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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 9, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIMMY PANETTA 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 7, 2020, 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, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

REMEMBERING WORLD WAR II VETERAN RALPH WAITE

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

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life and legacy of World War II veteran Ralph Waite, a Medina native and northeast Ohio icon who died on February 18 at age 93.

Ralph joined the Army in June 1944, immediately after his graduation from Medina High School. He served in the U.S. Army, 924th Field Artillery Bat-

alion, in the European theater and took part in the Battle of the Bulge.

When he came home from the war in 1946, Ralph married his high school sweetheart, Helen Clark, in 1948. Together, they raised their twin sons, Harold and Darrell.

He lived a life committed to serving his community and our Nation. Ralph was Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 501 for 36 years and active in Buckeye Boys State for 40 years, and he led the Medina Rotary Youth Exchange Program.

Ralph's crowning honor in the community was the naming of Ralph E. Waite Elementary School in 2009.

Ralph was an icon in the Medina community, known for his outstanding service to his church, our youth, and our veterans. Ralph's life motto was: "We occupy space on this Earth, and community service is the rent that we pay for the space that we are permitted to occupy."

Ralph lived by these words throughout his life, and his legacy and example will live on in his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and the entire community of Medina long into the future.

RECOGNIZING UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine on the successful establishment of a medical school, commemorated through the graduation of their inaugural class.

The class of 2020 has established a precedent of success and excellence for the UTRGV School of Medicine and for all future classes to emulate.

The establishment of the UTRGV School of Medicine followed decades-

long efforts to ensure that Rio Grande Valley residents have access to quality healthcare services, an important milestone for the region.

From 1997 to 2009, a regional academic health center was opened and efforts to build the resources and healthcare infrastructure were launched. The success of these efforts resulted in the Texas Legislature approving the creation of the medical school in 2013.

In 2015, the UTRGV School of Medicine received preliminary accreditation, which allowed the university to recruit its first medical school class. The inaugural class will receive their doctor of medicine degrees on May 9, 2020, when they will then go on to complete specialized medical training across the country, including in south Texas.

The UTRGV's School of Medicine class of 2020 is the future of healthcare not only for the Rio Grande Valley but for this country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the UTRGV School of Medicine's first graduating class. Congratulations to the university for their success.

To these future physicians, thank you for choosing to be our Nation's healers.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CICILLINE) at 2 p.m.

□ 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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