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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. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 25, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR 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.

SIGN ON TO IMPEACH

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise because I love my country, and I rise now knowing that we are some 69 days since the Mueller report, which means that we are some 69 days with the President being above the law since the Mueller report was made public.

I rise today with a special message. This message has to do with leadership. I rise today with this message, and I

would like to harken back, if I may, to April 16 of 1963. I have my mnemonic notes in front of me. April 16 of 1963 is when Dr. King wrote his letter from the Birmingham City Jail.

Dr. King did not wake up one morning and decide: I think I will go down to Birmingham and get arrested, and I will write a letter from the Birmingham Jail. That was hardly the case.

Dr. King was responding to a letter from some of the leading citizens in Birmingham. These were persons who were cloaked with the robe of the clergy. These are people who had moral positions. They took firm, hardcore positions when it came to morality.

These were the persons who would set the standards, if you will, and maintain the standards for morality. There were eight of them. They decided to write a letter to Dr. King, explaining to him why he should not do what he was about to do in Birmingham.

By the way, they were also aided and abetted by some of the leading Negro citizens. In fact, in their letter, they mentioned that we should—meaning them at that time—allow persons to meet with our leading Negro citizens—they didn't say "leading" but "our Negroes"—and let's try to work this out with dialogue.

I marveled at how persons in positions of great leadership with great responsibility can be so wrong on some of the crucial issues of our time.

Dear brothers and sisters—I say "brothers and sisters" because I believe that there is but one race, and that is the human race. I think that all persons are created equal. As Dr. King put it, on God's keyboard, we are created equal, from a bass black to a treble white. I think that we are all created equal, and I call you brothers and sisters.

Dear brothers and sisters, this issue concerning these babies at the border, I just thank God that the media has fi-

nally discovered this issue and is taking it and bringing it to the forefront, to the extent that they are. I thank C-SPAN for the opportunity to be heard, C-SPAN and all the outlets that allow this opinion to be voiced.

I am pleased that this is being taken up now by the major media because what is happening to these babies at the border is unconscionable.

Some months ago, after visiting the border, I indicated that the ASPCA would not allow animals to be housed in the conditions that we see at the border currently. This is a tragedy not in the making but a tragedy that continues to exist because of inaction and because of actions that have been taken by the Chief Executive Officer of the United States of America in an attempt to deter people from coming to this country.

How heartless can someone be to use babies as a means of deterring people from coming to the country?

I am here today because I love my country. I believe that we cannot allow this to continue. Some 69 days above the law for this President, he knows that we are not going to do anything. This is why he behaves the way that he does. He knows that he can do this without guardrails because, back when he fired Mr. Comey and it was called to our attention that this was obstruction, we did nothing.

I thank God that Members are signing on now and understand the importance of it. The question is no longer: Who is going to be among the first to sign on to impeach? The question is: Who will be the last to sign on to impeach?

I beg all who have not to please give serious consideration to this notion that you can be a part of this impeachment because we cannot allow this injustice to continue.

Finally, I am working on a manuscript, a book, if you will. The title of it is "You Can't Walk Back History."

□ 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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You can walk back your comments, but you can't walk back history.

The history associated with this time will be: How did we vote when we were given the opportunity to vote on impeachable bigotry emanating from the policy of the Presidency?

There will be more to say and more to come.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

RECOGNIZING PARTICIPANTS OF THE 2019 PITTCHFEST

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the participants of the 2019 PITTchFEST, which was held in conjunction with this year's Showcase for Commerce in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

The event is designed to support the next generation of great ideas in Cambria County and the Allegheny region. The Shark Tank-style competition was created as a way for local entrepreneurs to present their innovative ideas and creations to potential investors. Programs like these are essential to attracting new businesses and a skilled workforce to our region.

One of the competition's categories is specifically for students at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. These students are a part of the summer accelerated program with PITTchFEST, which is used as a launchpad for their work.

This year's top student entrepreneurship teams included Smarchitecture, led by Alex Schork. This team project provides architects, designers, and artists the ability to render digital imagery that can be instantly shared and edited with clients in real time.

Skill Spirit was led by Ben Wargo. This team developed an incremental learning app that provides incentives and rewards for learning new languages.

Supernal Siesta was led by Laura Johnson. Laura's team focused on helping women manage hot flashes and the effects of menopause by creating a fashionably created mattress with the technology to cool and provide for a full night's sleep.

For the third year, PITTchFEST also included the social entrepreneurship category, which highlights incredible efforts and ideas for building vibrant communities. The top teams in this category included the Conemaugh Valley Conservancy team, which is developing plans to expand the Path of the Flood Trail, which would be the first safe and easily followed bicycle route from downtown Johnstown to the historic Little Conemaugh River gorge.

The Central Park Square/Gallery on Gazebo team aims to promote the arts in downtown Johnstown.

The Friends of the Inclined Plane Trails team is planning the Inclined Plane Riverside Park, which will include zip lines and a downhill mountain-biking course.

The three finalists in each category received a cash award that supports their innovations. The judges for PITTchFEST represented various aspects of the community, including social agencies, private industries, advocacy groups, and higher education.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the sponsors of PITTchFEST who made the event possible, including Ben Franklin Technology Partners, Cambria Regional Chamber, Community Foundation for the Alleghenies, Croyle-Nielsen Therapeutic Associates, Enterprise Venture Capital Corporation of PA, Entrepreneurial Alchemy, JARI, JWF Industries, and the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

PITTchFEST was a tremendous success, as it showcased the community spirit and the innovative minds of the greater Johnstown region.

As their motto proclaims, they are: "Growing Great Ideas Right in Our Backyard."

CONGRATULATING SUSAN ACKERMAN, WILLIAM MCGINNIS, AND JEREMY JACKSON ON ELECTION TO NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate three of my constituents—Susan Ackerman and William McGinnis of the University of California, San Diego, and Jeremy Jackson of Scripps Institution of Oceanography—for their election to the National Academy of Sciences.

At UCSD, Susan works to enrich the field of neurology through her dedication to in-depth research of molecular pathways. William is a leader in cell and developmental biology, studying the genetic systems that control development and regeneration of tissues in animals.

Susan joins a record number of women who make up 40 percent of the newly elected class, the most ever elected in any one year, to date. This is another milestone for representation of women in science.

Jeremy is a renown ecologist, paleobiologist, and conservationist at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, where he researches human impacts on the environment and the evolution of coral reefs.

San Diego's research institutes are vital to scientific discoveries, and each member helps fuel San Diego's innovation economy through their work. Susan, William, and Jeremy join 111 other National Academy of Sciences members from San Diego's research institutes.

This year, the National Academy of Sciences celebrates 156 years of fur-

thering science in America. The Academy has helped inform engineering and health policy, and Susan, William, and Jeremy will add the expertise of San Diego's scientific community as the Academy fulfills its mission.

Since Congress chartered the Academy in 1863, it has been at the forefront of what makes America the most innovative place in the world.

I thank Susan Ackerman, William McGinnis, and Jeremy Jackson for representing San Diego in the Academy and for their fine work.

COMMENDING JUDY KI ON HER COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judy Ki, a Chinese American in my district who has been a force for change in San Diego.

Judy is originally from Hong Kong and taught middle school science in the San Diego Unified School District for 30 years. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology, a master's of science in computer technology, and five teaching credentials.

During her teaching career, she received a certificate from then-Vice President Al Gore, acknowledging her for her work in environmental education. Judy was also recognized as a distinguished educator by Who's Who Among America's Teachers in both 2002 and 2003, thanks to nominations from her students.

Since retiring from teaching, she has been very involved in the Poway community and continues to serve as a volunteer and mentor, especially within the Asian and Pacific Islander community.

I thank Judy for her dedicated years as an educator and for her commendable leadership in providing a voice for the San Diego AAPI community.

CONGRATULATING SCRIPPS SPELLING BEE PARTICIPANT ELLIOTT HUSSEMAN

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Elliott Husseman, winner of the 50th annual San Diego Union-Tribune Countywide Spelling Bee and a participant in the 92nd Scripps National Spelling Bee.

As an active student at Inspire Charter Schools, Elliott is an inspiration to his peers and the Poway community. Inspire Charter Schools teach students to be independent, critical thinkers and responsible San Diego citizens.

Elliott upheld the pillars of Inspire admirably, showing integrity and confidence under pressure. He demonstrated tenacity and levelheadedness beyond his years while competing in a record-breaking field of 562 spelling bee contestants.

Since 1925, the Scripps National Spelling Bee has cultivated a passion for learning among young Americans, reaching 11 million students each year. It offers a platform for students like Elliott to engage with like-minded students and represent their communities in an encouraging environment that fosters sportsmanship and respect.

□ 1015

The valuable experience of competing allows these young students to build