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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VEASEY).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 11, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARC A. VEASEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

HONORING ALLEN PINGEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Allen “Al” Pingee of Lewis Run. Al passed away on Tuesday, April 23, at his home, surrounded by his family.

Al was a McKean County commissioner at the time of his death, and I flew a flag over the United States Capitol to be presented to Al’s family and his colleagues.

Prior to becoming a commissioner, Al was a member of the city of Bradford professional firefighters and retired as a captain in 1988. He then served as Bradford Township supervisor for 14 years, 11 of those years as chairman.

Al was a proud Vietnam veteran. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and was honorably discharged as a corporal in September 1970.

Mr. Speaker, Al Pingee has served his Nation and his community.

Above all else, he was a family man, a loving husband of 36 years to his wife, Deborah, and father to his four children, Andy, Scott, Jeff, and Jodie. He was a grandfather, a brother, and a friend to many.

We remember Al Pingee for his exceptional service to others.

May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize June as National Dairy Month.

Dairy products like milk contain nine essential nutrients that may help reduce the risk for high blood pressure, osteoporosis, and certain cancers. Whether it is a protein to help build and repair the muscle tissue of active bodies or Vitamin A to help maintain healthy skin, dairy products are a natural nutrient powerhouse.

National Dairy Month started out as National Milk Month in 1937 to stabilize the dairy demand when the production was at a surplus. Now, it has developed into an annual tradition that celebrates the contributions the dairy industry has made to the world.

Proudly, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is one of the largest milk-producing States in the Nation. I have a bill called the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, which would allow for whole milk, both flavored and nonflavored, to be offered in school cafeterias.

Just last week, I introduced the School Milk Nutrition Act with Con-

gressman JOE COURTNEY to expand milk options for students and reverse the decline of milk consumption in our schools. Our bill reaffirms recent regulation from the U.S. Department of Agriculture by providing schools with the option to serve low-fat milk with flavor and requires that the milk offered is consistent with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

In November 2017, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced regulatory changes for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, including a provision that provides schools with the option to serve low-fat 1 percent flavored milk.

The School Milk Nutrition Act for 2019 will codify this milk provision and will maintain the option for schools to offer low-fat 1 percent flavored milk if it is consistent with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

I urge my colleagues to sign on to these bills during National Dairy Month and allow our students the option of consuming the type of milk that they love and to receive the nutrition that they need.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to being, a week from today, in our State capital of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, at 11 a.m. for a rally with all the advocates for nutrition for children and certainly for dairy farming, as we rally for whole milk for healthy kids.

HONORING AVANT P. COLEMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of a great public servant, a father, a dedicated man of faith, a friend to many, and the longest-serving elected official in Wilson, North Carolina, city government, the Honorable Avant Patrick Coleman.

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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Avant Coleman, Mr. Speaker, better known as A.P., is a native of Edgecombe County, but he has resided in Wilson County for many decades. He received his formal education, earning his bachelor of science degree in agriculture and biology from historic North Carolina A&T State University. He went on to earn a master of science degree in adult education with a minor in sociology from North Carolina State University and a graduate of the Extension Executive Development Institute.

Professionally, A.P. used the full potential of his education and passion in his career, which began with teaching vocational agriculture in Lenoir and Greene Counties. His desire to pour into our youth a conviction for community engagement led him to join the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, where he worked for 31 long years, retiring in March 1994. In this role, Mr. Speaker, he was responsible for countywide 4-H programs, a national initiative that embraces young people of all beliefs and all backgrounds and empowers them with leadership skills training for the betterment of their lives and their communities.

A.P. Coleman has earned numerous distinctions, honors, and achievements. Elected in 1975, A.P. Coleman has served for 38 long years as a member of the Wilson City Council. He served as mayor pro tempore from 1989 to 1995.

His campaign slogan embodied his mantra of service to the community to improve the lives of its people. He would say, “A new way for a new day.” His early platform for service included economic and business development, balanced growth, housing, crime and violence, and most importantly, contact with citizens.

His retirement from elected office was effective a few days ago on 31 May 2019.

A.P. Coleman has served on several council-appointed boards and committees throughout the State and the city, such as president of the North Carolina League of Municipalities, 1991 to 1992; chairman of Region L Council of Governments, 1990 to 1992, 2006 to 2007; a member of the Small Cities Council and National League of Cities, 1988 to 1995.

He has served on the board of directors for Carolina Family Health Centers, Incorporated. That is our FQHC in the city. He served as director since 1999 and even served as chairman.

Mr. Coleman previously served as a board member for the local and regional Nations Bank and was the recipient of many leadership awards, including the Extension Service Superior Leadership Award. He received a certificate of appreciation after completing a 4-H caravan 6-week study tour of the United Kingdom, honoring his leadership roles in the States of Maryland and North Carolina.

He has served, Mr. Speaker, as finance committee chair for Carolina

Smart Choices for Youth and as a chairman of the Wilson Preparatory Academy charter school.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Coleman has been a very engaged individual for decades. Throughout his years of public service, A.P. Coleman has been active with his local church, civic affairs, and other charitable organizations. He is a member of Calvary Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., where he serves as an elder. He is a past member of the board of directors for United Way, president of the Wilson County chapter of the North Carolina A&T State University Alumni Association, vice president of Crime Stoppers, past member of the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf’s human rights committee, member of the Presbytery of the New Hope disaster committee, and recipient of prestigious accomplishments and awards.

Coleman is also a proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and a life member of the NAACP.

The most important thing to Avant Coleman has always been his family. He was married to the late Willa Monroe Coleman and is the proud father of three, Elliotte, Wanda, and Jacqueline, and a proud grandfather of one grandson, Juan.

Avant is a family man, dear friend, and colleague to so many others. Mr. Speaker, he is also my neighbor, my next-door neighbor for the past 25 years. A man of principle and conviction to the importance of brotherly kindness, A.P.’s motto in life is the golden rule: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Coleman has lived an incredible life that, by the grace of God, has impacted the lives of so many. His selfless and lifelong dedication to public service and community are beyond remarkable, and he is truly a role model. His love for his family, friends, church, and community know no bounds.

I am honored today to pay tribute to such a dedicated and honorable public servant. I am proud to have A.P. Coleman as a constituent and friend. I thank him for his dedication, service, and continued role as an inspiration to all of us. God continue to bless A.P. Coleman and his family.

HONORING JANIE L. MINES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize one of the most accomplished constituents in the Fifth District of South Carolina.

Janie L. Mines, who lives in Fort Mill, encompasses what it means to serve and honor one’s country. In 1975, after the United States Congress authorized the entrance of women into our first-rate military service academies, Janie soon applied to enter the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Out of 81 women who entered the academy in 1976, Ms. Mines was the first and only Black woman to graduate from her class and the first ever Black woman to graduate from the United States Naval Academy as a whole.

After her departure from the academy with the rank of ensign and a bachelor of science in engineering, Ms. Mines was trained as a supply officer and became a supervisor at the former Naval Training Center in Orlando, Florida. She proceeded to serve in the former Naval Annex at the Pentagon, aboard the USS *Emory S. Land*, and as a senior adviser to the Secretary of the Navy. In fact, she has continued her work in the Armed Forces on the Defense Advisory Committee on Women.

Her exceptional accomplishments include being granted the position of torchbearer for the 2002 Olympic Games, starting a foundation that tends to the needs of socioeconomically disadvantaged boys, and being honored by the United States Navy with a business achievement award in 2010.

In 2018, Ms. Mines wrote and published the book “No Coincidences: Reflections of the First Black Female Graduate of the United States Naval Academy.” In it, she shows us the true meaning of faith, patriotism, and persistence. We can all learn from her story and her deep love of this country.

I will end with a quote from her book: “God has a plan for us all. If we submit to His will, we need not fear. We are prepared and protected.”

We thank Ms. Mines for her continued service to this great country.

HONORING SOUTHSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Southside Fire Department on March 19.

The fully volunteer fire department has protected the people and property of Union County since 1974 when the first call rang. The station has grown from as little as five calls a year to 98 calls in 2018 alone.

The foundation of Southside Fire Department was a community effort. The seed was planted in 1969 when a meeting was held at Roper Chevrolet to hear the public’s opinion on the organization of a fire district for the local area in Union County.

However, it was not until 1972 that Southside received its first truck and could finally open its station. Supported by the local community’s generosity, the fire department established itself and eventually joined South Carolina’s Firefighters Association.

For almost 50 years now, Southside Volunteer Fire Department has fought fires to protect the great folks in the district. The station currently has an ISO Class 3/9 rating and serves over 3,500 residents.

As a Nation, we ask much of our citizens. Yet, even on top of the burdens and the toil of everyday life, some