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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 21, 2018, at 3 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2018

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, through whom we see who we are and what we can become, thank You for giving us another day.

Send Your spirit upon the Members of this people's House to encourage them in their official tasks. Be with them and with all who labor here to serve this great Nation and its people.

Assure them that whatever their responsibilities, You provide the grace to enable them to be faithful in their duties and the wisdom to be conscious of their obligations and fulfill them with integrity.

Remind us all of the dignity of work, and teach us to use our talents and abilities in ways that are honorable and just and are of benefit to those we serve.

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.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. KILMER 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 five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING MRS. DELPHINE GIBSON

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Delphine Gibson from Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, who passed away on May 10, 2018. At the age of 114, Mrs. Gibson was America's oldest living person. She became the oldest living person in February of 2017.

Mrs. Gibson was born in South Carolina on August 17, 1903, where her family owned and operated a local farm. After her marriage to Taylor Gibson, the couple moved to Mount Union, Pennsylvania, in 1928, and together they had three children: Frank, Moody, and Ella.

Those who knew Mrs. Gibson speak of her great sense of humor and bright smile. She was known to sing and hum her favorite tunes around the nursing home where she resided and shared the gospel with her fellow residents. She credited her longevity to her faith in God and her church, Mount Hope Missionary Baptist, where she proudly worshipped.

Having lived in Pennsylvania for 90 years, Mrs. Gibson left a lasting impression on all who knew her, and, Mr. Speaker, she will certainly be missed.

PUTTING TOGETHER A BIPARTISAN FARM BILL

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

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, the farm bill is supposed to be about people, but this bill is not. It doesn't help the farmer I met in Chimacum, who said 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.



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knows there is a whole lot for big corporations in this bill but not enough for family farmers like him who want to plant something in their ground other than a for sale sign.

This bill is a step backward for the families that I met a few weeks ago who stand in line at St. Leo emergency food pantry in Tacoma and sometimes wait for hours so that they can feed their kids and make ends meet while they look for jobs.

This bill cuts the safety net that helps dairy farmers I met with in Grays Harbor when our changing climate floods their fields and turns acres of soil to dust.

The majority claims they want to rebuild our rural economies, but this bill cuts rural development grants that help business owners in Forks and Sequim keep the lights on.

You know, I haven't received one letter of support for what we are voting on today. The only people I have heard from are D.C. insiders who have misguided notions about real families struggling to make ends meet. This bill doesn't care enough about real farmers counting on this bill, and the families in St. Leo and the 1.5 million veterans and 22,000 servicemembers who feed their families with nutrition assistance.

It is wrong, Mr. Speaker, and it is another example why so many people are losing their faith in government. Let's vote this down and put together a bipartisan farm bill that does more to help people.

HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN IN BLUE

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the brave men and women in blue who serve and protect us each and every day.

This week is National Police Week, but we owe constant gratitude to these individuals who risk their lives to enforce the law and protect families across the United States. Law enforcement officers take time away from their families and their loved ones, often without the thanks they deserve and often putting themselves in harm's way.

This week, we remember the officers who are currently serving, like Aaron Trombley from the Tri-Cities in my district, who was selected as the Washington State Trooper of the Year. We also remember those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

In January of this year, Deputy Daniel McCartney of the Pierce County Sheriff's Department in Washington was shot and killed after responding to a burglary, leaving behind a wife and three young children. Deputy McCartney and all of the other fallen officers will not be forgotten for their sacrifice.

I want to personally thank the police and sheriffs' departments, Washington

State Patrol, and all the Federal officers who keep central Washington's communities safe. This week and every day, we offer our appreciation and respect for law enforcement officers across the Nation.

RECOGNIZING DR. KERSTIN WASSON

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Kerstin Wasson, the research coordinator to the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, one of the many environmental crown jewels in my district on the central coast of California.

This week, Dr. Wasson received the 2018 National Wetlands Award for Science Research. This prestigious award recognizes Dr. Wasson's extraordinary commitment to the conservation and restoration of our Nation's wetlands. For more than 18 years, Dr. Wasson has distinguished herself as a researcher, conservationist, and mentor at the Elkhorn Slough. It is a great fit for her as it is one of California's few remaining coastal wetlands and a valuable, ecological asset to our community and, I believe, our country.

The Elkhorn Slough reserve manager, Dave Feliz, said Dr. Wasson is a secret weapon to protect our Nation's estuaries. She has been instrumental in informing coastal decisionmakers and implementing initiatives that protect the Elkhorn Slough.

I thank Dr. Wasson, a wetland hero, for her work and congratulate her for this honor.

THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS IN BLUE

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National Police Week to honor those serving and remember those who have served in the ranks of our Nation's law enforcement.

Our brave law enforcement officers at all levels—Federal, State, and local—run towards danger knowing the serious risks involved.

Just 2 weeks ago, a Federal law enforcement officer working with Chicago police was shot in the face as he worked to get illegally trafficked guns out of the hands of criminal gangs. We hope and pray for his quick recovery.

Stories like these are a grim reminder of the inherent danger of their job. It is why we take time this week and every week to show our support for their work and their service.

To our friends in blue everywhere, we simply say: Thank you. Thank you for all that you do to keep us safe. Thank you for your service. Thank you for your sacrifice. We are with you, and we are grateful.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF TWO NEVADA POLICE OFFICERS

(Ms. ROSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of two Nevada police officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in 2017: Detective Chad William Parque of the North Las Vegas Police Department, and Officer Charleston Vernon Hartfield of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

Detective Parque was a 10-year veteran of the force. He was a loving husband and father, a selfless member of our community, and a dedicated investigator. His warmth and his passion left a mark on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Officer Hartfield was a victim of the horrific 1 October tragedy. He was a husband and a father, an Army veteran, a first sergeant in the Nevada Army National Guard, the author of a memoir, and a youth football coach. Officer Hartfield had an unwavering dedication to his community. I attended the candlelight vigil in his memory shortly after his death, and I saw firsthand how many lives he touched.

Detective Parque and Officer Hartfield were taken from us far too soon. Their profound sense of duty and service will live on as an example for all of us. May their memories be a blessing.

RECOGNIZING MAINE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

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

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, fellow Mainers and law enforcement officials from across our great State gathered in Augusta to add one more name to the Maine Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Wall: Nathan Desjardins.

The number of names on the memorial wall recognizes all law enforcement officers in the State of Maine who have died in the line of duty. That number, Mr. Speaker, has now reached 85.

Yesterday, we also honored Corporal Eugene Cole of the Somerset County Sheriff's Department. He was killed in the line of duty, Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago. His name will be added to the memorial wall next year.

My heart goes out to the families of these two brave law enforcement officials whose lives were both tragically cut short.

As Police Week comes to a close, let us all remember and recognize the immeasurable courage, sacrifice, and dedication of our law enforcement personnel across our Nation. Every day, they put their lives on that thin blue line that keeps our families safe and our communities strong. And, Mr.