

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Watauga County, North Carolina, for having the number one Relay for Life program in the country, for a community with a population of 40,000 to 50,000 people.

Relay for Life is a fun-filled overnight event designed to celebrate cancer survivorship and raise money for research and programs of the American Cancer Society. The Watauga County program raised an impressive \$333,518 during 2005. This marks the fifth year in a row that they were named the number one team in the United States.

This year's Watauga Relay featured 100 individual teams and a total of more than 1,300 people. This surge of support is the most participation ever in county history. Of the 100 teams, 57 reached all-star status by raising a minimum of \$150 per member.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Watauga Relay Chairs Sharon Trivette and Glenda Hodges, along with the hundreds of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for cancer research. I hope to be back here next year to praise them for continuing their winning streak.

FALLEN TEXAS HEROES

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the war, deaths, the southeast Texans, the honored, the names:

PFC John P. Johnson, Houston, United States Army;

Staff Sergeant Russell Slay, Humble, Texas, United States Marine Corps;

Corporal Brian Matthew Kennedy, Houston, Army;

Corporal Tomas Sotelo, Jr., Houston, United States Army;

PFC Wesley Riggs, Baytown, Army;

Sergeant Keelan L. Moss, Houston, United States Army;

PFC Analaura Esparza-Gutierrez, Houston, Army;

PFC Armando Soriano, Houston, United States Army;

PFC Leroy Sandoval, Jr., Houston, Marine Corps.

The volunteers, the brave, the young, the fallen, the freedom fighters, the heroes, the warriors, the band of brothers and sisters. The Americans. That's just the way it is.

PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

(Mr. CARTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court of the United States made one of the worst opinions it has ever made in its history in *Kelo v. The City of New London* when they announced that they would allow other private individuals to use eminent domain to seize private property to enhance tax dollars for a community.

Mr. Speaker, this is a taking of property totally outside of the Constitution

of the United States. I have tried hundreds of these cases. No one is happy when their property is taken; but they realize they are taken for schools, it is taken for highways. Even a highway they want, they do not like to see their property taken. But now we have got a law that says that they can come in because it makes more money for a community.

Mr. Speaker, this is an abomination that we will address this week in this House. It is overtime to address it. I urge my colleagues to join hands across the aisle and stop this horrible taking of property that is the result of this Supreme Court activist opinion.

THE UNITED STATES STANDS WITH INDIA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in the global war on terrorism, we continue to fight against an enemy that has no respect for the sanctity of human life. On Saturday, terrorists detonated three bombs in the busy streets of New Delhi, taking the lives of 62 innocent civilians and wounding over 200 people. By targeting shopping centers and a city bus, terrorists cowardly murdered innocent civilians. Over 60,000 Indians have been killed by terrorists. As these horrendous attacks continue throughout the globe, citizens of all free nations are at risk.

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh condemned the serial blasts in Delhi and vowed that "the government is determined to defeat nefarious designs of terrorist elements. The perpetrators of these heinous acts will be dealt with firmly."

The United States stands with Prime Minister Singh, and we remain dedicated to defeating terrorists who attack our allies. Today our thoughts and prayers are with the Indian people, who are continuing to work with Pakistan for mutual benefit.

In conclusion, God bless our troops; and we will never forget September 11.

□ 1415

SUCCESSFUL AVIAN FLU PREPARATION

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today, I had the privilege of joining the President for his speech at the National Institutes of Health where he discussed the avian flu and a potential pandemic. He talked about our Nation's strategy to protect outbreaks, expand domestic vaccine protection, stockpile treatments and prepare our response.

The take-home message of all of this is preparation, not panic. It is impor-

tant that we bring calm to the sea of sensationalism about the bird flu. Is this a threat? Yes, potentially. Do we need to be prepared? Absolutely.

What the President outlined is a strategy for Federal, State and local governments and communities, neighborhoods and families. All must play a role. This cooperation is vital to the strategy and success.

As a doctor, I understand and appreciate the importance of prevention. It is the most efficient and cost-effective way to treat diseases, any disease. That is the goal and the plan, to have a structure in place to rapidly detect outbreaks anyplace in the world, have the medicines and vaccines necessary to treat everyone and respond at every level.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the President for outlining a proactive, successful course, preventive measures to ensure the safety of all Americans.

SUPPORT FOR SAMUEL ALITO

(Mr. FRANKS of Arizona asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, there is a new dawn in America today as President Bush has nominated Samuel Alito to be an associate justice on the United States Supreme Court.

Justice Alito has been a prosecutor and is renowned for courageously taking a stand against organized crime in New Jersey. He was a U.S. Attorney in the District of New Jersey. He has been an assistant attorney general in the Reagan administration, as well as an assistant solicitor general.

Judge Alito is a first generation American. His father was an immigrant from Italy. He has served in the United States Army Reserve for 8 years, being honorably discharged at the rank of captain.

Judge Alito is an outstanding jurist with more experience as a judge than any Supreme Court nominee in the last 70 years. He has been seated on the Third Circuit Court for 15 years and has written opinions on over 300 cases.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Samuel Alito is one of the most prolific, experienced legal minds we have in this country today. We are blessed to have him in public service. I urge the other body to give him the consideration and respect that he has so laboriously earned all of his life.

HOOR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

HEINZ AHLMEYER, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3548) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located on Franklin Avenue in Pearl River, New York, as the "Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3548

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

SECTION 1. HEINZ AHLMEYER, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located on Franklin Avenue in Pearl River, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Heinz Ahlmeyer, 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 "Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTKNECHT. 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 H.R. 3548.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3548, authored by the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL). This bill would designate the post office in Pearl River, New York, as the Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. Post Office Building. All members of the New York State delegation have cosponsored this legislation.

Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr., was a native of Pearl River, New York. He disappeared on his first day of duty in Vietnam. Ahlmeyer was 23 years of age when the Marine Corps sent him on a reconnaissance patrol in Quang Tri province on May 10, 1967, from which he never returned.

Shortly after noon on the day of his death, the patrol came under heavy fire and many of the soldiers were wounded. After several failed attempts, a helicopter was able to land and save the wounded soldiers, although the effort could not retrieve those that had been killed. Because of the enemy presence in the area of the loss, no ground search was possible and Ahlmeyer's remains were not able to be recovered. He was immediately listed as killed in action.

Thirty-eight years later to the day, on May 10, 2005, Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr., was buried in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. In May of 1998, a Joint Field Activity search team was able to find small remnants of American uniforms at the site of the loss in Quang Tri province. Due to DNA and dental records, a military forensics laboratory in Hawaii was able to identify Ahlmeyer in January of 2005.

Finally, the vibrant young man who played football and baseball at Pearl River High School, a hero in every sense of the word, could have a proper burial. Many who knew Ahlmeyer from his high school days attended the funeral in Virginia. Over 100 family members and friends paid respect to the soldier on the 38th anniversary of his death.

I urge my colleagues to come together to honor this brave soldier for his commitment to preserving our freedoms and his bravery in the face of danger.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 3548, legislation naming a postal facility in Pearl River, New York, after the late Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. This measure, which was introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), a Democrat, on July 28, 2005, and unanimously reported by our committee on October 20, 2005, enjoys the support and cosponsorship of the entire New York delegation.

Heinz Ahlmeyer, a native of New York, grew up in Pearl River. He attended Rockland Community College and graduated from New Paltz College. Upon his graduation, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps.

While serving on his first tour of duty in Vietnam, Marine Second Lieutenant Heinz Ahlmeyer was on a reconnaissance patrol in the Quang Tri province on May 10, 1967, when he and three other Marines came under fire. It was presumed he was killed in action, but because of heavy enemy fire, commanders felt it was too dangerous to retrieve the bodies.

In January of this year, the military notified his family that, through DNA, his remains were found, giving family and friends closure. And on May 10, 2005, Marine Second Lieutenant Heinz

Ahlmeyer was interred with honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague for seeking to honor the spirit and legacy of this Marine. Naming a post office in his memory is a small token of the appreciation that we can show.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may come consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Illinois for yielding me time, and I thank my friend from Minnesota for being so helpful in passing this bill today.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues have said it all, but I want to add it is with honor that I stand here today to pay tribute to this brave American, an exemplary New Yorker, Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr.

Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr., grew up in my district in Pearl River, New York, which is in Rockland County, a suburb of New York City. He was a popular high school athlete. He played football and baseball at Pearl River High School. His classmates remember him as a happy-go-lucky guy.

After attending Rockland Community College, Ahlmeyer went on to graduate from the State University of New York in New Paltz. Immediately after college, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at just 23 years old in 1967.

As a second lieutenant, he and three other Marines came under heavy fire from all sides, tragically, on just his first day in Vietnam. Because of the heavy fire surrounding the incident, the four Marines were presumed dead, but, sadly, Ahlmeyer's remains were never recovered, leaving his family and friends without any real closure or sense of peace.

I must say that in Pearl River and Rockland County, it is a wonderful community, and people never forgot about Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr., and wore tributes to him, wore wristbands and other things to show that the community has never forgotten him.

So for almost 38 years, friends and family wondered if they would ever know exactly what happened to Heinz. Then, finally, in January of this year, they were unexpectedly notified by military officials that, through DNA samples, his remains were found, giving his family and friends and the community much-needed closure. This past May, Ahlmeyer's life was celebrated during his burial at Arlington National Cemetery.

It is important that America, Mr. Speaker, honors their heroes of war, not just for their grieving family and friends but for future generations who might enter into combat. My deepest sympathy goes out to the Ahlmeyer family who I hope may take small comfort in knowing that Heinz has a burial place closer to home. The Heinz Ahlmeyer Post Office in Pearl River