

At this moment, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, because of his role on the Select Bipartisan Committee Investigating the Response to and Preparation for Hurricane Katrina, is unable to be with us here. Nevertheless, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania again for his leading effort on this legislation that honors one of America's great heroes, Randall Shughart.

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

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleague in support of naming a post office after Sergeant Shughart, and we join the entire Pennsylvania delegation in support of this measure.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant First Class Randall D. Shughart was an exemplary member of America's Armed Forces who went above the call of duty to save his team member's life. I commend my colleague for sponsoring this measure, and I urge the swift passage of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H.R. 2062, legislation naming a postal facility in Newville, Pennsylvania, after the late Sergeant First Class Randall D. Shughart. This measure, which was introduced by Representative BILL SHUSTER (R-PA) on May 3, 2005, and unanimously reported by the Committee on Government Reform on September 15, 2005, enjoys the support and co-sponsorship of the entire Pennsylvania delegation.

Sergeant First Class Randall D. Shughart, born in Newville, Pennsylvania, served in the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Task Force Ranger in Mogadishu, Somalia. On October 3, 1993, Shughart provided precision sniper fire from the lead helicopter at an assault on a building and at two Black Hawk helicopter crash sites. Sergeant Shughart and his team leader, Master Sergeant Gary Gordon, learned that ground forces weren't available to secure the crash site and protect four critically injured crew members. Shughart and his team leader unhesitatingly volunteered to be inserted for an on-the-ground rescue, well aware of the growing number of enemy personnel closing in on the site.

After three requests, Shughart received permission to perform this volunteer mission. Once inserted, Sergeant Shughart and his team leader fought their way through intense enemy fire to reach the critically injured crew members. Shughart pulled the pilot and the other crew members from the aircraft and killed an undetermined number of attackers while protecting the downed crew. He continued his protective fire until his ammunition was depleted and he was fatally wounded. For his heroic actions, Sgt. First Class Shughart was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1994 by President Bill Clinton.

Mr. Speaker, designating the post office in Newville, Pennsylvania is an excellent way to honor the memory of Sergeant First Class Randall D. Shughart. Sergeant Shughart was an exemplary member of America's armed forces who went above the call of duty to save his team member's life.

I commend my colleague for sponsoring this measure and I urge the swift passage of this bill.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate Sergeant First Class Randall Shughart, a central Pennsylvanian who received the military's highest decoration—the Medal of Honor—posthumously for his service in Mogadishu, Somalia. He is from Newville, Pennsylvania, and served as a Sniper Team Member under United States Army Special Operations Command. He was deployed with Task Force Ranger to Mogadishu and his heroic actions were highlighted in the movie "Black Hawk Down." This bill will name a Newville post office after this American hero whose selfless duty cost him his life but saved another.

During a combat mission, a helicopter was shot down leaving critically injured soldiers vulnerable. Sergeant First Class Shughart and his team leader, without hesitation, volunteered to be reinserted to protect the four critically wounded personnel, despite knowing a growing number of combatants were closing in on the site. They were not granted permission, but knowing their fellow soldiers needed help, they continued to make the request. On their third attempt, they received permission for this volunteer operation and headed back into combat.

Shughart and his team leader were inserted one hundred meters south of the crash site. Equipped with only a sniper rifle and a pistol, Shughart and his team leader fought their way through a dense urban neighborhood to reach the critically injured crew members. Shughart pulled the pilot and the other crew members from the aircraft and established a perimeter. However, they were in a very vulnerable position as the insurgents continued their assault on the site. Shughart used his long-range rifle and side arm to kill an undetermined number of attackers to protect the downed crew. Randall Shughart continued his fire until he depleted his ammunition and was fatally wounded, but his actions saved the pilot's life.

Shughart's extraordinary heroism, commitment to duty and devotion to his fellow soldiers is just one example of the amazing work of the U.S. military—naming a post office after this American hero is the least we can do. The men and women of our armed forces are fighting abroad today so we do not have to fight them here. It is only appropriate that we honor their services and sacrifices. And today, we are moving forward in naming a post office in Newville, Pennsylvania, after this defender of freedom who volunteered for a dangerous mission to save his fellow soldier's life. Not every town is privileged to have a Medal of Honor recipient—in fact it is rare. Now, the entire Newville community will have a reminder of Randall Shughart, a recipient of the military's highest honor and an American hero to everyone.

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

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. 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 Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2062.

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.

MAUELLE SHIREK POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 438) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Allston Way in Berkeley, California, as the "Maudelle Shirek Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 438

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

SECTION 1. MAUELLE SHIREK POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Allston Way in Berkeley, California, shall be known and designated as the "Maudelle Shirek 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 Maudelle Shirek Post Office Building.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I seek to claim time in opposition to the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentlewoman from California in favor of the motion?

Ms. WATSON. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) will control 20 minutes in opposition.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 438 would name this post office building after long-time Berkeley, California resident Maudelle Shirek. The author of this legislation is the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), who seeks to recognize Ms. Shirek.

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, normally I would not come to the floor to oppose a bill naming a post office in someone else's district. I am confident I speak on behalf of some of the west coast Members of Congress, as well as the mainstream American values and certainly have no personal animosity towards the lady for whom this post office is named in this bill.

However, there is a plethora of information on the record that sets her apart from, I will say, the most consistent of American values. And rather than read those into the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, I just wish to voice my objection.

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

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 10 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON).

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 438, legislation naming a postal facility in Berkeley, California, after Maudelle Shirek. This measure was introduced by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) on February 1, 2005.

Maudelle Shirek, the granddaughter of slaves, was born in Jefferson, Arkansas, before moving to the Bay Area over 60 years ago. She became an activist and a community leader. Certainly emblematic of her community, Ms. Shirek has spent a lifetime fighting against injustice, poverty, and housing discrimination. She is now 94 years old.

In the 1960s and 1970s, she was active in the anti-war movement. She founded two senior centers, was one of the first elected officials to address the AIDS epidemic, and helped organize the "Free Mandela Movement."

A well-known and outspoken former member of the Berkeley City Council and former Berkeley vice mayor, Maudelle Shirek was instrumental in encouraging former Congressman Ron V. Dellums to enter politics and has served as a role model for many people in the community, especially the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

Earlier this year the Young Adult Project 2005, Black History Month Celebration honored Maudelle Shirek's "Life, Legacy and Service."

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for seeking to honor her constituent in her community, a former member of the city council, in this manner and urge swift passage of this measure.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, just to make a couple of gentle points, the effort has been, at least on the record, as not, I do not want to say fighting against injustice, but a record of fighting against justice,

particularly in the case of the effort to free Mumia Abu-Jamal. I think most of us know about that particular case. And I am concerned about a role model. I am concerned about young people a generation or two from now. When they go back by that post office in Berkeley and look at the name on the post office, they are going to ask what were the principles that brought this about? And I contend that those principles would be running contrary to American values.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 438.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. KING of Iowa. 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.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 209) supporting the goals and ideals of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and expressing the sense of Congress that Congress should raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 209

Whereas since the Violence Against Women Act was passed in 1994, the rate of domestic violence has diminished; the rate of family violence fell between 1993 and 2002 from 5.4 victims to 2.1 victims per 1,000 United States residents age 12 or older;

Whereas although great strides have been made toward breaking the cycle of violence, much work remains to be done;

Whereas domestic violence affects women, men, and children of all racial, social, religious, ethnic, and economic groups in the United States;

Whereas family violence accounted for 11 percent of all reported and unreported violence between 1998 and 2002;

Whereas about 22 percent of murders in 2002 were family murders;

Whereas family members were responsible for 43 percent of murders of females in 2002;

Whereas of the nearly 500,000 men and women in State prisons for a violent crime in 1997, 15 percent were there for a violent crime against a family member;

Whereas the average age for a child killed by a parent is 7 years old and 4 out of 5 victims killed by a parent were younger than 13 years old;

Whereas there is a need to increase the public awareness and understanding of do-

mestic violence and the needs of battered women and children;

Whereas the month of October, 2005, has been recognized as an appropriate month for activities furthering awareness of domestic violence; and

Whereas the dedication and success of those working tirelessly to end domestic violence and the strength of the survivors of domestic violence should be recognized: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that Congress should raise awareness of domestic violence in the Nation by supporting the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the concurrent resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 209.

This concurrent resolution, introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN), supports the goals and ideals of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. According to the American Bar Association, nearly one in three women experience at least one physical assault by a partner during their lifetime. Consequently, in October, 1981, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence found a way to connect both victims of domestic violence with battered women's advocates by instituting a National Day of Unity. The establishment of this day of recognition involve community activities at the national, State, and local levels. The program was successful in heightening awareness and empowering women in violent relationships.

In October, 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. Because of this national movement, the first national toll-free hotline was created. In 1989 legislation commemorating "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" was first adopted by Congress and has been adopted every year since. This recognition has helped to bring domestic violence to the forefront of public debate. The awareness has contributed to the expansion of public education campaigns, victim services, recognition activities, and community outreach programs.

I certainly hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing victims of