

Rockaway, New York, after John J. Cook, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 2079, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 10 Main Street in East Rockaway, New York, as the "John J. Cook Post Office."

The measure before us was introduced by Representative CAROLYN MCCARTHY on June 1, 2011. In accordance with the committee requirements, H.R. 2079 is cosponsored by all members of the New York delegation. It was reported out of the committee by unanimous consent on November 3, 2011.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield as much time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY).

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank, certainly, Mr. KELLY from Pennsylvania and Mr. CLAY from Missouri for helping me get this through the committee, and I appreciate that.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John J. Cook, a World War II veteran, a model American postal worker, and an integral member of the East Rockaway community. I also want to thank senior Councilman Anthony Santino for bringing this to my attention.

Mr. Cook, a resident of my district, began working for the East Rockaway Post Office on January 8, 1944. For the next 60 years he served our East Rockaway community as a letter carrier who exemplified the American work ethic, displaying professionalism, courtesy and tireless dedication.

After serving in World War II in the Pacific theater, Mr. Cook began working for the local post office and quickly became an integral part of the East Rockaway community. Day in and day out, for more than 60 years, Mr. Cook took pride in his work, delivering the mail to the East Rockaway community in a timely and efficient manner.

He tailored his deliveries to the wishes of each individual customer. For example, he would make sure that important messages such as a wedding invitation or college acceptance letters were placed on the top of the day's mail for that customer.

Mr. Cook would go above and beyond his expected duties. At times, he even would cancel his family vacations because the post office needed him for a last-minute shift.

As public servants, we can recognize the importance of dedication, hard work, and service to one's community. It is only fitting and proper that the United States Government and Postal Service take the opportunity to honor a great man like Mr. Cook. He truly was a great American.

Mr. Cook exemplified these values on a daily basis and became an esteemed member of our East Rockaway commu-

nity. He watched the children of his customers grow up and marry and have their own children.

To rename the post office in Mr. Cook's honor will be a well-deserved tribute to a World War II veteran and a model public servant; and I hope my colleagues join me in supporting H.R. 2079 in honor of Mr. John J. Cook.

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers at the moment, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker I have no further speakers and am ready to close, if that's okay with the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Having no additional speakers, I, once again, urge adoption of H.R. 2079. I also ask that we keep the example of Mr. Cook's career in mind as we work together to craft what should be bipartisan legislation to ensure that the institution Mr. Cook loved so much, the United States Postal Service, can continue to serve our Nation so well.

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

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 2079, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2079.

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. KELLY. 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, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

LANCE CORPORAL MATTHEW P. PATHENOS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3247) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3247

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

SECTION 1. LANCE CORPORAL MATTHEW P. PATHENOS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos 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 "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

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 gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3247, introduced by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN) would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building."

The bill is cosponsored by the entire Missouri State delegation and was reported favorably by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on November 3 of last year.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we name this post office in Chesterfield, Missouri, for Marine Corps Lance Corporal Pathenos, a true American hero who gave his life courageously defending freedom. More than a selfless marine, Mr. Speaker, Lance Corporal Pathenos was a loving son, brother, and friend.

As one of his fellow marines reflected after his tragic passing, the best thing about Matt was his ability to wake up every day with a smile and hold it all day long. Even while in the midst of war, Lance Corporal Pathenos strove to bring joy to his fellow marines and friends. That's just the kind of guy that he was; and for his service and sacrifice, Mr. Speaker, we are truly grateful.

I now yield as much time as he may consume to my distinguished friend and colleague from the State of Missouri and the sponsor of this legislation, Mr. AKIN.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3247, a bill I introduced on the life of Matthew P. Pathenos by designating the post office in Chesterfield, Missouri, as the Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos Post Office Building.

A resident of Baldwin, Missouri, Lance Corporal Matthew Pathenos was part of the 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division of the Marine Forces Reserve. On February 7, 2007, Lance Corporal Pathenos was killed during combat operations in the al Anbar province of Iraq.

Matthew was often described by family and friends as a friendly young man who always had a joke to tell and a smile on his face. Matthew decided to go join the military in order to follow his older brother into his country's

service with the hope of helping those who could not help themselves.

Matthew's then-girlfriend, Erin, calls Lance Corporal Pathenos her hero and wishes she might one day possess a fraction of his bravery and discipline.

As the father of three marines, one of whom has served in Iraq, it is a privilege to stand here today to honor one of our fallen marines. Matthew's commitment and dedication to his country is a shining example of how our military men and women are the finest our Nation has to offer.

□ 1700

His and his family's sacrifice should serve as a reminder to all that the freedom we enjoy in America is not free but the result of the tremendous bravery and selfless service of men and women willing to put themselves in harm's way for freedom's cause. Our Nation will be forever indebted to Lance Corporal Matthew Pathenos.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Lance Corporal Matthew Pathenos. Vote "yes" on H.R. 3247.

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

As a member of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, I join my colleagues from my home State of Missouri in strong support of H.R. 3247, and I thank my colleague, Mr. AKIN, for introducing this legislation. The legislation will name the postal facility in Town and Country Commons in Chesterfield, Missouri, after Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos.

H.R. 3247 was introduced by my colleague, Representative AKIN, and has the support of the entire Missouri delegation, including myself. The bill was introduced on October 24 of last year and was considered by and reported from the Oversight Committee by voice vote shortly thereafter, on November 3, 2011.

Tragically, on February 7, 2007, Lance Corporal Pathenos was killed while conducting combat operations in the al Anbar province, Iraq. Described as a disciplined, dedicated, and patriotic gentleman, Corporal Pathenos served his country proudly.

In recognition of his dedication to his country, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the life of this brave marine by supporting the passage of H.R. 3247.

Mr. Speaker, having no additional speakers, I once again urge adoption of H.R. 3247 in honor of the life and service of Lance Corporal Matthew P. Pathenos.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I am truly grateful for the brave and heroic service of Lance Corporal Pathenos and for all of those who serve and defend our Nation each and every day. I urge all Members to join me in strong support of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3247.

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. KELLY. 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, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

LANCE CORPORAL DREW W. WEAVER POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3248) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 112 South 5th Street in Saint Charles, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3248

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

SECTION 1. LANCE CORPORAL DREW W. WEAVER POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 112 South 5th Street in Saint Charles, Missouri, shall be known and designated as the "Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver 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 "Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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 gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. KELLY. H.R. 3248, introduced by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. AKIN), would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 112 South 5th Street in Saint Charles, Missouri, as the Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building. This bill is cosponsored by the entire Missouri State delegation and was reported favorably by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on November 3 of last year.

Mr. Speaker, it is altogether fitting and proper that we name this post of-

fice in Saint Charles for Marine Corps Lance Corporal Weaver, a selfless patriot who made the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq at just 20 years of age. Remembered by many for his tenacious spirit, the ability to find the positive in every situation, Mr. Speaker, for being a true hero, Mr. Speaker, I could not agree more.

Lance Corporal Weaver and all of our brave and courageous fighting men and women are true heroes, and I'm thankful to have this opportunity to stand before this Chamber and express my sincere gratitude for all that our servicemembers do and all that they sacrifice each and every day.

I will now yield as much time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague and friend from the State of Missouri, the sponsor of this legislation, Mr. AKIN.

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3248, a bill I introduced to honor the life of Drew W. Weaver by designating the post office in Saint Charles, Missouri, as the "Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building."

A resident of Saint Charles, Missouri, Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver was part of the 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. On February 21, 2007, Lance Corporal Weaver died while conducting combat operations in the al Anbar province of Iraq. As Captain Mark C. Brown noted, Drew was "known for his enthusiasm and his ability to motivate the people around him."

Drew's contribution to his country was honored by his community when hundreds of people showed up to his memorial service and procession. A graduate of Saint Charles West High School, friends and family of Drew remember him as an energetic young man who was eager to serve his country. Ryan Hanson, his best friend and a fellow serviceman, said, "Drew loved what he was doing and was proud of what he was doing in the Marine Corps."

As the father of three marines, one of whom has served in Iraq, it is a privilege to stand here today to honor one of our fallen marines.

Drew's commitment and dedication to his country is a shining example of how our military men and women are the finest the Nation has to offer. His and his family's sacrifice should serve as a reminder to all of us that the freedom we enjoy as Americans is not free but the result of tremendous bravery and selfless service of men and women willing to put themselves in harm's way for freedom's cause.

As Reverend James Benz noted during Drew's funeral, "I think we can learn from them that the freedom we enjoy in this country is precious, that it is special, and that it must be preserved sometimes at great personal cost."

Our Nation will be forever indebted to Lance Corporal Drew Weaver. Mr.