

□ 1215

RECOGNIZING AGATUCCI'S RESTAURANT

(Mr. LAHOOD of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Agatucci's Restaurant in Peoria, Illinois, as it approaches an extraordinary milestone of 100 years in business.

This family-owned restaurant has been a cornerstone of central Illinois since 1926, representing the enduring spirit of entrepreneurship, family, and community that defines the heart of Peoria.

Founded in 1926 by Vincenzo "James" Agatucci, Agatucci's Restaurant began as a small grocery store before becoming one of Peoria's most beloved family-owned restaurants.

During the Great Depression, James transformed his grocery store into a restaurant to serve the community, later obtaining liquor license number 13, now the oldest continually owned license in Peoria.

The Agatucci family has built a tradition of hard work, tremendous hospitality, and excellence. From introducing pizza to Peoria after World War II to expanding into the frozen pizza and sauce market, Agatucci's has continued to bring people together over delicious food and warm hospitality.

Agatucci's is proudly operated by the fourth generation of the Agatucci family. As the restaurant enters its 10th decade, Danny and Tony Agatucci remain committed to the same values that built their family's legacy.

As we commemorate this incredible milestone, I recognize Danny and Tony Agatucci, their fathers whom they learned from, and the entire Agatucci family for their dedication, entrepreneurial spirit, and lasting contribution to Peoria.

Congratulations on 100 years of family, food, and community. Best wishes for the next 100 years.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BICE) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy and wise God, grant our hearts wisdom. May we receive Your Word and

heed Your instruction, that what we intend for this day would prosper in accordance with Your will.

May we trust in You, O Lord, that we would bear the fruit of the guidance You provide as we labor in this place.

Grant us, as well, the gift of discernment, and the support of Your strength and encouragement, so that, as challenging as it may seem, we would speak Your truth and do what is right in Your sight.

From the fountain of life that You graciously provide, may we learn prudence. Then may the meditations of our hearts and the words of our mouths prove judicious and useful, keeping us from the influence of our folly.

Today, may the lives we live and the words we speak be led by the hand of Your instruction, that we may teach others of Your wisdom and will.

In Your sovereign name, we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. FIELDS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FIELDS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPRECIATING LINDSEY GRAHAM

(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. Madam Speaker, South Carolinians are shocked and saddened to hear of the passing of Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM.

Senator GRAHAM enthusiastically served the people of the Palmetto State and America as a public servant and veteran. As a patriot, tireless for peace through strength, he successfully challenged totalitarians.

President Donald Trump memorialized GRAHAM as one of the greatest people and Senators he has ever known.

The New York Post analyzed that "all Americans of good will should be inspired to keep up his lifelong fights for freedom, decency, and justice."

The Wall Street Journal editorialized that the death of LINDSEY GRAHAM "is a loss for the country and the cause of global freedom."

All three generations of the Wilson family extend deepest sympathy with our thoughts and prayers for the family led by his sister, Darline Graham Nordone, of Lexington.

In conclusion, God bless our troops. Trump is reinstituting peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, and insulting Trump and mocking Trump, which inspired Senator GRAHAM to successfully achieve legislative sanctioning of war criminal Putin.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LOUISIANA STATE SENATOR LARRY C. SELDERS

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

Mr. FIELDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of a great man.

Louisiana recently lost one of its brightest lights with the unexpected passing of Louisiana State Senator Larry C. Selders at just 44 years of age.

Larry leaves behind his wife, Kendra, and his two sons, L.J. and Luke. The boys were, by every account, inseparable from his side, and he loved them dearly.

Larry devoted himself to helping people rebuild their lives. His compassion stayed consistent while he earned his social work degree from Southern University all the way to the Louisiana Legislature, first as a State representative for District 67 and then as State senator for District 14.

Described as a gentle giant whose kindness made everyone feel like he was an old friend, he humbly approached public service, always lifting up others rather than seeking recognition.

Larry Selders leaves behind a legacy built not on titles but on the countless lives he touched as a devoted husband, a proud father, a trusted friend, and a true public servant.

Louisiana is better because of him, and as a good friend of mine personally, this is a loss.

HONORING MAJOR ALEXANDER DAVIS OF GOLDSBORO

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to honor Air Force Major Alexander Davis of Goldsboro.

On June 15, our Nation mourned when a tragic B-52 mishap at Edwards Air Force Base claimed the lives of eight brave airmen.

Alex was among them, and his life was defined by selfless service. From earning the rank of Eagle Scout to his time at North Carolina State University and his distinguished military career, he faithfully answered every call to serve.

Whether flying missions, modernizing our Air Force, or encouraging those around him, he was dependable. He dreamed of one day becoming an astronaut, always reaching for the skies.

Eastern North Carolina will always be proud to call him one of our own.

To Doug, Karen, and his family, we grieve with you. We pray with you. We will forever remember Major Alexander Davis, a beloved airman, a beloved leader, and a true American hero.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1530

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CRAWFORD) at 3 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

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 votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on the postponed questions at a later time.

CONGRESSMAN GERALD E. CONNOLLY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6332) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10660 Page Avenue in Fairfax, Virginia, as the "Congressman Gerald E. Connolly Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6332

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

SECTION 1. CONGRESSMAN GERALD E. CONNOLLY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10660 Page Avenue in Fairfax, Virginia, shall be known and designated as the "Congressman Gerald E. Connolly 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 "Congressman Gerald E. Connolly Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WALKINSHAW) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SESSIONS. 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 materials on that measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of a bill which would rename a post office in Fairfax, Virginia, for one of our former colleagues, Congressman Gerald E. Connolly, a father, a husband, a friend of mine and to this body, and a lifelong civil public servant, one that dedicated his life to his constituents, his community, and to his country.

Gerald Connolly began his life of service at the Heifer Project International in Little Rock, Arkansas. Arkansas is a beautiful, young State that we have here in the United States, and he chose to move there and to live to work on his project to begin his service.

He then moved to Washington, D.C. in 1972. Gerry rose from the education director to executive director of the American Freedom from Hunger Foundation while simultaneously serving as the executive director of the U.S. Committee on Refugees.

He became a pillar of a person and stalwart for Northern Virginia through his 13 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and served for 16 years as our colleague in this body representing Virginia's 11th Congressional District.

In 2025, he was elected as the ranking member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform after serving as a member of the committee since 2009.

In Congress, Gerald Connolly was a friend to many of us and my friend also. He was steadfast in fighting for what he believed in.

He was always committed to bipartisanship where he thought we could agree, and he would find those issues. I worked with him on many. Many of my Republican committee colleagues found Gerry Connolly to be a partner and a friend.

The bottom line is that his exemplary public service will endure, continuing to guide and inspire those committed to serving our Nation. I am sure that his life and the stories of his life are being told with many as an example of public service.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his eloquent remarks.

This legislation is a tribute to a giant of public service, a man whose legacy is written across Northern Virginia and across this institution.

Gerry Connolly believed deeply in public service. He believed in this institution, in the work of representative

democracy, and in the responsibility that comes with the oath of office.

He knew that democracy doesn't sustain itself. It takes people willing to do the hard, unglamorous work of governing, legislating, organizing, compromising, and showing up for the communities they serve.

Gerry was a singular force for good in Fairfax, and for 11 years, I had the privilege of serving as his chief of staff. I saw up close how he poured his significant intellect, his integrity, and his energy into serving our community every single day. He is somebody who served the public with every fiber of his being until his last day.

He was widely respected here as one of Congress' most effective lawmakers. He was a champion for the Federal workers he represented, a champion for the Postal Service, a principled statesman who represented our Nation at the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

I am confident he is the only person in history who will have served twice as president of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations and twice as the president of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. Before he served in Congress, he shaped the Fairfax County that my constituents know and enjoy today.

He served on the board of supervisors from 1995 to 2008, including 5 years as chairman. He took enormous pride in that work and had a passion for the work of local government.

Under his leadership, Fairfax County invested in smart growth, in transit, in environmental stewardship, in libraries, trails, and affordable housing. It is the public infrastructure that has transformed Fairfax and Northern Virginia into an economic engine and a national model.

His legacy can be seen in the Silver Line metro extension, the Mosaic District in Merrifield, the Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail, and the Oakton Library.

Gerry was an institutionalist in the best sense. He respected this House not as a monument but as a living instrument of democracy, one that must be used to hold power accountable, to protect the dignity of public service, to defend those who don't have a voice, and to stand up for our democratic values at home and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, Gerry had a heart as big as his intellect. He loved people. He loved animals. He loved our community. He loved a good conversation, a good story, and even good gossip, sometimes to the frustration of those who were trying to keep him on schedule.

Above all, Gerry was a family man. He loved his wife, Smitty, who is here with us today in the gallery, with a devotion that everyone around him could see. He was endlessly proud of his daughter, Caitlin, and welcomed his son-in-law, Mark, into that circle of love and loyalty that defined him.

For all of his accomplishments in public, the center of his world was always his family and the joy he took in