



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 162

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016

No. 163

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving and gracious God of Mercy, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

In this single week, after a long campaign season, and before breaking once again for Thanksgiving, bless the Members of the people's House with focus and purpose on the issues facing them.

We ask Your blessing as well on those newly elected who will be joining this assembly for the 115th Congress. May their transition into office be smooth and marked by the civility of democratic change of government which is the rightful pride of the United States of America.

Help us all to be grateful that we live in this country, and generous with the blessings and benefits derived from our citizenship.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HILL led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, I was grateful to give the Republican Weekly Address to honor Veterans Day, where I spoke about how House Republicans, under the leadership of Speaker PAUL RYAN, are committed to providing our Nation's veterans the highest quality of care.

As the son of a World War II Flying Tiger, a 31-year veteran myself, and the grateful dad of four sons who have served overseas in the global war on terrorism, I appreciate the positive work of House Republicans to reform the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Veterans Affairs Chairman JEFF MILLER has been a determined advocate for veterans and military families, leading efforts to modernize the VA and deliver 21st century health care.

The House has also passed a series of reforms to the VA itself. I look forward to working with President-elect Donald Trump, Vice President-elect Mike Pence, and Speaker PAUL RYAN, to create a positive change of culture at the VA to give veterans the care they deserve. Chairman JEFF MILLER would be an excellent choice for Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

CHICAGO CUBS

(Mr. QUIGLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, in 1908, the Chicago Cubs won the World Series at West Side Park. To give you a little perspective how long ago that was, in the crowd you could find Civil War veterans. President Taft, however, was not in attendance that day.

During the Cubs' 108-year drought, we have had two world wars, put a man on the moon, and survived Y2K. But after a historic seven-game series, I can finally say that my Chicago Cubs are champions once again.

I am enormously proud of the Chicago Cubs' players and coaches, the entire management team, and the Ricketts family for unparalleled determination on the long, long road to a league-best regular season and a championship title.

Generations of loyal Cubs fans finally got to see their team win the series in what was, arguably, the best baseball game of all time. It was an honor for me to be in the stands that night, and then join millions of Chicagoans in celebrating the long-awaited return of the World Series trophy to the friendly confines of Wrigley Field.

The city and people of Chicago will be forever grateful to the 2016 Cubs for reminding us that nothing is impossible if you work hard, and never, ever, ever, ever, ever, give up.

Go Cubs.

A TRUE HERO AMONG US

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

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a champion in the St. Cloud community, St. Cloud Police Chief Blair Anderson.

Chief Anderson recently received the 2016 Community Hero Award from the Light the Legacy organization for his incredible work strengthening the connection between the police force he

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H6183

leads and the community that he serves.

Blair Anderson has served in law enforcement for the past 20 years. During his years of service, he has encountered many difficult and even dangerous situations. Most notable of these situations was the brutal attacks at the Crossroads Center Mall this past September.

The attack at the Crossroads Center Mall truly shook our community to the core, and it was the response of leading community members like Chief Anderson whose unwavering dedication to all of our residents allowed all of us to find peace in our daily lives again.

Now, more than ever, our community needs leaders like St. Cloud Police Chief Blair Anderson. It's a great honor to recognize him here today.

STOP CLIMATE CHANGE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, according to his transition team, the President-elect's administration will withdraw the United States from the Paris Agreement and scrap the Clean Power Plan because, they claim, it will increase energy bills without any measurable effect on Earth's climate. This is dangerous, shortsighted, and completely inaccurate.

The United States took an important leadership role in making the Paris Agreement happen and should continue to help lead international efforts to combat climate change. The Clean Power Plan is an essential part of the U.S. keeping its end of the bargain.

If the President-elect's administration follows through on its plans to abandon our commitments, the United States and the world will continue to suffer from increasing sea level rise, more frequent and intense natural disasters like Superstorm Sandy, and longer periods of drought, as well as other effects. What it won't do is save coal country jobs, something that the top Senate Republican pretty much admitted last week.

As President Obama said, the President-elect's administration should carry on the tradition of honoring our international agreements, and I urge him and his team to continue the efforts begun by President Obama to stop climate change before it is too late.

FOREST PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Forest Park Elementary School for over 100 years of success in central Arkansas. Built in 1913, Forest Park offers a variety of educational

clubs and experiences that support life skills and encourage teamwork, good sportsmanship and academic growth.

I loved my elementary school years at Forest Park, and I am happy that my children enjoyed a fine experience in those halls as well.

Located in the heart of Little Rock, Forest Park is led by Principal Theresa Courtney-Ketcher and serves 460 students in pre-K through fifth grade.

During the 2013-2014 school year, Forest Park was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education. This school is consistently a top ranked elementary school in Arkansas.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Principal Courtney-Ketcher, Forest Park Elementary and its faculty, and wish it much continued success in the generations to come.

POLL: AMERICANS SEE LIBERAL MEDIA BIAS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, these last few months have demonstrated how far the national media will go to promote a liberal agenda. Polls continue to show Americans' trust in the media is at an all-time low. Instead of providing objective and fair coverage of the news, the media provided one-sided stories that further damaged their credibility.

A recent Suffolk University/USA Today poll found that, by a nearly 10-to-1 ratio, Americans believe that the major newspapers and TV stations favored the Democratic candidate for President over the Republican candidate. Americans of all political affiliations know that the national media strongly leans to the left. Unfortunately, it has leaned too far for too long and has fallen off the credibility cliff.

We need to remind the media of their profound obligation to provide the American people with the facts, not tell them what to think.

AMERICA'S HISTORIC VICTORY AT THE BALLOT BOX

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate President-elect Donald Trump, Vice President-elect Mike Pence, but most importantly, the American people on a historic victory at the ballot box.

Make no mistake, this election was a resounding rejection of the status quo in Washington, a revolution at the ballot box. The American people are sick and tired of open borders, runaway Federal agencies, unconstitutional executive orders, a weak foreign policy, a sluggish economy, and a Federal Government that simply no longer listens to them.

Now, under President-elect Trump and a Republican Congress, we have the opportunity to change that and achieve bold new steps that will put America on the path to a more secure and prosperous country.

I look forward to working closely with the Trump-Pence administration to help advance these goals, and a conservative agenda that rebuilds our military, secures our borders, ends the failed ObamaCare experiment, creates jobs, and protects the unborn.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have spoken loud and clear, and it is now time that we turn this historic moment into action.

REMEMBERING DR. BILL LEHMANN

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

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, on Veterans Day, I attended Port Aransas High School Veterans Day ceremony honoring Port Aransas veterans. This year's event was renamed to remember its founder, Dr. Bill Lehmann, who passed away earlier this year at 91.

During World War II, Dr. Lehmann served in the Army stateside, selling war bonds and working at a POW camp. After the war, he earned his master's degree and Ph.D. in physics, and began a 30-year career in the Air Force Civil Service. He rose quickly in the ranks, becoming director of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research and, later, chief of the Air Force Weapons Laboratory, the first civilian to hold this job.

Lehmann focused his energy on community service when he retired in Port Aransas in 1992. He was an active member of the Port Aransas Rotary Club, where he was honored as Rotarian of the Year in 2013. He also founded the annual Veterans Day ceremony at the school in the early nineties, growing it from a small event to a gymnasium full of people packed with hundreds of veterans, students, and community members. Dr. Lehmann created a fantastic legacy that will impact the Port Aransas community for years to come.

To Dr. Lehmann and his family, and to all veterans, thank you for your service, and God bless you all.

□ 1215

APPLAUDING 2016 WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS, THE CHICAGO CUBS

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the 2016 World Series champions, the Chicago Cubs, and to congratulate back-to-back World Series MVP, Ben Zobrist.

As the switch-hitting, utility player for the Cubs, Zobrist played a crucial role in bringing his team to victory. At