

a respiratory therapy technician, in commercial building sales, and as a real estate agent with Atlas Realty. William has been involved with the Pittston City Ambulance Association since 1973, and he earned his EMT certification in 1977. He is also a member of the Hughestown Hose Company, president of the Eagle Hose Company, and the secretary of the Pittston Volunteer Fireman's Relief organization.

In 1990, William was hired by the City of Pittston as a firefighter. In 1998, he received commendations for valor from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Senate after valiantly rescuing an elderly woman from her gas-filled home. William retired from the profession in 2018 as an Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Inspector.

In addition to having an impressive professional career, William has always been actively involved in his community. He has been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1998, achieving 4th degree in 2003. William has been a member of the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons since 1998, serving as president of the organization in 2009. He currently serves as the co-chair of the Friendly Sons Scholarship Committee.

William resides in Pittston and has been married to his wife Irene for 42 years. He is the proud father of three daughters: Amy, Jennifer, and Samantha.

It is an honor to recognize William for his many years of service to our community. I wish him all the best on this St. Patrick's Day.

HONORING RISE AND MARC ROBBINS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2019

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor two pillars of the Scarsdale community, Risë and Marc Robbins, who this year are being recognized as the Keter Shem Tov Honorees at this year's Young Israel of Scarsdale Anniversary Dinner.

Risë and Marc have been members of the Young Israel of Scarsdale community, together, for nearly 30 years. Risë grew up in New Rochelle and moved to Scarsdale in 1973, when she joined the YIS. She graduated NYU and then attended Touro college where she graduated the Physician Assistant Program.

Marc grew up in New Rochelle and graduated Columbia University. He is the president of IM Robbins P.C. an engineering company in New York City.

The two met at the Scarsdale volunteer Ambulance Corp, where they were both EMT volunteers for over 20 years. They have been active on committees in their children schools and the shul. The YIS plays a very important part of their lives. It is a warm and welcoming community and they feel very lucky to be a part of it.

Together Risë and Marc have raised four children, Jennifer, married to Yakov, Daniel, Amy and Michael and have three grandchildren. Avishai, Shira and Moshe.

Madam Speaker, Risë and Marc have together done tremendous work to strengthen the Scarsdale community, both inside and outside of the YIS. They are most deserving of

this wonderful recognition, and I want to congratulate them on this special occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, had I been present for roll call vote No. 125 to H. Con. Res. 24—Expressing the sense of Congress that the report of Special Counsel Mueller should be made available to the public and to Congress, I would have voted AYE on the measure.

HONORING THE WORK OF ANNE B. WICKS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anne B. Wicks on her retirement from the District of Columbia Courts.

The Joint Committee on Judicial Administration appointed Ms. Wicks to serve as Executive Officer of the D.C. Courts in February 2000. She is the first woman and longest, serving Executive Officer in the Courts' history.

Prior to her appointment as Executive Officer, Ms. Wicks worked for the Courts in a number of capacities, including Acting Chief Financial Officer, 1999 to 2000; Deputy Executive Officer for Court Operations, 1997 to 1999; Deputy Director for Research and Development, 1988 to 1997; and Chief of Research, 1986 to 1988. Ms. Wicks previously held positions with the Legal Services Corporation and the Georgetown University Law School.

Ms. Wicks' led the D.C. Courts through many changes over the past 19 years. She oversaw the integration of 19 stand-alone computer systems into trial court case management system. She managed the adoption of long-term planning for capital programs in IT and facilities, and the development of a comprehensive education and training program. She participated in the extensive growth of and renovation to the Courts' buildings and Judiciary Square campus, and the adoption of strategic management as a governance structure. She also assisted with the creation of a strong management team, leadership principles and employee engagement initiatives that focus on collaborative and integrated judicial and administrative leadership.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Anne B. Wicks for 33 years of outstanding service to the District of Columbia Courts. Her steadfast leadership is one of the reasons the D.C. Courts are highly regarded around the world.

RECOGNIZING THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

HON. BRENDA L. LAWRENCE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2019

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Madam Speaker, today I recognize the Michigan Public Health Association (MPHA) on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. This organization was founded in 1919 and has been advocating for public health ever since.

For 100 years, the MPHA has worked diligently to eliminate and reduce gaps in health and health outcomes by improving the quality of life of Michiganders through advocacy, knowledge, practice and research. They perform valuable work in a field that has an immeasurable impact on the lives of all Americans.

In addition to raising the standard of care throughout Michigan, the Michigan Public Health Association works to increase access to care in all counties of Michigan and assure that no child is uninsured. MPHA advocates for good health policy through community organizing and collaboration.

On this momentous occasion, I want to congratulate the visionary founders and members of the Michigan Public Health Association, as well as MPHA's current President, Ms. Lorena Disha, and all the leaders of the MPHA for their important work. I look forward to their continued work for the health of our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRANK BALON, RECIPIENT OF THE FREELAND SONS OF ERIN 2019 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Frank Balon, who was named the Freeland Sons of Erin 2019 Citizen of the Year. He was honored on Saturday, March 16, at the organization's annual St. Patrick's Day event.

Frank is a graduate of Freeland High School and Pennsylvania State University. He worked as a mechanical engineer at Tobyhanna Army Depot before retiring after thirty years of service in 2013. During his tenure at Tobyhanna, Frank received the Department of the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service in both 1997 and 2002.

Frank brings something unique to Northeastern Pennsylvania that is never in adequate supply: the joy of music. He plays trumpet in several local ensembles including the Freeland St. Ann's Band, where he also serves as band president, and the Hazleton Philharmonic Orchestra and Big Band. Frank is also the leader of the popular brass quintet, the Hot Tin Roof Brass Band. As part of his musical career, he has performed the national anthem for the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders and the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Triple-A baseball teams on many occasions, and he has additional appearances scheduled for the upcoming season. Frank's musical talents extend to singing as well. He is a choir member and cantor at Immaculate Conception

Church and an officer and founding member of the Freeland Community Choir.

Frank is diversely active in his community. He is a contributing writer for the monthly Progress Magazine, and he enjoys researching family history and genealogy. Frank enjoys hiking and is an avid outdoorsman. He also currently serves as the secretary for the Hazelton Archery Club.

Stemming from his civilian employment with the United States Army at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Frank is dedicated to honoring and serving our veterans. He is part of the honor guard and a proud honorary member of American Legion Post 473 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5010. His community efforts were recognized by the Freeland American Legion Post when they named him Citizen of the Year in 2017.

It is an honor to recognize an outstanding individual like Frank as he accepts the Citizen of the Year Award. I am grateful for his many talents and his willingness to serve the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania, especially veterans. I wish him the best this St. Patrick's Day.

HONORING JOAN ROBERTA WILLIAMS

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 18, 2019

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Joan Roberta Williams, who passed away on February 20, 2019 at the age of 86.

Mrs. Williams was named Miss Crown City in 1958 after being nominated by her colleagues at Pasadena City Hall. Though she was supposed to perform the ceremonial duties around the Rose Parade now performed by the Rose Queen, such as ribbon cuttings and appearances with the Mayor of Pasadena, the float on which Mrs. Williams was scheduled to appear was cancelled. Mrs. Williams was denied these honors after city officials discovered that she was African American.

It wasn't until New Year's Day of 2015 that Mrs. Williams finally appeared in the Rose Parade, this time in a float honoring "Inspiring Stories." After an article appeared in the Pasadena Weekly detailing her racist treatment nearly half a century earlier, Mrs. Williams received a formal apology from the

Mayor of Pasadena and was offered the opportunity to ride in the parade that had been denied to her, which she accepted as an opportunity for reconciliation.

I had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Williams in 2014, when the Pasadena non-profit Men Educating Men About Health honored her at a gala, where I had the opportunity to present her with their Woman of the Year Award. In the years between her original crowning and her eventual appearance in the Rose Parade, Mrs. Williams had a long career with Kaiser in Southern California, including several years in their Medicare office in my district. She volunteered for the Pasadena AIDS Service Center and with the Pasadena Unified School District, was honored on the floor of the California State Assembly, and had three children, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

When she finally made her appearance in the 2015 Rose Parade, Mrs. Williams said the experience was "especially important because [it pointed] out that with people of goodwill working to correct these mistakes, change can come. We hope it won't take so long, but when you look at our history, none of it has happened overnight, none of it has happened without a fight. The fight goes on." It is my honor today to recognize Mrs. Williams' legacy in that fight.