

Wasserman	Welch	Wolf
Schultz	Westmoreland	Woolsey
Watson	Whitfield	Wu
Watt	Wilson (OH)	Yarmuth
Waxman	Wilson (SC)	Young (AK)
Weiner	Wittman	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—33

Abercrombie	DeLauro	Miller, Gary
Arcuri	Fallin	Moran (VA)
Barrett (SC)	Hall (TX)	Murtha
Berman	Heinrich	Neal (MA)
Boucher	Hoekstra	Paul
Broun (GA)	Johnson (GA)	Pence
Campbell	Johnson (IL)	Reichert
Capuano	Johnson, Sam	Smith (WA)
Chu	Kagen	Towns
Davis (AL)	Kind	Waters
Delahunt	Lipinski	Wexler

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1301

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 934, recognizing and honoring the National Guard on the occasion of its 373rd anniversary, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 3288, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees on H.R. 3288:

Messrs. OLVER, PASTOR of Arizona, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. BERRY, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mrs. LOWEY, Messrs. OBEY, LATHAM, WOLF, TIAHRT, WAMP, and LEWIS of California.

There was no objection.

ROY RONDENO, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3951) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Louisiana Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the "Roy Rondeno, Sr. Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3951

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

SECTION 1. ROY RONDENO, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Louisiana Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, shall be known and designated as the "Roy Rondeno, Sr. Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility re-

ferred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Roy Rondeno, Sr. Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CAO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House subcommittee with jurisdiction over the United States Postal Service, I am pleased to present H.R. 3951 for consideration. This legislation will designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 2000 Louisiana Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the "Roy Rondeno, Sr. Post Office Building."

Introduced by my colleague, Representative ANH "JOSEPH" CAO of Louisiana on October 28, 2009, and reported out of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee on November 18, 2009 by unanimous consent, H.R. 3951 enjoys the support of the entire Louisiana House delegation.

A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Roy Rondeno, Sr. served his beloved community as a dedicated employee of the United States Postal Service for over 30 years. Notably, Mr. Rondeno worked at the United States Postal Service facility at Uptown Station located at 2000 Louisiana Avenue in New Orleans, the very facility that we seek to designate in his honor.

The true embodiment of the old adage that "neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet" will keep a postman from completing his rounds, Mr. Rondeno was roundly known as a dedicated and beloved letter carrier who would never fail to deliver even the smallest package in the pouring rain.

As noted by the New Orleans Times-Picayune newspaper, many residents along Mr. Rondeno's route had formed a close relationship with this letter carrier and described him as a charismatic man who always had a kind word for everyone. According to friend and Uptown resident Susan Hereford, Mr. Rondeno did not only deliver the mail every day but rather also delivered "a little piece of himself" and connected with everyone on his route. Dr. Brian Ghery, another Uptown resident, further describes Mr. Rondeno as "an exceptional human being, a great letter carrier, and a real credit to his profession."

The extent of Mr. Rondeno's commitment to his job and his Uptown residents that he was proud to serve was

never more evident than on September 26 of this year. Mr. Rondeno volunteered to work on his day off given that the Uptown Station lacked enough letter carriers to cover the day's route. As Mr. Rondeno was sorting mail on the back of his truck, he was struck by a car and tragically lost both of his legs as a result of the accident.

The outpouring of support for Mr. Rondeno and his family that followed his hospitalization stands as a true testament to Mr. Rondeno's standing in Uptown New Orleans as a model public servant and community member. Notably, local merchants and community leaders promptly established a donation fund to assist Mr. Rondeno in his recovery, and signs of support for the letter carrier could be seen hanging in a variety of local storefronts along his route.

Regrettably, on October 2, only 6 days after this accident, Mr. Rondeno died from heart failure during surgery. Mr. Rondeno was only 57 years old at the time of his death, and he had planned on retiring from the postal service early next year so as to focus his attention on serving his New Orleans community in a different capacity, through an outreach ministry that he had recently founded with his beloved wife, Shirley.

As noted by Acting Louisiana District Manager Peter Sgro upon Mr. Rondeno's passing, "Roy was a dedicated postal employee who wore his uniform proudly. Everybody who knew him agreed he had a tremendous work ethic and always worked to provide the best service to his customers and the postal service."

Mr. Speaker, while Mr. Rondeno is no longer with us, his memory will undoubtedly live on through his wife, Shirley; his three sons, Roy, Richard, and Ryan; and all those who were fortunate enough to know this dedicated and hardworking public servant.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that we can pay tribute to the life and legacy of Mr. Roy Rondeno, Sr. through the passage of this legislation to designate the Uptown postal facility in his honor. I urge all of my colleagues to join us and Mr. CAO, the chief sponsor of this measure, in supporting H.R. 3951.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3951 to designate the Uptown post office building located at 2000 Louisiana Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, in honor of Roy Rondeno, Sr., a 34-year USPS letter carrier and military veteran, who was the epitome of a loyal and beloved public servant and community member.

In late September 2009, while working on his day off because the postal service was short-staffed, Mr. Rondeno was sorting through mail in the back of his truck when he was hit by a car. The vehicle blew through a stop sign

and critically injured him. Six days later, on October 2, 2009, he died from heart failure during surgery, a few weeks short of his plan to retire and spend time with his family and recently founded outreach ministry.

Mr. Rondono, a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, lived in Metairie and worked at the USPS Uptown Station in New Orleans. He was known as a dedicated, charismatic, and beloved letter carrier. Survivors include his wife Shirley of Metairie; and sons Richard of Houston, Ryan of Los Angeles, and Roy, Jr. of Metairie.

Mr. Rondono's accident and subsequent death came as a complete shock to those whom he loyally and lovingly served for and with during the past 37 years. The merchants and community members whom Mr. Rondono served established a donation fund in his honor and organized a block party to raise funds for his family. Shortly thereafter, the community members and Louisiana district postal employees asked that we dedicate this post office in his honor.

According to the Times-Picayune, those whom Mr. Rondono served said they formed a "close bond" with Mr. Rondono and described him as a "happy man with a kind word for everyone and a dutiful postman who introduced himself to new residents, never delivered junk mail addressed to previous tenants, and would stand outside in pouring rain to deliver even the smallest package."

As one constituent, Susan Hereford, expressed to the Times-Picayune regarding Mr. Rondono's service to and passion for those whom he served: "To have that constancy with someone who doesn't just have his head down and drop mail in your box, he connected with everyone on his route. And they connected with him."

To those whom he served, Mr. Rondono was a great letter carrier, civil servant, New Orleansian, American, veteran, and friend. To those he leaves behind, he was a loyal and loving husband, father, brother, uncle, and friend. I am proud of his service to the postal service, the United States Military, and the citizens of New Orleans, and I am proud to dedicate this post office in his honor.

As another constituent, Mary Nass, said to the Times-Picayune: "The outpouring of grief on the part of hundreds of people following Roy's death should teach us that we do not need to know others intimately to positively impact their lives. Here was a kind, humble, and conscientious man who made each and every person whose path he crossed feel a little happier, a little more connected to the human race, after his daily passing. No one could have left us a finer legacy."

Mr. Rondono was beloved by the community, his colleagues, and his wonderful family. And I can think of no greater way to honor him than to dedicate the Uptown post office located at 2000 Louisiana Avenue in New Orleans, Lou-

isiana, in his name as a reminder for all who go there of the dedication and passion of this public servant.

I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 3951.

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

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge all our colleagues to join Mr. CAO, the principal author of this bill, to support House Resolution 3951, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3951.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CAO. 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.

ANN MARIE BLUTE POST OFFICE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4017) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 43 Maple Avenue in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, as the "Ann Marie Blute Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4017

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

SECTION 1. ANN MARIE BLUTE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 43 Maple Avenue in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, shall be known and designated as the "Ann Marie Blute 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 "Ann Marie Blute Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CAO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGOVERN), the chief sponsor of this measure.

Mr. McGOVERN. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to rise in support of H.R. 4017 to rename the post office at 43 Maple Avenue in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, as the "Ann Marie Blute Post Office."

Mrs. Blute was a beloved and active member of the tight-knit Shrewsbury community, which is located in my district. She passed away on May 1 of this year after suffering a stroke, and she is dearly missed by her family and all who knew her.

Mrs. Blute was a true pillar of her community. Her life revolved around helping others, especially children. She once told her son Joseph that all she ever wanted to be was a mother. Along with her husband, Dr. Robert Blute, Sr., she did just that, raising 11 wonderful children, including former Congressman Peter Blute.

□ 1315

Over the years, she took great pride in watching her children, and later her 23 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, thrive and prosper. What truly distinguished Mrs. Blute, however, is that she was not only a mother to her own children, but she was also a mother figure to so many of the children she came in contact with through her volunteer work.

Mrs. Blute had a deep and unwavering passion for social justice and committed herself to helping the sick and the poor. The diversity of Mrs. Blute's community work is truly impressive. She volunteered with the Nazareth Home for Boys, which provides stable housing and a nurturing environment for young boys in difficult times. She also worked with the Mustard Seed, a volunteer soup kitchen that offers hot meals to the homeless. A devout Roman Catholic, she was especially active in St. Mary's Church in Shrewsbury where she served on the Women's Guild and as a catechism teacher and a Eucharistic minister.

One of Mrs. Blute's proudest moments came in 1994, when Cardinal John J. O'Connor called her to St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City to receive the title of Dame of Malta. This is one of the highest honors bestowed by the Catholic church and is given to those individuals who demonstrate an intense devotion to service. I can think of no one more deserving of this prestigious honor than Mrs. Blute.

Mr. Speaker, all too often we fail to adequately recognize one of the toughest yet most important jobs of all, being a mother. Mrs. Blute exemplified all of the best qualities of a mother—kindness, compassion, dedication, and hard work. She was kind enough to share herself not only with her own children and family, but also with the entire Shrewsbury community. Hundreds of children in central Massachusetts are no doubt better off today because they had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Blute.

We are all eternally grateful for her service and her lasting kindness. The