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No. 197

## 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,

December 10, 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.

### CELEBRATING THE RESILIENT SPIRIT OF DAVID WHEAT

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander David Wheat, a Vietnam veteran and former prisoner of war from Minnesota's Eighth Congressional District, who is about to celebrate his 80th birthday on December 16.

David grew up in Duluth, Minnesota, and graduated from the University of

Minnesota Duluth before entering the Naval Aviation Officer Candidate School and earning the commission of an ensign. In April 1965, he received his naval flight officer wings and was deployed to Vietnam, flying in an F-4B Phantom as a radar intercept officer.

In October 1965, David was shot down and captured by enemy forces. He spent the next 7 years and 4 months as a prisoner of war in various camps, including the infamous Hanoi Hilton. Despite the cruel torture and inhumane conditions David endured at the hands of his captors, they were never able to rob him of his resilient American spirit.

Following his release from prison, David vowed that he would be happy for the rest of his life. David went on to continue a life of service, reporting to pilot training and earning his naval aviation wings in 1975.

Throughout his career, David flew various types of aircraft and retired after 20 years of honorable service. David also got married and started a family of his own.

In my hometown of Duluth, Minnesota, we are incredibly proud to have a hero like Commander David Wheat living amongst us. David has been an active member of our community, supporting activities and fundraisers for various veterans organizations.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of every Minnesotan, I thank Commander Wheat for his brave service and wish him the happiest of birthdays.

### TAKING A STAND AGAINST VIOLENCE

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the heartbreaking trend of violence troubling our Native American communities and recognize the Tribal leaders from my district who are taking a stand on this issue.

Native American women in particular face a disproportionately high risk of violence. According to one study, the murder rate of Native American women is 10 times the national average.

During my 23 years as a law enforcement officer in northern Minnesota, I heard far too many horror stories about trafficked or murdered Native American women. Too often, these cases go unresolved.

These victims and their families deserve action. I was glad to hear that President Donald Trump recently signed an executive order establishing an interagency task force to review unsolved cases. I was especially pleased to see Fond du Lac council member Roger Smith, Fond du Lac chairman Kevin Dupuis, and Mille Lacs band chief Melanie Benjamin standing alongside our President in the Oval Office as he signed this executive order.

I applaud Minnesota's Tribal leaders for standing united against this epidemic of violence, and I remain committed to supporting them in this critical mission.

### AND STILL I RISE

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 with love for my country at heart.

Mr. Speaker, if I appear to have a pensive persona, it is because I am experiencing a melancholy moment, a melancholy moment because some 2-plus years ago I came to the floor of this House, stood in the well, and called for the impeachment of the President some 2 years ago.

That moment is now at hand, and I do feel a sense of thoughtfulness, pensiveness because, to be very honest, I am saddened about what is about to happen. It is not something that I want to see occur in my country. I love my country. This is not something that I came to Congress to be a part of, but it is about to happen.

The House will vote. The President will be impeached, after which his case

□ 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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will go to the Senate. The Senate will have a trial. If the Senate convicts and removes the President from office, this will bring this ignoble chapter in Presidential history to an end. But if the Senate does not convict, then the President is still subject to impeachment for other acts that are impeachable.

I have always brought my Articles of Impeachment to the floor. I have always had a rationale for my actions. I never said to just impeach the President because he ought to be impeached. I never felt that way. I do not feel that way currently. Impeachment is a serious undertaking, and I always have been serious about my actions.

I do believe that, if the Senate does not convict, other Articles of Impeachment may be considered. Currently, we are considering two Articles of Impeachment—abuse of power and obstruction of Congress—but there is much more to be considered. It is my opinion that we will still have work to do if the Senate does not convict.

To this end, I want to use an example so that people will understand the point I am making. The President himself has said that he could shoot someone on Fifth Avenue—these are the President's words—and he would not lose his base of support. Well, if he does that with malice aforethought and if someone is hurt, regardless as to what happens in the Senate, if the Senate does not convict, the President can be brought before the bar of justice again.

This is the bar of justice for a President who commits impeachable acts. This is the only place where the President can be brought before the bar of justice while he is President—right here. If he does such a thing with malice aforethought, I would bring Articles of Impeachment before this august body for consideration.

My prayer is that the Senate will do its job and not only receive the Articles of Impeachment but also act on them because I believe that the President ought to be convicted and removed from office. I have said before and say now: He is unfit to be President. My prayer is that we will soon end this ignoble chapter in Presidential history.

I love my country, and I stand here with my love for my country at heart, but equally as important is my love for these babies, for people who are being harmed by what this President has done to our society. It fits perfectly in what Alexander Hamilton called to our attention in Federalist Paper No. 65, for what has happened to our society?

I appreciate the articles that are being brought now, but the harm to our society has not been eradicated. We have an unapologetic President who continues to cause harm to this society in the vein and sense that Alexander Hamilton reminded us would be impeachment.

Mr. Speaker, I love my country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from en-

gaging in personalities toward the President.

#### RECOGNIZING GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

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

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, renowned Alabama educator, artist, and botanist George Washington Carver, like many Americans, overcame numerous obstacles to achieve greatness. Carver's contributions to science and agriculture made a huge impact that is still felt across the globe today.

On January 5, 2020, Alabama will unveil a historic marker honoring Dr. Carver at Decatur's Horizon School.

Carter visited Decatur in 1935. Carver Elementary was named in his honor. During his visit, Carver spoke to an audience of more than 1,000 Decatur residents. In a letter to then-superintendent W.W. Henson after his visit, George Washington Carver wrote: "The Carver School far exceeds my expectations. It is a most beautiful building, and I hope that it will be able in every way to integrate itself into the upbuilding and the development of the splendid possibilities which lie all around you."

Carver was deeply devoted to education. During the Civil War, George Washington Carver was born in Diamond Grove, Missouri. Shamefully, Carver was not allowed to attend public schools near his home because he was an African American. But that did not stop George Washington Carver. He was determined to get an education, so he enrolled at a school 10 miles away in Neosho, Missouri.

In Neosho, Carver was befriended by Mariah Watkins, from whom he rented a room. Mariah Watkins' advice to Carver was simple: "You must learn all you can, then go back into the world and give your learning back to the people." Carver did just that.

Disappointed in the quality of Neosho's school, Carver moved to Kansas and supported himself through a variety of occupations while he furthered his education as he could. After earning his high school diploma, he discovered opportunities for college for Black men in Kansas were nonexistent. So George Washington Carver majored in art at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa, as their only Black student.

Encouraged by his Simpson professors to focus on botany, Carver transferred to Iowa State, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in science. Thereafter, in April 1896, Booker T. Washington recruited Carver to Tuskegee Institute's agricultural school in Alabama, where Carver taught and mentored generations of students for the next 47 years.

At Tuskegee, Carver developed revolutionary techniques to improve soils depleted by repeated plantings of cotton. Together with other agricultural

experts, he urged farmers to restore nitrogen to their soils by practicing systematic crop rotation, alternating cotton crops with plantings of sweet potatoes or legumes, such as peanuts, soybeans, and cowpeas.

Once at Tuskegee, Carver trained farmers to rotate and cultivate the new crops successfully. Carver developed and established an agricultural extension program for all of Alabama. Carver founded an industrial research laboratory, where he and assistants worked to popularize the new crops by developing hundreds of applications for them.

In 1916, Carver was made a member of the Royal Society of Arts in England, one of only a handful of Americans at that time to receive this honor. The United Peanut Associations of America invited Carver to speak at their 1920 convention. He discussed "The Possibilities of the Peanut" and exhibited 145 peanut products.

Carver received the 1923 NAACP Spingarn Medal for outstanding achievement by an African American.

Before his death in 1943, Carver donated his life savings to establish the Carver Research Foundation at Tuskegee.

Carver was posthumously inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

The George Washington Carver National Monument was the first national monument dedicated to a Black American and the first to a non-President.

George Washington Carver left a lasting legacy on Alabama's schools, and Alabama is proud to have been the home of this renowned scientific leader.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 15 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KILMER) at noon.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God, Father of us all, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Ever faithful to Your promises, we ask Your presence with Your people, now and forever.

The Sun grows dim and the daylight is measured. In the darkness, phantoms loom. The eye cannot discern as the distance fades. Be for us light.

Help the Members of Congress make clear judgments that will propel us