

the Navy SEALs. Mr. Villarreal has received 15 awards for his service, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Gallantry Cross with Palm and Frame, the Civil Action Color with Palm and Frame, and the Combat Aircrewman Insignia.

To highlight a couple of other gentlemen also, Pedro Devora and Rufino Gonzales both served on the same ship in World War II, on the USS *Sangamon*. They survived a kamikaze attack on their vessel, and they went home to live long lives in Floresville.

Additionally, I want to also say that Mr. Devora and Mr. Gonzales obtained the medals they earned during their service that they recently just got from the Department of the Navy. For Mr. Devora, these medals are the World War II Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Honorable Service Lapel Pin, and the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with the Bronze Star also.

For Mr. Gonzales, these medals include the World War II Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon, the Combat Action Ribbon, along with the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal along with the Bronze Star also.

Again, those are only just a few examples of the men and women from Wilson County—in particular, from Floresville—that have served. So I want to acknowledge the sacrifice of those veterans along with the veterans from my 28th Congressional District, individuals who served and put their country ahead of self and for whom I am recognizing with the renaming of the Floresville postal facility service.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank also the work of The American Legion Post 38 in Floresville and the VFW Post 8555 in Wilson County for the work that they have done in supporting our local veterans. The VFW Post 8555 in Wilson County has done a great job, and I want to thank them.

So, Mr. Speaker, and to our ranking member and our ranking delegate, I just want to say thank you so much.

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

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 891.

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.

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS DANIEL M. FERGUSON POST OFFICE

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 1326) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Mulford Road in Mulberry, Florida, as the “Sergeant First Class Daniel M. Ferguson Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1326

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

SECTION 1. SERGEANT FIRST CLASS DANIEL M. FERGUSON POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Mulford Road in Mulberry, Florida, shall be known and designated as the “Sergeant First Class Daniel M. Ferguson 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 “Sergeant First Class Daniel M. Ferguson Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in 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 North Carolina?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 1326, introduced by Representative DENNIS ROSS. H.R. 1326 would designate the post office located at 2000 Mulford Road in Mulberry, Florida, as the Sergeant First Class Daniel M. Ferguson Post Office.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I am pleased to join my colleagues in supporting H.R. 1326, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Mulford Road in Mulberry, Florida, as the Sergeant First Class Daniel M. Ferguson Post Office.

Born and raised in Mulberry, Florida, Daniel Ferguson was a standout athlete at Mulberry High School, where he lettered in five sports, including baseball, football, and track. After joining the Army in 1993, Daniel dedicated the rest of his life to the service of our country. Over the next 20 years, Daniel completed tours in Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Following his final deployment, Sergeant First Class Ferguson was stationed as an Army transportation supervisor at Fort Hood, Texas, beginning in March 2013.

On April 2, 2014, Sergeant First Class Ferguson made the ultimate sacrifice. Sergeant First Class Ferguson witnessed a shooting rampage break out on base, and seeing the shooter approaching the room where he and his colleagues gathered, held himself against an unlocked door and used his body as a shield. Tragically, Sergeant First Class Ferguson lost his life that day, but through his courage and selflessness, many of his colleagues survived. Sergeant First Class Ferguson is remembered by his fiancée, fellow soldier Kristen Haley, and all those who knew him for his loyalty, bravery, and heroism. He was awarded the Bronze Star and a Meritorious Service Medal, among others, for his military service.

Mr. Speaker, we should pass this bill to commemorate the ultimate sacrifice made by Sergeant First Class Daniel Ferguson, and to honor his devoted service to the protection of our country abroad, as well as his fellow soldiers at home.

I urge the passage of H.R. 1326, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROSS), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from North Carolina and my colleague from the Virgin Islands.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of H.R. 1326, to dedicate the post office located at 2000 Mulford Road in Mulberry, Florida, after Sergeant First Class Daniel M. Ferguson.

The tragic events of April 2, 2014, when a shooter killed three of his fellow servicemembers at Fort Hood, Texas, shook our military community and our Nation.

However, some may not remember a story of heroism that came out of that horrific event. Sergeant First Class Daniel M. Ferguson, who was stationed at Fort Hood along with his fiancée, sacrificed his life to save his fellow soldiers. A veteran of Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan, Sergeant First Class Ferguson bravely wedged himself against a set of unlocked doors to block the attacker's advance. Without his heroic actions, those present that day have said there would have been many more casualties and fatalities.

Sergeant First Class Ferguson succumbed to the wounds he sustained during this act of violence, leaving behind many heartbroken loved ones but also very many grateful soldiers. Without hesitation, Sergeant First Class Ferguson gave his own life to protect the lives of his fellow men and women in uniform.

Sergeant First Class Ferguson was a tremendous soldier and a graduate of Mulberry High School who gave the ultimate sacrifice for the love of his country.

That is why, in honor of his courageous sacrifice, I am proud to introduce this bill and proud to ask my colleagues to recognize such an honorable American.

For Sergeant First Class Ferguson, his family, and the residents of Mulberry, Florida, I ask that my colleagues join me in supporting such a worthy cause.

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

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1326.

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.

HERMAN BADILLO POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1350) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 East 167th Street in Bronx, New York, as the "Herman Badillo Post Office Building."

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1350

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

SECTION 1. HERMAN BADILLO POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 East 167th Street in Bronx, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Herman Badillo 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 "Herman Badillo Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks, and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 1350, introduced by Representative JOSÉ E. SERRANO.

H.R. 1350 designates the post office located at 442 East 167th Street in Bronx, New York, as the Herman Badillo Post Office Building.

Mr. Badillo was a United States Congressman who represented the South Bronx. He was born in Puerto Rico and has the distinction of being the first United States Congressman of Puerto Rican heritage.

Throughout his life, Mr. Badillo overcame hardship and adversity. After being orphaned at a young age, he moved to the United States when he was 11. From there, he went on to achieve great things.

Mr. Badillo graduated with honors from City College in 1951 and, shortly thereafter, graduated from Brooklyn Law School, where he was valedictorian of his class. In addition to the first Puerto Rican-born Congressman, he was the first Puerto Rican-born city commissioner and Bronx Borough president.

I agree with my colleague Representative SERRANO's assessment of Mr. Badillo: he truly is a testament to the American Dream.

Herman Badillo passed away on December 3, 2014. Naming a postal facility for Mr. Badillo in the community that he served will honor him as the great public servant he was.

I urge Members to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

As a Virgin Islander living next door to Puerto Rico and as a former assistant district attorney in Bronx County, where Mr. Badillo lived, it gives me great pleasure to join my colleagues in supporting H.R. 1350, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 East 167th Street in Bronx, New York, as the Herman Badillo Post Office Building.

Born in Caguas, Puerto Rico, on August 21, 1929, Mr. Badillo went on to become America's first Puerto Rican-born Congressman and a prominent figure in New York City politics. The only son of Francisco and Carmen Rivera Badillo, he suffered the loss of both his parents by his fifth birthday. He was taken in by relatives, and at the age of 11, without knowing English, moved to East Harlem, New York. He learned English and excelled in school, working his way through college and law school as a dishwasher, bowling pinsetter, and accountant. After graduating with high honors from City College in 1951, Herman went on to become valedictorian of his Brooklyn Law School class in 1954.

Herman Badillo practiced law in New York and won election as Bronx Borough president in 1965. He ran for Congress and won in 1970. While Mr. Badillo was considered a Democrat during his 7 years in this Chamber, he did not view himself as bound by party loyalties. Mr. Badillo served this Chamber with honor and distinction for 7 years before resigning his seat in 1977 to serve the people of New York as deputy mayor to New York Mayor Ed Koch. Mr. Badillo continued to serve the city of New York and remained involved in education reform until he died at age

85 on December 3, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Gail, and his son, David.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill to honor Herman Badillo's lifetime of service and dedication to the city of New York and to this country.

I urge the passage of H.R. 1350, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO).

(Mr. SERRANO asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. PLASKETT for the time, and thank both Mr. WALKER and Ms. PLASKETT for that wonderful presentation of the life of one of my predecessors, Herman Badillo. And so rather than get into the details that have already been mentioned, let me just tell you personally what it means to me, what he meant to me, and what this loss of his passing means to all of us.

Herman came along at a time when Puerto Ricans in New York were seen as good, hard-working people, but some people were not crazy about the idea of us being in public office or in government, and he showed the way. Having been valedictorian at law school, he came and he immediately got involved in local politics. It is said that by the age of 18, he was already running for local office in East Harlem.

He became the first Bronx Borough president. That is equivalent to a county executive of Puerto Rican background. Then he ran for Congress, being the first voting Member of Congress. Let me just explain that for a second. There has been a Member of Congress from Puerto Rico since 1998, but none, to this day, has had full voting rights. He was the first one of Puerto Rican background with full voting rights in 1970.

He left this place that he loved so much to become deputy mayor because he felt that he could make a difference in New York, and he served under the administration of Ed Koch. During the time he was here, he helped to found the Congressional Hispanic Caucus; he helped with issues of education and housing, and just economic development for our community.

But for those of us who were starting out, he stood as a giant. He stood as this tall man, which he was, who was totally bilingual, who could speak well, who could think well, who was so calm yet so aggressive, and he inspired all of us. I know that on the House floor we don't mention political campaigns, but it can be said that when I first ran in 1974 for the State assembly, he was at my side. And that was part of who he was.

He encouraged young people from the community, from all walks of life, to get involved in politics. I remember he always used to tell me, Make sure the same thing everywhere you go. Don't