LETTERS

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It was just a matter of time

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WILSONS 24/7 NEWS SOURCE IN PRINT AND ONLINE
MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER — A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION SINCE 1894

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Thought for Today

So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. (Romans 12:5)

Prayer: Our Father, help us to set aside our differences and work with Christians around the world working, serving, and glorifying you. Amen.

In Our Opinion

Reading banned books celebrates our Constitution

From national holidays and awareness months that highlight specific issues to local celebrations and designations—think International Proper Sleeper Week in April or Conditioning Awareness Month in May—all too often the day of the year carries some special significance. Occasions with local observances might want a moment in the sun before but we bet many of them all 4无所谓. Saturday alone includes 615 holidays, according to

The National Day Calendar.

When dedicated days for closely related causes overlap, however, it’s worth considering the relative relevance of the two designations—think September to honor September 11, 2001, versus the Bicycling Without a Vehicle Day on Sept. 13. The former commemorates the U.S. Constitution's signing on Sept. 17, 1787, while the latter celebrates the founding document’s First Amendment's birthday on Sept. 13.

The Daughters of the American Revolution, the group that petitioned Congress to formally recognize the Constitution’s anniversary, says the week is intended not only to study our history, but also to “emphasize citizens’ responsibilities for protecting and defending the Constitution.”

Every year, Banned Books Week, an American Library Association proj-

ect that combats censorship by cataloguing the latest book challenges and decisions, occurs around the same time. Yet in our busy society, we all too often forget that libraries and school media centers. Many books that stirred controversy very recently were challenged to some extent. Concerns often reflect the social or cultural concerns of the moment. The American Library Association cites examples like James Joyce's “Ulysses,” Ernest Hemingway’s “A Farewell to Arms,” and “Beloved” by Toni Morrison. “The Color Purple.”

While some foes of the Banned Books Week have complained about race, gender and sexuality—particularly those meant for young adult readers—have been the most frequently challenged books. In Granbury, Texas, law enforcement officials initiated a lengthy investigation into several Granbury High School library books in May despite the chances of a traditionally published mass-market book meeting the legal standard for an allegedly offensive work. “First, Second, Third” by Patricia Highsmith, a women's prison novel, might not have faced resistance otherwise.

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