

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 PITTCHEFEST

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 PITTCHEFEST, 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 PITTCHEFEST, 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, PITTCHEFEST 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 PITTCHEFEST 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 PITTCHEFEST 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.

PITTCHEFEST 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 Institution 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.

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The valuable experience of competing allows these young students to build

confidence and showcase their academic abilities, skills that are key to their future success.

Elliot's achievements in the Scripps National Spelling Bee represent the future of San Diego and the 52nd District. Please join me in congratulating Elliot here at home and on the national stage.

“NOW YOU ARE TWO”

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

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a special poem that was written by Harold Renwick, Jr. to his daughter, Penny, on her second birthday.

Harold Renwick never delivered the poem as he was killed in action during the Vietnam war. The poem was discovered by Captain Bennet and mailed by a friend of Harold Renwick's, Major Charles King. It was mailed to Harold Renwick's wife, Penny's mother, on March 22, 1968.

The poem is titled: “Now You Are Two.”

Rejoice and be happy this fine day.
Have fun in all the games you play.
Run, sing, be happy and gay,
For you are 2, my daughter, today.
Of all the wonderful days of the year,
Today especially I wish I could be near
To hold you, to hug you and share your
world
Of being a year older and being a girl.
But alas, my child, with you I cannot be
Because there is a need to keep the world
free.
A need that was created many years ago,
When a people's thirst for freedom began to
grow.
You do not know these people; they are
strangers to us.
And you may ask, “Daddy, why all the fuss
For a people who live in a land far away?
Daddy, why can't you be with me on my
birthday?”
As you grow older, my child, you will learn
That in men's hearts a spark will burn.
A spark so intense that it cannot be denied,
So strong it is that men have died
Fighting for what they believe is true;
Fighting for freedom the way all men do.
We have watched enough television to know
That in this world bad people will go
And try to hurt and harm the good guys.
Cheat, steal, and tell all kind of lies,
These are some of the things these bad guys
do.
This is the reason that your daddy flew
Across the oceans to a land far away
To help other daddies with their children to
play.
To help these daddies see their struggle
through
So they can say, “Happy birthday, my
daughter, now you are 2.”
Don't weep, my child, for this birthday I'll
miss.
Go to your mommy and she'll give you a kiss
From me, to remind you I've not forgot.
You see, my child, I do love you a lot.
So much, in fact, that to you I do pledge
That a world of freedom shall be your herit-
age.
Sleep, my child, the night is here.
Sleep, my child, and wake without fear.

Grow, my child, be happy and free,
For these are the dreams I have for thee.

This poem was written in 1968, over 51 years ago, and I submit to you that now is the time for America to heed these words of this poem written by a father who voluntarily made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom.

END HUNGER NOW

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, 50 years have passed since the historic Stonewall riots in New York City which brought us one step closer to full equality for all Americans. But as we wrap up Pride Month and celebrate all we have accomplished over the last five decades, I want to take this time to raise the issue of hunger in the LGBTQ community.

A study by the Williams Institute at UCLA found that more than one in four LGBTQ adults did not have enough money to buy food for themselves or their families in the past year. That is an alarming number. It is more than double the national food insecurity rate.

The average SNAP benefit only provides about \$1.40 per person per meal. That only covers a fraction of an individual's meals. While many households go to food pantries to fill the SNAP gap, some of these food banks and pantries are affiliated with groups that may not accept people for who they are. That is because discrimination due to sexual orientation and gender identity is everywhere. In more than half of the country, there are no explicit Statewide laws that protect people from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in employment, housing, and public accommodations.

This type of discrimination has real consequences. LGBTQ Americans are much more likely to end up homeless, particularly as kids and teens, and are more likely to live in a food desert where they have trouble purchasing nutritious food nearby.

As if this weren't bad enough, these numbers are even more devastating across racial demographics. For example, in the LGBTQ community, a staggering 42 percent of African Americans, 33 percent of Hispanics, and 32 percent of Native Americans reported being food insecure. That is unconscionable, and it is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, this is not some abstract problem. These are our friends, these are our family members, our neighbors, our classmates, and our co-workers. We should be uplifting and supporting them, but the numbers don't lie. Our country is facing a full-blown hunger crisis and the LGBTQ community—and, in particular, communities of color within of it—are bearing the brunt of that crisis. We cannot allow their stories to be erased or muted.

We must work together to address interconnected issues like housing and hunger by gathering more data on how to specifically respond to these problems. We must increase outreach to these communities so that everyone who qualifies for hunger assistance programs can access benefits.

Sadly, instead of working to solve this problem, this President and his administration have tried to roll back the clock on equality. Whether it is blocking questions related to sexual orientation or pushing half-baked rule changes to enact a definition of gender, which would essentially erase people from our official population counts, they are working overtime to threaten the rights of Americans.

But we are working overtime to stop them. Last month the House passed the Equality Act which aims to extend civil rights protections to all Americans, regardless of gender identity and sexual orientation. Passing this bill into law would play a key role in addressing hunger in the LGBTQ community. I am proud that the House has taken action, and I urge the Senate to do the same.

This is Pride Month. As we celebrate the progress that our country has made, let us also remember all of the work we have to do to end hunger now.

THE TIMELINE OF JACIFUSEN

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate being recognized to address you here on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

I rise today to honor Jaci Hermstad. She has given me so much inspiration.

I want to start, though, with the early, sad part of this story. This is a sad story with a happy part in the middle of it right now, Mr. Speaker.

Jaci's identical twin sister, Alex, was diagnosed with a very severe and aggressive form of ALS. That took place in 2005. Then, by 2010 and 2011, my staff and, especially, Sandy Hanlon in our Sioux City office, were working with the Hermstadts to do those things we could do, in a limited fashion, admittedly.

On St. Valentine's Day of 2011, sadly, Jaci's identical twin sister, Alex, passed away at age 17. Now, that is 8 years ago. About 2015 or so, Jaci and her mother, Lori, came to my office to talk with me about ALS, this dreaded Lou Gehrig's disease, that always ends up fatal. It always ends up in a sad, tragic ending. They had experienced that with Jaci's identical twin sister.

Even more sadly, there was news that symptoms showed up in Jaci late last fall, around the holiday time. By Christmas she couldn't get up the stairs any longer, and again, on St. Valentine's Day of this year, Jaci was diagnosed with the aggressive form of ALS that her identical twin sister had passed away from.