

is, how much more could we save if this Congress was brave enough to look deeper into our budget and our expenditures? How much more could we be saving for the taxpayer or providing to the citizens if we were brave enough to really audit our own books the way we expect the private sector and citizens to do every year?

If we only had the bravery to look in and find the truth and take action on it, I think that when we go back to our districts there would be a different welcome, a different type of response. And frankly, I think the response we have received in the past is one that we have deserved. Hopefully, we will earn the right to deserve a more positive response from the constituents when we take this action and follow it up with more concrete action to make sure that we do maintain the trust.

So again, I ask Congress let's take this as a first step. I appreciate the support from my colleague from his great State to be able to say let's work together, let's make the move, but let's stop being in denial that there isn't more that Congress ought to do to maintain the integrity of our budget process.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield such time as he may consume to one of the persons who worked extremely hard to bring this legislation to the floor and to craft a very excellent piece of legislation, Representative MURPHY.

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentleman from Illinois for the time.

Mr. Speaker, I do want to thank my colleague from the other side of the aisle, Republican Representative BRIAN BILBRAY from California, for partnering with me on this bipartisan bill for commitment to fiscal responsibility. I also want to thank the other Chamber over in the Senate, specifically Senator TOM CARPER, for his tireless efforts in advancing this legislation over in the other body, and his Republican colleague on this bill, Senator JOHN MCCAIN.

□ 1050

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is proof that good things can happen when Democrats and Republicans are willing to work together and put their differences aside for commonsense measures to get things done for the American taxpayer.

Now, I am so proud that after 2 years of hard work on this piece of legislation, Mr. BILBRAY and I, after we vote on this today in this House because it just passed in the Senate, will be sending this bill to the President of the United States for signature and it will become law. In this time of tightened belts and strained budgets, it is more important than ever to get our fiscal house in order and to eliminate waste from our system and make sure that we earn the trust of the American taxpayer.

Mr. Speaker, my bill, the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery

Act, is a bipartisan, commonsense solution to cut waste from the Federal budget and streamline the payment systems of Federal agencies.

Mr. Speaker, I know the American people would be horrified to learn that every day the Federal Government either overpays or pays twice the amount for products and services than they need to. In fiscal year 2009 alone, Federal agencies made nearly \$98 billion in improper payments. These improper payments occur as a result of fraud or from poor financial management systems that do not detect or prevent mistakes before Federal dollars are already out the door.

This bill, our bill, will help identify, reduce, and eliminate these improper payments. It will cut fraud and abuse by requiring agencies to develop action plans to avoid improper payments.

Mr. Speaker, I think now is the time that we must demand higher levels of fiscal management and accountability from each Federal agency. There needs to be repercussions of money misspent and wasted. That is why this legislation contains strong measures to hold those in power accountable for failing the American taxpayer. And perhaps most importantly, this legislation would force the Federal Government to reclaim more money that was improperly sent out.

My bill ensures that the Federal Government holds itself to the same standard of fiscal responsibility as any hard-working household or any business would across America and in my home district in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. It will save the American taxpayers billions of dollars that would otherwise be lost.

You know, Mr. Speaker, we already know that this legislation will work by setting stricter targets for reducing and recovering improper payments. The Office of Management and Budget was able to reduce errors in the food stamp program by a little more than half of a percentage point. But those stamps and a fraction of a percent saved the American taxpayer \$330 million just last year. That's one little program and one little agency, a half of a percentage point. That's \$330 million. That's \$330 million that can go to pay off our national debt, to provide tax relief to middle class families, or make critical investments in our future. With this bill, we can replicate that success in every single Federal agency and every program within the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, quite frankly, after 2 hard years to get this to this point today, we all know that this legislation is long overdue. The American people are demanding that this kind of action from our government today will happen, and it's about time.

So I want to thank Mr. BILBRAY. I want to thank Chairman TOWNS and Ranking Member DARRELL ISSA. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and finally, after years of hard work, that we pass this legislation on behalf of the American taxpayer.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, my father always taught us that a penny saved was a penny earned. And, of course, if it's good enough for our families, it certainly is good enough for our national government.

I compliment the gentleman on the development of an excellent piece of legislation. I urge its passage.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1508.

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. DAVIS of Illinois. 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.

DAVID JOHN DONAFEE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5390) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13301 Smith Road in Cleveland, Ohio, as the "David John Donafee Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5390

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

SECTION 1. DAVID JOHN DONAFEE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13301 Smith Road in Cleveland, Ohio, shall be known and designated as the "David John Donafee 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 "David John Donafee Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

the author of this legislation, the gentleman from Cleveland, Ohio, Representative KUCINICH.

Mr. KUCINICH. I thank my colleague and all Members for their support of this bill: Mr. DAVIS, Mr. CHAFFETZ, and my colleague Ms. SUTTON.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to offer today H.R. 5390, which renames the post office located at 13301 Smith Road in Cleveland, Ohio, as the "David John Donafée Post Office Building." I would like to thank Chairman LYNCH for his efforts to bring H.R. 5390 to the floor of the House.

David John Donafée was a lifelong northeast Ohioan who committed his life to family and community. He was born and raised in Brook Park, Ohio, and graduated from Polaris High School in Berea.

He served northeast Ohio as a postal carrier for 14 years. His coworkers knew David for his geniality and positive spirit, his sense of humor and willingness to go out of his way for anyone. One coworker remarked, "He was the guy that made the place a little better."

David was well known in the local hockey community for his support of and involvement in his son's youth hockey league. He announced and scored the games. He was the "heart of all of the teams," according to his wife, Sandi.

Mr. Speaker, on February 14, 2008, Valentine's Day, David Donafée was walking his mail route in Parma Heights, Ohio. He was delivering the mail to people on his route just like he did every other day, but this day was different. He was struck by a car while in the line of his duties as a postal worker, as a mail carrier, and he was killed. His tragic death resounded in the community and resounded with his coworkers.

He left behind his wife, Sandi, and their two sons, Derek and Liam. And my thoughts and the thoughts of the people in the community continue to be with the Donafée family as they adjust to life without their beloved David.

In honoring David John Donafée by naming a post office building after him, we actually honor all of those who deliver the mail, showing that when something like an unexpected tragedy happens, that this Congress does appreciate the work of those who make it possible for the commerce of the country to move by virtue of the mail.

□ 1100

So I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of David John Donafée and honoring his legacy. I urge passage of H.R. 5390.

[From cleveland.com, Sept. 4, 2008]

SOUTHWEST BREWFEST TO BENEFIT FAMILY OF DECEASED LETTER CARRIER DAVID DONAFÉE
(By Damon Sims)

Neither snow nor rain nor gloom of night kept David Donafée from his appointed rounds.

Nor could a little foul weather keep the 42-year-old letter carrier from scoring his son's

Padua High School hockey games, or from the Friday night beer-and-bull session with his buddies at the Brew Kettle Taproom & Smokehouse in Strongsville.

"It was like 'Cheers,'" said Donafée's wife, Sandi. "My husband was kind of the life of the party, but in a quiet, gentle way."

That all changed on a gloomy Valentine's Day this year. Donafée, a postman for 14 years, was making his rounds about noon when he was struck by a car and killed while crossing York Road near Valley Forge High School in Parma Heights. The driver, a 19-year-old Cleveland man, was questioned. No charges have been filed, and the accident remains under investigation.

Donafée, of Brunswick, is survived by his wife, Sandi, and sons, Derek, 15, and Liam, 11. His death also left a void in the youth-hockey community, with his postal-worker colleagues and with his friends at the Brew Kettle, who remember him as a fun and convivial companion.

"He was one of the happiest, most positive people I've ever met," said the Brew Kettle's owner, Chris McKim. "When the world loses a grouch, it's sad. When it loses a guy like Dave, a guy who was always upbeat and always on his A-game, it's a tragedy."

The different forces that helped define Donafée's life—good friends, good music, good beer—are coming together Saturday for an event designed to honor his memory and help his family. McKim has organized the first Southwest Brewfest, a charity craft-beer festival at the Chalet near the Cleveland Metroparks' toboggan chutes in the Mill Stream Run Reservation in Strongsville.

The festival will feature beer from brewers in Cleveland's southern and western suburbs: Brew Kettle, Rocky River Brewing Co., Cornerstone Brewing Co. and Buckeye Brewing.

Musicians David Fayne, Woody Leffel and the Armstrong Bearcat Band will provide the soundtrack to the event, which takes place from 1 to 7 p.m. The \$30 ticket will include a commemorative glass along with 10 four-ounce beer samples.

Proceeds will help the Donafée family with Derek's \$8,300 annual tuition at Padua, a Catholic preparatory school in Parma Heights.

The annual event will also help send Liam, now a sixth-grader, to Padua. Leftover money will go directly to Padua to benefit other students.

That would have meant a lot to Donafée, who said Derek's experience at Padua turned around his son's academic career, according to McKim, himself a Padua graduate.

Donafée's death didn't escape the notice of the powers-that-be. Earlier this year, U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich paid tribute to the mail carrier on the floor of the House. Sandi Donafée has the congressman's words inscribed on a plaque in her living room.

"May his life be an example of how we should lead our own," Kucinich told colleagues.

And what would the genial mailman have thought of all the attention?

"It would have made Dave smile," McKim said with a chuckle.

[From cleveland.com, Feb. 14, 2009]

WIDOW SANDI DONAFÉE OF BRUNSWICK MOURNS HUSBAND, DAVID, WHO WAS KILLED ON VALENTINE'S DAY

(By Stan Donaldson, Plain Dealer Reporter)

PARMA HEIGHTS.—Sandi Donafée left a handmade valentine Tuesday on York Road for her husband—a cracked heart.

As cars drove by the poster-size card, a tear rolled down the cheek of the 43-year-old Brunswick woman's face.

This is where her husband, David, a U.S. postal worker, was killed last Valentine's

Day after he was hit by a car as he crossed the street while delivering mail.

Since the accident, Donafée, a hairstylist, has had to raise her two teenage sons without their dad. His postal brethren, family and friends have worked to help them through the grieving process.

"I feel like this has been one big nightmare that I haven't been able to wake up from," said Donafée, as she looked at a two-sided valentine she placed on a telephone pole. It reads "Recklessness took my love."

The valentine includes a photo of the couple smiling.

Police said David Donafée, a 42-year-old father of two, was hit by Jeff Kluter, 19, as he crossed York near Independence Street. Donafée was not in a crosswalk.

Kluter was arraigned on misdemeanor aggravated vehicular homicide charges in November. Kluter has a pretrial hearing scheduled for Monday.

If convicted, he faces up to six months in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000.

Messages left for Kluter were not returned this week. Donafée's family and friends are upset because they feel the Cleveland man should face more time in jail. Sandi Donafée also wants Parma Heights City Council to reduce the 35 mph speed limit to 25 mph because it's near Valley Forge High School and Cuyahoga Community College.

Eric Donafée, 51, said the family will forever be heartbroken.

He said his kid brother left the steel industry in his mid-20s to become a postal worker because he thought of it as a safer career.

[From cleveland.com, Feb. 15, 2009]

A CRACKED HEART MARKS BRUNSWICK WOMAN'S VALENTINE PAIN

(By John Kroll, The Plain Dealer)

PARMA HEIGHTS.—Sandi Donafée left a hand-made Valentine Tuesday on York Road for her husband—a cracked heart.

As cars drove by the poster-size card, a tear rolled down the cheek of the 43-year-old Brunswick woman's face.

This is where her husband David Donafée, a U.S. postal worker, was killed last Valentine's Day after he was hit by a car as he crossed the street while delivering mail.

Since the accident, Donafée, a hair stylist, has had to raise her two teen-age sons without their dad. His postal brethren, family and friends have worked to help them through the grieving process.

"I feel like this has been one big nightmare that I haven't been able to wake up from," said Donafée, as she looked at a two-sided Valentine she placed on a telephone pole that says "Recklessness took my love."

The Valentine includes a photo of the couple smiling.

Police said that Donafée, a 42-year-old father of two, was hit by Jeff Kluter, 19, as he crossed York near Independence Street. Donafée was not in a crosswalk.

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Eric Donafée, 51, said the family will forever be heartbroken. He said his kid brother left the steel industry in his mid 20s to become a postal worker because he thought of it as a safer career.

"It happened because [the driver] was negligent," his brother said. "He broke a lot of hearts and it isn't right."

His sister-in-law also wants justice.

"I have tried in my heart to forgive him but I am not there yet," Donafee said. "I look at what my boys and I lost . . . it is too hard."

At the accident site, Donafee was surrounded by some of her husband's former coworkers from the Middleburg Heights post office branch where he had worked for 14 years. They stood at the makeshift memorial and shared stories.

In September, friends held a benefit in Strongsville that raised money for his sons—ages 16 and 11—to attend Padua, a Catholic prep school in Parma. Members from the post office will lay a wreath at his grave today—the family isn't emotionally ready to go back just yet.

"This shouldn't be a part of the job," said Paul Hunt, who worked with Donafee for more than 10 years. "You shouldn't have to worry about getting hit by a car."

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 5390 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13301 Smith Road in Cleveland, Ohio, as the David John Donafee Post Office Building.

I appreciate the good work that my colleague Mr. KUCINICH has done on this and his heartfelt and sincere approach to recognizing this great gentleman and the tragic situation but also the great life that he led.

Mr. Speaker, it is altogether fitting and proper that we honor Mr. Donafee by naming this post office in Cleveland for him. It was out of this post office that he was based.

On February 14, Valentine's Day, 2008, David Donafee was delivering the mail on foot along his usual route in Parma Heights, Ohio, only minutes from the post office on Smith Road. As he was crossing York Road near Independence Boulevard, Mr. Donafee was struck and killed by a vehicle driving recklessly down the street.

Tragically, the 42-year-old husband and father of two was run over only blocks from the post office to be named in his memory. Mr. Donafee was killed on a route that is notorious among local mail carriers for dangerous drivers. I hope that the tragic circumstances of Mr. Donafee's death will serve as a call for safer driving on all roads across our country.

Prior to his career of delivering mail, Mr. Donafee had worked in a Cleveland area steel mill which he had told family members he felt was too dangerous of a place to work. His older brothers recall that David took the job in the post office so that he could have a safer place to work. Sadly, the 14-year veteran of the postal service couldn't escape the danger he had tried to get away from.

Mr. Donafee is remembered by his wife as a great father and by coworkers as a generous man who "would do anything for you." He had a wonderful sense of humor, and according to fellow mail carriers, he was the guy that made the place a little better.

An active member of his community, Mr. Donafee was very involved with his town of Brunswick's youth hockey league.

Mr. Donafee was born on April 29, 1965, in Parma, Ohio. He leaves behind his wife, Sandi, of almost 18 years, and his two teenage sons, Derek and Liam. Our heart goes out to this family.

Mr. Speaker, it is proper that we pass this resolution to honor the memory of David John Donafee. I call on all Members of this House to support this measure and hope they know that members of the postal community, the greater postal community, those who work and serve every day in their lives, if by this small gesture we can remember them and give some degree of comfort to that family and that we always remember them.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Ohio, Representative BETTY SUTTON.

Ms. SUTTON. I thank the gentleman for the time, and I thank my colleague, Congressman KUCINICH, for his efforts and leadership on this legislation.

David John Donafee was a 42-year-old letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service who lived in the congressional district that I am so honored to serve. He lived in Medina County, Ohio, in the city of Brunswick; and, sadly, David was crossing the street while walking his route when he was fatally hit by a car on February 14, 2008.

David was a devoted husband, a father, a son, a brother, a brother-in-law and uncle; and he was very involved in the community in children's hockey.

For 14 years, David delivered the mail; and to paraphrase the U.S. Postal Service's motto, he went about his life with duty, honor, and pride. Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night, nor the winds of change, nor a Nation challenged stayed David from the swift completion of his appointed rounds. But tragically, a reckless driver did.

Our hearts remain with Sandi, his wife, his children, and the entire Donafee family. David's death was a tragedy that should not have happened. While we are honoring his life by naming the post office after him, as it should be, we also have a duty to remind drivers to yield to pedestrians crossing the street. We know that this small gesture will not close the hole in the Donafee family's hearts, but we want them to know that we care and we appreciate all that he did for our community. He connected us, one with another.

With this post office naming, we will remind people of David's noble service, and we will remind each other of our obligation to look out one for another.

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

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Govern-

ment Reform, I rise in support of H.R. 5390, a bill designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13301 Smith Road in Cleveland, Ohio, as the David John Donafee Post Office Building.

H.R. 5390 was introduced by my colleague, the gentleman from Ohio, Representative DENNIS KUCINICH, on May 25, 2010. It was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered it reported favorably by unanimous consent on June 7, 2010. The measure has the bipartisan support of 17 Members of the Ohio delegation.

Mr. David John Donafee was a letter carrier for the United States Postal Service for 14 years. An active member of his community, Mr. Donafee volunteered with the youth hockey league in his town of Parma, Ohio. Tragically, he passed away on February 14, 2008, at the age of 42, after being struck by the driver of a car while delivering mail on his regular route. He is survived by his wife, Sandi, and two sons, Derek and Liam.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Donafee's untimely death during the course of his duties as a letter carrier is deeply saddening. Let us now pay tribute to this man's life through the passage of H.R. 5390. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5390.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 5502. An act to amend the effective date of the gift card provisions of the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009.

CLARENCE D. LUMPKIN POST OFFICE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 4840) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1979 Cleveland Avenue in Columbus, Ohio, as the "Clarence D. Lumpkin Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

On page 2, line 3, strike "1979" and insert "1981".

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to designate the facility of the United States