

athletic participation builds character and leadership in their children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Valley Sports American Little League team from Louisville, Kentucky, captured their city's and the Nation's attention with the 1-0 victory over Sendai, Japan, in the Little League World Series title game last month.

Valley Sports, which won the national championship game against Worcester, Massachusetts, became the first U.S. team to win the World Series since East Toms River, New Jersey, in 1998.

When the team held its first practice on June 16, they had not yet developed their trademark, which became pitching and defense. This came with hard work and determination. During the first few days, the team looked nothing like the one that would win the Little League World Series. The basemen had difficulty catching; and, of course, nobody could make a great throw. But the coaches figured the only way to get better was through hard work. The team routinely held 5-hour practices on week days and sometimes as much as 8 hours on weekends. Defense was constantly being reinforced and it paid off.

Japanese teams had won two of the previous three World Series titles; but the Valley Sports team used their recipe for success, pitching, defense and discipline, to win the big game. The coaches, Troy Osborne, Keith Elkins, and Dan Roach demanded discipline on and off the field. The team was required to answer "yes, sir" or "no, ma'am" when addressing adults. Does that not sound interesting? They were expected to conduct themselves properly with no showboating allowed. The team got better and better with every game.

In a little more than 2 months, 12 young boys used their free time to dedicate themselves to our national pastime, baseball. Team work, commitment, dedication and discipline and a positive attitude transformed the Valley Sports Little League team into a national and international championship team.

We always place a premium on winning. But I think that when we have great little league programs with the active involvement and participation of parents and other adult volunteers, every child, every young person perhaps is a winner. And not only is this an opportunity to salute the Valley Sports Little League team, but it is also an opportunity to salute all of those parents and volunteers and coaches and young people throughout America who engage and involve themselves in disciplined activity that is designed to develop men, in many instances, and women, out of boys and girls.

I also take this opportunity to salute those Little League teams in my own community, Dwayne Truss and Cata Truss who developed the Mandela Little League; and of course everybody in my city of Chicago knows about the Jackie Robinson West Little League and the Southeast Little League and the North Lawndale Little League Baseball teams.

So it is a great day for Little League activity. It is a great day for young people being engaged, involved, disciplined with adult supervision. That, Mr. Speaker, is what I think will keep young people off the streets, will keep young people from ending up in correctional institutions, and will help America continue to grow and become the Nation that it really has the potential of being.

So I join in giving all of the accolades that we can muster to the Valley Sports Little League team, who became not only the best in their city, the best in their country, but the best internationally. We honor them as we honor America.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleague from Illinois in commending all of the little league teams around the country. As a former little league team mom, and my husband being a little league manager for many many years with our two sons, it is a great pastime. It is a great opportunity for our young boys and girls to participate in little league. I would like to commend my colleague, the gentlewoman from Kentucky (Mrs. NORTHUP), for introducing this legislation to commend our little leaguers from Kentucky and to salute all of our little leaguers around the United States and the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 516.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1430

PETER J. GANCI, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5336) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 380 Main Street in Farmingdale, New York, as the "Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Post Office Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5336

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PETER J. GANCI POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 380 Main Street in Farmingdale, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAN MILLER of Florida). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5336, introduced by our distinguished colleague from New York (Mr. KING), designates a post office in Farmingdale, New York, as the Peter J. Ganci, Jr., Post Office Building. Members of the entire House delegation from the State of New York are cosponsors of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, on September 11, immediately after a jet struck the first tower at the World Trade Center, Peter Ganci, chief of department for the New York City Fire Department, rushed to the scene from his command post in downtown Brooklyn and started the rescue effort.

He was in the basement of Tower One when it collapsed. Miraculously, he survived, dug himself out of the rubble and went back to work.

It then became apparent that the second tower would fall. Ganci, as the highest ranking uniformed officer on the scene, directed everyone to clear out of the area, but Ganci did not himself leave while his men were inside the

tower. Ganci said, "I'm not leaving my men," and advanced toward the towers to continue his life's work of saving and protecting others.

Chief Ganci was in the basement of the second tower when it collapsed.

Prior to joining the New York City Fire Department, Ganci served in the Farmingdale Fire Department as a volunteer and in the 82nd Airborne Division. Ganci served in the New York City Fire Department for 33 years and was decorated repeatedly for bravery.

Ganci is survived by his wife, Kathleen; his sons, Christopher and Peter; and his daughter, Danielle. His son, Peter Ganci, III, now serves with Ladder Company 111 of the New York City Fire Department.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of H.R. 5336.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

As a member of the House Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague today in the consideration of two postal naming bills: H.R. 5336, introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), which names a post office in Farmingdale, New York, after Peter Ganci; and H.R. 4797, introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA), which names a post office in Los Angeles, California, after Nat King Cole. These measures have the support of their respective State congressional delegations to name United States postal facilities after very deserving individuals, and I urge their swift passage.

H.R. 5336, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 380 Main Street in Farmingdale, New York, as the Peter J. Ganci, Jr., Post Office Building, was introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) on September 5, 2002.

An American hero, Peter J. Ganci was the New York City Fire Department's highest ranking chief who died when the World Trade Center came down. Chief Ganci had been on the radio in front of the trade center directing the rescue efforts when the building collapsed.

Who was Chief Ganci? He was 54-years-old and a resident of Massapequa, New York; the chief of the department, one of the highest ranking uniformed officers in the fire department; husband to Kathleen; father to Peter, III, Christopher and Danielle. He was also a 33-year-old veteran of the New York City Fire Department, whose son Peter is a firefighter assigned to Ladder Company 111 in Brooklyn, New York, and Brooklyn, New York, is the place where Peter Ganci got his start in 1960.

After serving in engine and ladder companies, Mr. Ganci rose to lieutenant, captain, battalion chief, deputy chief and then acting chief. He also ran the Bureau of Fire Investigation, was appointed the chief of operations prior to becoming chief of the department.

A hands-on man, Chief Ganci was doing his job, commanding the rescue operations at the New York World Trade Center.

Accordingly, I urge swift passage of this bill and commend my colleague for seeking to honor Chief Peter J. Ganci, Jr., in this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that we have any other requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING), the author of this legislation.

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to rise today in support of this legislation. Pete Ganci was a constituent of mine. He was an individual who personified the leadership and the bravery which resulted last September 11 in the greatest rescue operation in the history of this country.

Twenty-five thousand people were rescued that day, and it was done primarily through the efforts of the New York City Fire Department, and Chief Pete Ganci was the chief of the department, who was also the highest ranking uniformed officer ever to die in the line of duty, and as the gentlewoman pointed out, Chief Ganci was there that day with his men. Chief Ganci was there in the line of duty.

Chief Ganci was there directing the operation against this horrific attack that was carried out against our country, and when the first tower fell, Chief Ganci barely escaped with his life, and when he saw the terrible carnage that resulted and saw the terrible danger which was still being faced by the north tower, which had not yet fallen, Chief Ganci ordered the entire operation to be moved north.

As the entire operation, including the mayor and other officials, went north, Pete Ganci went south to be with his men, and that personified the type of leadership which Pete Ganci gave in the New York City Fire Department. As the gentlewoman pointed out, he had been a member of the department more than 33 years, rising to the highest office in that department, chief of the department. Prior to that, he had been a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne, and until his death, he was an active member of the Farmingdale Volunteer Fire Department in New York.

Mr. Speaker, at this point also, before I digress, though, I want to pay a special debt of thanks to Sal Pontillo, the Nassau County legislator who represents the district in which Mr. Ganci lived in Nassau County, and he has come to me with this request. We have worked closely on it, and he has also served as liaison with the Ganci family and helped to bring this about.

Mr. Speaker, many of us look back on the date of September 11 and we realize what a turning point it was in the history of our country. It was a turning point for many reasons. The point I

would like to focus on today is that after that attack, actually as the attack was going on, as the buildings were burning, as the buildings were coming down, as people were being killed, as people were being rescued, what the eyes of the world and the eyes of the country saw was the valor of the New York City firefighters and police officers, those who were carrying out this rescue operation under the most trying circumstances, and the person who was leading that operation was Chief Ganci. Just think what would have happened if he had not done what he did, if the firefighters had not responded the way they did, instead of running into the building, Chief Ganci had run out of the building and kept going, but instead he went back right in the line of fire, the battlefield commander who died with his men, and it was that type of courage that was shown that day, that type of heroism that was shown that day, that type of spirit that was shown that day which I think has inspired our country to fight back, to come back and to win this war against international terrorism, and even just as importantly, to show that America cannot be vanquished, that we can take the best shot of the enemy and come back stronger than ever.

That is what Chief Ganci personified that day. In fact, it is the type of story, that if somebody had produced a movie about it, it would not have been believed, for a person to be there when the first tower came down and somehow survive it and go back in and to be killed in the second tower, which to me is the type of courage that I cannot even begin to fathom.

This was the first battle, Mr. Speaker, and the first great war of the 21st century, and Chief Ganci died as a battlefield commander in that war, and for that, this country owes him its untiring thanks and gratitude for all that he has done.

I want to say a special debt of thanks to his wife, Kathy, who has shown tremendous courage throughout this entire almost now 363 days, and his son, Pete, who is a member of the New York City Fire Department, his son, Chris, and his daughter, Danielle.

I also want to thank the other 30 members of the New York delegation for unanimously supporting this resolution. To me, it is just another indication of the tremendous regard that all the men and women of the New York City Fire Department had for Chief Ganci and, indeed, all of the members of the New York delegation, everyone who had the opportunity to know Chief Ganci.

I can say I was at his funeral last September 15. It was one of the most moving moments I have ever been involved in, to see the tremendous outpouring of support from his community in North Massapequa and Farmingdale, all of the surrounding community, by the thousands, coming out to join in this salute to Chief Pete Ganci.

So, Mr. Speaker, with that I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me the

time. I thank the House for considering this resolution today, and I extend my very best thoughts, prayers and gratitude to the Ganci family for all they have gone through.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank my colleague for introducing this legislation to honor the chief of the New York City Fire Department. As the wife of a professional firefighter for almost 30 years, I know the bravery that these firefighters have, and I have had people tell me why they let chiefs send men in there to their deaths, and I have told them quite clearly, if he would not have sent them in, I know the firefighters would have gone in, anyway. That is just the type of bravery they do have, and again, I thank my colleagues, and I urge adoption of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5336.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NAT KING COLE POST OFFICE

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4797) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 265 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, as the "Nat King Cole Post Office."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4797

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Nat King Cole was born Nathaniel Adams Coles in Montgomery, Alabama, during the difficult period of segregation in the United States, and was raised in the ghettos of the south side of Chicago, Illinois, where he endured the harshness of poverty.

(2) Nat King Cole was often confronted with racism during his career, including being attacked by members of a white supremacist group while he was on stage in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1956.

(3) Nat King Cole allowed neither poverty nor racism to prevent him from sharing his music with people worldwide and from leaving a lasting impression on American culture.

(4) Nat King Cole established himself as the best selling African-American recording artist of his generation.

(5) Nat King Cole and his family became the first African-American family to integrate the community of Hancock Park in Los Angeles when, despite threats and protests from local residents, they purchased their English Tudor mansion in 1948.

(6) "The Nat King Cole Show", primarily broadcast from Burbank, California, aired

nationally for more than a year beginning in 1956 and was the first television show to be hosted by an African-American artist.

(7) Nat King Cole graced southern California with his music during the formative years of his music career and formed the successful "King Cole Trio" in Los Angeles, California.

(8) Nat King Cole's recording of "Route 66" serenaded generations of eager California immigrants.

(9) Nat King Cole's recorded rendition of "The Christmas Song" symbolizes the family warmth of the yuletide season.

(10) Nat King Cole's disarming delivery teaches people the meaning of "Unforgettable".

(11) Although Nat King Cole died from lung cancer on February 15, 1965, the music and embracing baritone voice of Nat King Cole are lasting legacies that continue to be enjoyed by people worldwide.

(12) Nat King Cole exemplifies the American dream by having overcome societal and other barriers to become one of the great American entertainers.

(13) Members of the community surrounding the Oakwood Station Post Office in Los Angeles, California, have advocated for the renaming of the post office in honor of Nat King Cole, a former resident of the area.

SEC. 2. REDESIGNATION AND REFERENCES.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 265 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, and known as the Oakwood Station Post Office, shall be known and designated as the "Nat King Cole Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Nat King Cole Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4797, introduced by the gentleman from the State of California (Mr. BECERRA), designates the post office located at 265 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, as the Nat King Cole Post Office. Members of the entire delegation from the State of California are cosponsors of the bill.

Nat King Cole was truly one of the most unforgettable entertainers in our Nation's history. Born in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1919, Nat King Cole was a musical pioneer that helped to pave the way for countless black musicians to achieve success in the United States. Most widely known for his music as a

pop ballad singer and jazz pianist, Nat was also the first African American man to have his own radio show, which began in 1946. Ten years later he was the first African American to host his own television show, and it was enormously popular as well.

Although his life was sadly cut short in 1965, his legacy has lived on in part because of the great success of his daughter, Natalie, who has revived much of Nat King Cole's music by singing many of his songs in recent years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to honor Nat King Cole by supporting this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

H.R. 4797, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 265 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, as the Nat King Cole Post Office, was introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA), on May 22, 2002.

Nat King Cole was born Nathaniel Adams Coles in 1919 in Montgomery, Alabama. He moved to the great jazz city of Chicago when he was four because his father, a Baptist minister, had accepted pastorship of the True Light Baptist Church.

In Chicago, Nat King Cole's mother, Perlina, directed the choir at her husband's church and introduced all the Coles children, Edward, Nathaniel, Eddie Mae, Evelynne, Issac and Lionel, to music early on. All four of the Coles sons went on to become professional musicians.

Nat's singing career began early. He was just four when he performed, "Yes, We Have No Bananas." He went on to take piano lessons and play the organ in his father's church. While attending Wendell Phillips High School in Chicago which, of course, is in my congressional district, Nat and his brothers became true believers of jazz music and constant fixtures on Chicago's South Side, the center of jazz.

□ 1445

Growing up, he was most influenced by pianist Earl "Fatha" Hines. After organizing and playing in a series of music groups, Nat "King" Cole moved to Los Angeles, where he formed the group which later became the King Cole Trio. He recorded his first National hit, Straighten Up and Fly Right, and went on to record such favorites as The Christmas Song, Mona Lisa, Route 66, Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire, Rambling Rose, and many more.

Not only a talented singer, he was also the first black jazz musician to have his own weekly radio show in 1948 and 1949 and network television show in 1956 and 1957. He was also an actor in St. Louis Blues, 1958, and Cat Ballou in 1964.

Although a great man with a fantastic voice, Nat "King" Cole was not