

# The Americans' Creed

U.S. House of Representatives Resolution, April 3, 1918

I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its Laws; to respect its Flag; and to defend it against all its enemies.

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.

The Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial Association is offering a new opportunity for memorializing your veterans — a "Patriot Walk" around the perimeter of the Veterans Memorial with plaques installed in the sidewalk. These plaques are to honor veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in any war, conflict, or during peacetime. Additional information about the Patriot Walk will soon be included on the Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial Association's website. The preservation of the Memorial and the costs for its annual Ceremonies are totally dependent upon volunteers and public donations. All gifts are gratefully accepted. See, [WWW.RBVMA.ORG](http://WWW.RBVMA.ORG)

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Our sincere thanks to all members of BSA Troop 685, San Diego, for presenting the flags of the 13 original colonies during the National Bell Ringing Ceremony and for their generous assistance in setting up and taking down the equipment. We are also grateful to Mr. Ross Rizzo of the Bernardo Winery for supplying the Bell. We also wish to thank the many volunteers who make our Ceremonies possible. Our gratitude also goes to The Pearl Restaurant for allowing us the use of their patio. Please consider dining at The Pearl Restaurant and visiting the Bernardo Winery. Finally, thanks to all that attend.

# Independence Day

## July 4, 2019

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

## The 25th Anniversary of The Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial

Presented by

The Rancho Bernardo  
Veterans Memorial Association

through the combined efforts of

The Military Order  
Of the World Wars  
General J.P. Holland Chapter

And the  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Major Abraham J. Baum Post 7766



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**Guest Speaker:**  
**The Honorable Mike Levin**  
**U.S. House of Representatives**



Representative Mike Levin represents California's 49th Congressional District, which includes northern San Diego County and southern Orange County.

Representative Levin was born in Inglewood, California and raised in Lake Forest, California. After graduating from Stanford University and Duke University School of Law, Representative Levin worked as an attorney focused on energy and environmental issues. In addition to his legal work, Representative Levin served on the board of the

Center for Sustainable Energy, and co-founded Sustain OC (a clean energy trade association in Orange County). Representative Levin was profiled in an Orange County Register, OC Metro Magazine's annual "40 Under 40" list of top business leaders and entrepreneurs for his work at FlexEnergy, Inc., a company that developed a technology to capture and use methane from landfills and wastewater treatment facilities. Representative Levin was the director of government affairs at FuelCell Energy, Inc., from 2014 to 2017. Representative Levin also served as the Vice President of Better Energy Systems, a consumer-facing cleantech startup based in Berkeley, California, and on the Board of Directors of the Center for Sustainable Energy, an environmental organization based in San Diego. A member of the Democratic Party, Representative Levin was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in the 2018 election.

During World War II, Representative Levin's paternal grandfather, Ted Levin, served in the Pacific theater as a gunner with the 867th Bomb Squadron of the U.S. Army Air Forces. Representative Levin's congressional district includes Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Representative Levin serves on the United States House Committee on Veterans' Affairs: is the Chair for the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity; and, is a Member of the Subcommittee on Health. Representative Levin serves on the United States House Committee on Natural Resources and is a Member of the following Subcommittees: Water, Oceans, and Wildlife; and, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources. Representative Levin also serves on the United States House Select Committee on the Climate Crises.

The grandson of immigrants from Mexico, Representative Levin is a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. Representative Levin is also a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition, Freshmen Working Group on Addiction, Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, Safe Climate Caucus, and the California Aerospace Caucus.

Representative Levin lives in San Juan Capistrano with his wife, Chrissy, and their two children, ages 6 and 5.

# INDEPENDENCE DAY 2019

## **10:45 AM** Introduction by Master of Ceremonies

Thomas F. Lettington

*Commander, U.S. Navy (Retired)*

*Past President, The Rancho Bernardo Veterans Memorial Association*

## Invocation

Colonel Rick Blank

*Deputy State Chaplain, California State Military Reserve*

## Presentation of the Colors

Scouts of Troop 685

## Pledge of Allegiance

Bill Hanson

*Master Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Navy (Retired); South Dakota Highway Patrol (Retired)*

## National Anthem

Miss Samantha Belgum

*Rancho Bernardo High School Alumna; Biola University Alumna*

## Retire the Colors

Scouts of Troop 685

## National Bell Ringing Ceremony

Mervin Adams, Korean War Veteran, U.S. Army Air Corps  
with the Scouts of Troop 685

## Keynote Speaker

The Honorable Mike Levin, U.S. House of Representatives

## Spirit of the Fourth Committee

Myrna De La Peña

## Benediction

Chaplain Rick Blank