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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 7, 2018.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MAC THORNBERRY 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.

HONORING CARL EGGLESTON

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

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker: "This is Carl Eggleston. There's always hope." So ends every voice-filled greeting on Carl's phone in the 36 years I have known him. No better few words describe the resilient, optimistic, and indefatigable man I love.

I first met Carl Eggleston briefly during the congressional campaign of Ira Lechner in 1982. Carl was friends and political allies with the brain trust of

the campaign: Darrel Martin and Linda Moore. A few years later, we worked very different parts of Virginia in Jerry Baliles' winning race for Governor. But my life changed completely when I visited Carl at his home in Farmville in the summer of 1988, at the beginning of my first-ever candidacy for office.

Carl agreed to join my small team, and from that day forward, he was my constant companion. We traveled everywhere across the Commonwealth together. He introduced me to the most important players in Democratic politics and virtually every important African-American leader in the State. I discovered that Carl was universally respected and liked and that his endorsement helped immensely. In the coming years, we worked many campaigns together—some winning, some losing—always as trusted friends and allies.

But the real Carl Eggleston story is so much more interesting than his long history in Democratic Party leadership. He was born in poverty to two loving parents in the Jim Crow South. The closing of the Prince Edward County schools, when Carl was 9 years old, is the tragic stuff of massive resistance legend.

He stayed home for 3 years, schooled only by his mother, then spent a fourth year in a neighboring county trying to catch up. After high school, Carl apprenticed in a funeral home and caught the entrepreneurial bug. Bravely, in a business where families loyally cling to the funeral director who has buried their elders, Carl created his own funeral home: one client in year one, two or three the following year. He persisted against the greatest odds and competition, and Eggleston Funeral Homes are now 30 years old and thriving.

The child of a racially and bitterly divided South, Carl ran for Farmville city council and was the first elected

Black man since reconstruction perhaps ever. After one term, he ran for mayor and lost handily. I still marvel at the courage and the hope he must have had to stand for office in Prince Edward County, alone among all the counties in the United States to close its public schools rather than integrate them. One can only imagine the hostility Carl faced in the local population as he dared to lead them. Twice more, over the decades, Carl ran for mayor, getting closer each time, and earning the support and respect of much of Farmville's White community.

So with respect for his many achievements, including the long years chairing the Prince Edward Democratic Committee, the Fifth Congressional District Democratic Committee, my greatest appreciation for Carl Eggleston is founded on his strong and generous character. He is the friend I treasure most.

I have never heard him utter an unkind word about another person. He is unfailingly loyal, trustworthy, and patient. He works every moment. He is the quiet civil rights leader and political force who has been responsible for so much of the forward progress in Virginia over the last generation.

On the occasion now of the publishing of his autobiography, I am proud to call Carl Eggleston my friend, and I know that you will enjoy and appreciate his story. Carl's life is proof that there is always hope.

LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. FASO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, as May marks Lyme Disease Awareness Month, I rise today to recognize the countless individuals currently living with Lyme and to honor the medical experts and advocates combating this epidemic throughout the Nation.

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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