member of our community.

HONORING JUDGE LISA BLOCH RODWIN FOR HER DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Erie County Family Court Judge Lisa Bloch Rodwin as she retires from the bench after over thirty years of public service. Throughout her career as a judge, and previously as a prosecutor, Judge Bloch Rodwin's dedication and ingenuity helped secure the promise of equal justice before the law more fully for victims of domestic violence and others to whom it had previously too often been denied.

As an assistant district attorney, Judge Bloch Rodwin was the founder of one of the first domestic violence bureaus in a prosecutor's office nationally. Her work helped change the culture of the criminal justice system in Western New York; in important ways Judge Bloch Rodwin's efforts led the re-shaping of that system to more comprehensively address the scourge of domestic violence and related crimes with the vigor and the tenacity that justice requires.

After her appointment to the bench in 2007, and subsequent re-elections, Judge Bloch Rodwin continued this important work, developing and expanding programs to aid victims of domestic abuse and other crimes in under-

served communities. She was the founding board chair of the Erie County Family Justice Center, as well as a founder of the Alexa Foundation, which serves child abuse and sexual assault survivors. We in Western New York have not been the only beneficiaries of Judge Bloch Rodwin's good work; she has been generous in providing the benefit of her widely sought-after expertise nation-wide to professionals in the criminal justice system, to national media outlets and to academics. It is appropriate that as a result of her work, Judge Bloch Rodwin has been the recipient of numerous national, regional and local awards and honors.

I ask my honorable colleagues to join me in thanking Judge Bloch Rodwin for her exemplary and courageous efforts, and in recognizing her extraordinary career and accomplishments. In specific, tangible ways, Western New York and the United States have become more just because of the Judge's good work, and we are all in her debt.

HONORING REVEREND LONNIE AND ELISHA MITCHELL

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifelong service of Reverend Lonnie and Elisha Mitchell. As the Pastor and First Lady of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Reverend Mitchell and his wife Elisha have faithfully and selflessly guided the Spokane community for nearly thirty years.

Reverend Mitchell is retiring to empower a new generation of leaders to continue his work and take the church to its next level. He leaves a remarkable legacy, and I'm grateful for the time we have spent together building unity in Spokane. His wisdom and perspective were always valued and trusted in many courageous conversations we had with diverse voices in our community. I'm glad that even in retirement, Reverend Mitchell will continue to serve in new ways and be a force for unity, security, and grace.

Madam Speaker, Lonnie became a pastor in 1989 following his military service in the United States Army. In 1991, he was assigned to Bethel A.M.E. by Bishop Vinton R Anderson. Under Reverend Mitchell's leadership, Bethel A.M.E. grew from 13 members to more than 200. While Lonnie served from the pulpit, Elisha served from the choir as a gospel singer. She ministered to many through her music and talent. During their time at Bethel A.M.E., Lonnie and Elisha have focused on a mission to love people—a mission as relevant today as it was in 1991.

Reverend Mitchell and his wife Elisha have been long-term leaders in our community, helping found multiple nonprofits. In 1994, Lonnie and Elisha created Unity in the Community, an event to showcase Spokane's diversity and unite our community around respect, trust, and collaboration. In 1995, they founded the AHANA Business and Professional Organization, a nonprofit that supported minority and women-owned businesses in Spokane. Additionally, in the early 2000s, Reverend Mitchell and Elisha were key fundraisers for the Emmanuel Family Life Center, a community center in the Perry District.

In 2018, Lonnie joined me on a Civil Rights pilgrimage to Alabama with the late Congressman John Lewis. On that pilgrimage, we walked the steps of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King as fellow Americans on a journey together for a more perfect union. In 2017, Lonnie also joined me in Washington, D.C. to open the House of Representatives in prayer. I'll forever be grateful for the lessons I have learned from Reverend Mitchell. He has made a difference in my life and so many others.

Madam Speaker, I join the Bethel A.M.E. congregation and the greater Spokane community in wishing Lonnie and Elisha Mitchell the best in their future endeavors. They are, and will continue to be, important leaders in our community and an example to us all. Their dedication and sacrifice have made them powerful role models we will greatly miss; though we know they're never far away.

On behalf of the People's House, I ask for everyone to join me in honoring Reverend Lonnie and Elisha Mitchell's service, which I know will inspire generations to come.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF EDWARD K.
WAGNER

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Ed Wagner, who is retiring after 25 years of service to the citizens of New Hampshire. Chief Wagner served in the United States Marine Corps before joining the Conway Police Department in 1995. Throughout his distinguished career, Chief Wagner has served as a patrolman, detective, sergeant, lieutenant, and, most recently, as the Chief of Police since 2005.

Chief Wagner, a down-to-earth and supportive leader, has dedicated his career with the Conway Police Department to protecting and serving Conway's citizens and visitors. In retirement, Chief Wagner will be staying in Conway where he will spend quality time with his family, including his first granddaughter, EdynRose.

Chief Wagner served in numerous roles at the Conway Police Department over the years, but his commitment to community service helped him easily adapt to the ever-changing environment. He approached his work with the utmost professionalism, integrity, and courage. His embodiment of these values served as a model to other officers and will continue to be a guiding principle in the Conway Police Department for decades to come.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank Chief Wagner and his family for their decades of dedication to our community. I congratulate him on his accomplished law enforcement career, and I wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today regarding votes I missed on September

14, resulting from a family emergency, and September 15, 2020, due to a historic signing ceremony at the White House of two agreements decades in the making.

Had I been present for Roll Call Votes 183, H.R. 4894, the Congressional Budget Justification Act, and 184, S. 2193, the CHARGE Act, I would have voted yea. These bills have my full support, and I hope they are swiftly signed into law.

Additionally, had I been present for Roll Call Votes 185 and 186, on ordering the previous question and agreeing to H. Res. 1107, respectively, I would have also voted yea. The bills brought to the House floor by this rule are long overdue for consideration. In particular, H.R. 2694, the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, of which I am a cosponsor, is vitally important legislation. No woman should ever be forced to choose between a healthy pregnancy and her career, but for too long, that has been the reality for many women. Despite existing laws, many workers still face pregnancy discrimination, including job loss, hiring discrimination, or an unsafe work environment. The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act establishes clear, reasonable accommodations for pregnant employees, and further ensures that pregnant employees cannot be retaliated against, denied employment opportunities, or be forced to take paid or unpaid leave due to their pregnancy. I look forward to supporting this legislation, as well as others brought forward by this rule.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF JOHN MODDIE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the life and service of John Moddie of Iron Mountain, Michigan. Through his extreme courage and selflessness, John has become an indispensable part of the state of Michigan.

John enlisted in the United States Army in 1942 directly following his graduation from Niagara High School. After completing training at Fort Sheridan, Camp Roberts, and Camp Atterbury, John was shipped overseas to Germany. He fought for three months as a part of a field artillery unit, where he and his fellow men in uniform fought to repel the last German offensive of WWII during the Battle of the Bulge. John received a shrapnel wound and was captured on December 19, 1944. His time imprisoned as a POW would expose him to the horrific and inhumane treatment by the Nazis—facing severe hunger and the near constant fear of death. John and his fellow POWs would eventually be freed as Allied forces advanced through the region. Upon return home, John married his wife, Betty, built their home in Quinnesec, MI, and started their family.

Observed annually on the third Friday of September, National POW/MIA Recognition Day honors those who were Prisoners of War and those who are still Missing in Action in service to their nation. We owe the men and women in uniform who were captured, missing, or unaccounted for a debt which can never be repaid. By coming together to honor

those who stood up to defend and to serve, the people of Michigan's First District can ensure that the service and sacrifice of those in uniform is never forgotten.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the service of John Moddie. Michiganders can take immense pride in knowing that the First District is home to such a selfless individual. On behalf of my constituents, I wish John all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING DANIEL L. "DAN"
GROSS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I and the other members of the San Diego Congressional delegation, rise with admiration and respect to honor and recognize the tremendous legacy of Daniel L. "Dan" Gross, who retired from Sharp HealthCare as Executive Vice President of Hospital Operations on April 3, 2020.

Born in Independence, Kansas, Dan's early childhood experiences created the blueprint for his education, career and philanthropic contributions. He experienced hospitals as a place for healing when serious medical issues meant repeated hospitalization for his mother. He was also very interested in science. His comparison of the hearts of five animals "off the farm" led to first place in the science fair when he was in 4th grade.

Like many San Diegans, in 1979 Dan came to visit but decided to stay. Planning further education, he was attracted by California's outstanding higher education system—which at that time was also affordable. He interviewed at all the San Diego hospitals but chose Sharp Memorial Hospital because of its commitment to professionalism.

While working his way up the clinical ladder at Sharp, Dan realized his graduate education goals earned a Masters in Nursing Administration from San Diego State University and his Doctorate in Nursing Sciences from the University of San Diego.

The first in his family to attend college; Dan knows the importance of nurturing the next generation of health care providers. He has advised on curriculum at San Diego's charter Health Sciences High and Middle College (HSHMC), and created internships at all Sharp hospitals for HSHMC students.

Dan's childhood experience on a farm also had a role in leading him to Sharp, where he was able to contribute to cutting edge research in cardiac services, including Jarvik Hearts, transplants, and left ventricular assist devices. Dan's graduate education ensured that nurses played critical roles during exciting times in clinical innovation. Patients throughout the country have also benefited, as he has raised over \$3 million for the American Heart/Stroke Association, consistently turning out the largest team for the annual fundraising walk for research and education.

Dan has worked at Sharp for over four decades, moving from clinical care to overseeing operations for four acute-care hospitals, three specialty hospitals including Sharp Mary Birch Hospital for Women & Newborns, the largest freestanding women's hospital west of the