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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NEWHOUSE).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 21, 2018.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAN NEWHOUSE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 8, 2018, 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 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS WHO HAVE MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, good afternoon and welcome back to Washington, D.C. I am sure, like me, you spent some time back in your district this weekend.

Every year, on Memorial Day, this country pauses to honor and remember those soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms and liberties.

If I could, I would like to share a story from my own district, from my own State of Kansas, which I got to participate in this past weekend.

For over 30 years now, Vietnam veterans have participated in the "Run for the Wall." I am sure this is something that many of us are all familiar with. Starting in California, some 1,500 Vietnam veterans hop on their motorcycles and they take three different routes across the country, with the goal to end up in Washington, D.C. at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial over Memorial Day weekend.

Every year, one of their stops is in Goodland, Kansas, which is in the northwest corner of my State. I was allowed to participate in the hospitality extended by those folks in Goodland. If you could, imagine a small city of 4,000 to 5,000 people and having 600 motorcycles show up on a Saturday afternoon. They had been driving all the way from Albuquerque, New Mexico, through 30-mile-an-hour winds and rain, so they were starving by the time they got to Goodland, Kansas. And when they get there, we have a welcome reception for them with a complete dinner: a hot meal, fresh fruits, vegetables, the whole works.

With one simple Facebook message, over 600 homemade deserts were brought from across Goodland to feed and recognize those Vietnam veterans.

Then Sunday morning, the veterans wake up, after having been provided housing at Northwest Technical College for free, they wake up to a hot pancake and sausage breakfast, provided by the local Rotary Club.

Then those veterans hop on their motorcycles, and they drive on the interstate across Kansas. At every interstate where there is an overpass, there are Kansas citizens waving at them and giving them the heroes welcome that they never got some, I guess, 40 years ago.

They end up at Fort Riley, "Home of the Big Red One," and there, Fort

Riley makes a super welcome for those soldiers, and again, gives them a hero's welcome. These soldiers are going to show up here on Friday and they are going to get together at the Pentagon. At that point, over 500,000 motorcycles will be going across the mall of the United States Capital and on to Arlington Cemetery.

I hope and pray that our news media will share that story of all those soldiers who are now trying to close the chapter, trying to honor those who went before them, to honor their fellow soldiers who never made it back from that war.

I just ask that the House and this country pause to remember our Vietnam veterans, and all of our veterans going back to the Civil War, all those soldiers that have made the ultimate sacrifice.

SUPPORTING THE HONOR FLIGHT IN EPHRATA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARSHALL). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, on May 19, we recognized Armed Forces Day. This is a day set aside to honor the brave men and women serving in the U.S. military across the country.

In central Washington, this day was celebrated by the Ephrata community at an event put on by the American Legion. The annual Nacho/Taco Feed and Dessert was first started by 9-year-old Justin Pederson, who wanted to help veterans in the area take the Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

I have had the distinct honor to welcome Honor Flight veterans from central Washington, and it was an opportunity that I will never forget. The Honor Flight enables veterans from World War II, the Korean war, and the Vietnam war, to visit the memorials that have been erected for their service.

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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