

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 on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

HEINZ AHLMEYER, JR. POST
OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3548) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located on Franklin Avenue in Pearl River, New York, as the "Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3548

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

SECTION 1. HEINZ AHLMEYER, JR. POST OFFICE
BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located on Franklin Avenue in Pearl River, New York, shall be known and designated as the "Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. 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 "Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, 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 H.R. 3548.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3548, authored by the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL). This bill would designate the post office in Pearl River, New York, as the Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. Post Office Building. All members of the New York State delegation have cosponsored this legislation.

Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr., was a native of Pearl River, New York. He disappeared on his first day of duty in Vietnam. Ahlmeyer was 23 years of age when the Marine Corps sent him on a reconnaissance patrol in Quang Tri province on May 10, 1967, from which he never returned.

Shortly after noon on the day of his death, the patrol came under heavy fire and many of the soldiers were wounded. After several failed attempts, a helicopter was able to land and save the wounded soldiers, although the effort could not retrieve those that had been killed. Because of the enemy presence in the area of the loss, no ground search was possible and Ahlmeyer's remains were not able to be recovered. He was immediately listed as killed in action.

Thirty-eight years later to the day, on May 10, 2005, Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr., was buried in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. In May of 1998, a Joint Field Activity search team was able to find small remnants of American uniforms at the site of the loss in Quang Tri province. Due to DNA and dental records, a military forensics laboratory in Hawaii was able to identify Ahlmeyer in January of 2005.

Finally, the vibrant young man who played football and baseball at Pearl River High School, a hero in every sense of the word, could have a proper burial. Many who knew Ahlmeyer from his high school days attended the funeral in Virginia. Over 100 family members and friends paid respect to the soldier on the 38th anniversary of his death.

I urge my colleagues to come together to honor this brave soldier for his commitment to preserving our freedoms and his bravery in the face of danger.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H.R. 3548, legislation naming a postal facility in Pearl River, New York, after the late Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. This measure, which was introduced by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), a Democrat, on July 28, 2005, and unanimously reported by our committee on October 20, 2005, enjoys the support and cosponsorship of the entire New York delegation.

Heinz Ahlmeyer, a native of New York, grew up in Pearl River. He attended Rockland Community College and graduated from New Paltz College. Upon his graduation, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps.

While serving on his first tour of duty in Vietnam, Marine Second Lieutenant Heinz Ahlmeyer was on a reconnaissance patrol in the Quang Tri province on May 10, 1967, when he and three other Marines came under fire. It was presumed he was killed in action, but because of heavy enemy fire, commanders felt it was too dangerous to retrieve the bodies.

In January of this year, the military notified his family that, through DNA, his remains were found, giving family and friends closure. And on May 10, 2005, Marine Second Lieutenant Heinz

Ahlmeyer was interred with honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague for seeking to honor the spirit and legacy of this Marine. Naming a post office in his memory is a small token of the appreciation that we can show.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may come consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Illinois for yielding me time, and I thank my friend from Minnesota for being so helpful in passing this bill today.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues have said it all, but I want to add it is with honor that I stand here today to pay tribute to this brave American, an exemplary New Yorker, Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr.

Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr., grew up in my district in Pearl River, New York, which is in Rockland County, a suburb of New York City. He was a popular high school athlete. He played football and baseball at Pearl River High School. His classmates remember him as a happy-go-lucky guy.

After attending Rockland Community College, Ahlmeyer went on to graduate from the State University of New York in New Paltz. Immediately after college, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at just 23 years old in 1967.

As a second lieutenant, he and three other Marines came under heavy fire from all sides, tragically, on just his first day in Vietnam. Because of the heavy fire surrounding the incident, the four Marines were presumed dead, but, sadly, Ahlmeyer's remains were never recovered, leaving his family and friends without any real closure or sense of peace.

I must say that in Pearl River and Rockland County, it is a wonderful community, and people never forgot about Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr., and wore tributes to him, wore wristbands and other things to show that the community has never forgotten him.

So for almost 38 years, friends and family wondered if they would ever know exactly what happened to Heinz. Then, finally, in January of this year, they were unexpectedly notified by military officials that, through DNA samples, his remains were found, giving his family and friends and the community much-needed closure. This past May, Ahlmeyer's life was celebrated during his burial at Arlington National Cemetery.

It is important that America, Mr. Speaker, honors their heroes of war, not just for their grieving family and friends but for future generations who might enter into combat. My deepest sympathy goes out to the Ahlmeyer family who I hope may take small comfort in knowing that Heinz has a burial place closer to home. The Heinz Ahlmeyer Post Office in Pearl River

will be a daily reminder to the community of his great sacrifice to his country.

I might also add that, at all the parades on Memorial Day and Veterans' Day, the community has made it very clear that this is so important to everyone concerned, so important that we do the right thing, that I really must say I am touched and grateful to my colleagues for the promptness by which this bill has passed out of committee and has come to the floor. So I want to thank everyone on both sides of the aisle who has been involved with this.

We can never bring Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr., back, but we do always remember him personally, because he was such an exemplary young man and for what he stood for.

When I check and see, he was only 3 years older than I am right now, but, unfortunately, cut down as a very, very young man. Three years older, if he had lived, he would now be entering his late fifties or early sixties.

So we remember him. We show that we are a caring community, that we are a caring country, and this Congress is doing right by Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would simply commend again the gentleman from New York for introducing this legislation.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New York for bringing this bill forward. This clearly is a fitting tribute to an American hero, and I would urge all Members to support passage of H.R. 3548.

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 Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3548.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. 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 question will be postponed.

□ 1430

LILLIAN MCKAY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2413) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1202 1st Street in Humble, Texas, as the "Lillian McKay Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2413

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

SECTION 1. LILLIAN MCKAY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1202 1st Street in Humble, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Lillian McKay 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 "Lillian McKay Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, 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 Minnesota?

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 2413, offered by the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE). This bill would designate the post office in Humble, Texas, as the Lillian McKay Post Office Building.

As the First Lady of Humble, Texas, a small town located just northeast of Houston, Lillian McKay made an impact on the community that will be remembered forever. Officially, she became Humble's First Lady in 1971 when her husband, Dr. Haden McKay, became the mayor of that small town. Dr. McKay served the city of Humble for more than 38 years, as mayor as well as a member of the city council. One thing was for sure: Lillian McKay was always there by his side.

Her philanthropic nature has earned her several prestigious community awards, such as the Humble Area Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year, the Yellow Rose of Texas award, Family Time Women of Achievement Community Leader award and, finally, the Northeast Medical Center Hospital Foundation Gala Honoree. Lillian McKay is also closely involved with the Humble Museum as acting curator. She has been an advocate for the museum since its inception in 1976.

This lifelong Texan has given back much more to her community than can ever be documented. Long after the death of her husband, Lillian McKay is still considered the First Lady of Humble, Texas, and will always be remembered as such.

I urge all Members to join me in honoring the lifetime community achievements of this very special and generous woman.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join with my colleague from Minnesota in consideration of H.R. 2413, legislation naming the postal facility in Humble, Texas, after Lillian McKay. This measure, which was introduced by Representative TED POE on May 17, 2005, and unanimously reported by our committee on September 15, 2005, enjoys the support and cosponsorship of the entire Texas delegation.

Lillian McKay, a native Texan, was born in Ammannsville, Texas, and grew up in Fairchilds, Texas. She married and moved with her husband to Humble, Texas.

Known as the First Lady of Humble while her husband served as mayor of Humble, Mrs. McKay has been an active member of the community and has been honored for her contributions. She has received the Humble Area Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year award and the Yellow Rose of Texas award, to name a few. She is the curator of the Humble Museum and has remained involved in the museum since its inception.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague for seeking to honor Mrs. McKay in this manner and urge swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague from the State of Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Minnesota for yielding me this time, and I thank the gentleman from Illinois for his support of this bill.

Lillian McKay by trade was a nurse; and she met her husband, Dr. Haden McKay, a doctor in Humble, Texas, and there they have spent most of their life supporting people. She is the First Lady of Humble, Texas. She has been for a number of years, and she will always be.

The reason she is the First Lady is because she is always involved in the lives of people, young people, elderly people, all people. She does what she can every day to help someone else. She is the neighbor of the entire community.

Both she and her husband made Humble their home in 1941. In fact, she still lives in that same limestone house that he built for her in 1941. Humble, Texas, is a small, rural town north of Houston, about 27 miles. It started out as an oil field town. Oil was struck there; and one of the landmark roads of Humble, Texas, is Moonshine Hill Road. After oil was struck there, a little oil