In the general population, women attempt suicide more often than men but succeed less because women usually use pills or other methods that are less lethal than firearms.

Female veterans, however, are more likely than other women to possess firearms, and more likely to use a firearm to commit suicide (40% compared to 34% of civilian women).

H.R. 2915 is intended to make progress in identifying the causes and reducing the incidences of suicide by female veterans.

The bravery and devotion of female veterans, who have provided heroic service to our nation, often at great personal costs, is unquestioned.

We owe it to them to be there when they need our help just as they were there to answer the call when their country needed them.

I urge all Members to join me in voting to pass H.R. 2915, the "Female Veteran Suicide Prevention Act."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. ABRAHAM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2915, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to identify mental health care and suicide prevention programs and metrics that are effective in treating women veterans as part of the evaluation of such programs by the Secretary, and for other purposes.".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ILLIANA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM PROPERTY CONVEYANCE

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3262) to provide for the conveyance of land of the Illiana Health Care System of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Danville, Illinois, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3262

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

**SECTION 1. LAND CONVEYANCE, DANVILLE, ILLINOIS.**

(a) CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may convey to the Danville Area Community College of Danville, Illinois, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to certain real property, including any improvements thereon, consisting of approximately .6 acres known as "Building Number 48", which is part of the Illiana Health Care System of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for the conveyance under subsection (a), the Danville Area Community College shall convey to the United States all right, title, and interest of Danville Area Community College in and to certain real property, including any improvements thereon, consisting of approximately 1.06 acres with a gazebo located approximately 293 feet south of the Danville Area Community College Library Building, which is part of the Danville Area Community College.

(c) CONDITION OF CONVEYANCE.—The conveyance under subsection (a) shall be subject to the condition that the recipient accept the conveyed real property in its condition at the time of the conveyance.

(d) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the parcels of real property conveyed under subsections (a) and (b) shall be determined by surveys satisfactory to the Secretary.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyances under subsections (a) and (b) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. ABRAHAM) and the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

□ 1645

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on H.R. 3262.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3262.

This bill authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to convey property on the VA Illiana Health Care System campus in Danville, Illinois, to the Danville Area Community College.

Authorizing this conveyance would allow the VA to dispose of a vacant building for which it has no intended future use and is costly to maintain.

It would also allow the Department to straighten their property line, subsequently shortening the amount of fencing that is required to secure the safety of the medical center campus.

H.R. 3262 is sponsored by my friend and colleague from Illinois, Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS, and I thank him for his leadership in sponsoring and advancing this legislation.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 3262.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3262 authorizes the VA to convey to the Danville Area Community College of Danville, Illinois, what is known as Building Number 48, which is part of the VA Illiana Health Care System.

In return, the college will convey back to the VA certain lands near the college library building.

We do not have any issues with the legislation, and I urge its passage.

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS).

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, it does take an act of Congress to transfer lands and buildings, and that is kind of what we are doing here today, so I rise in support of this bill.

It is a very simple bill that is going to benefit the VA there in Danville, but also the local community with the Danville Area Community College.

Danville, Illinois, is a small town that has been home to some big names. Dick Van Dyke called Danville home in his childhood. Speaker Joe Cannon, a name we all know in Congress, was from Danville. Today, Danville is home to the VA Illiana Health Care System and the Danville Area Community College, commonly known as DACC.

DACC's president, Dr. Alice Jacobs, is an exceptional leader who has dedicated 45 years to higher education, including the last 16 years leading DACC. She has recently announced her retirement in the coming year, and I thank her for her dedicated service to the students and the community of Danville and wish her the best in the future.

The VA and DACC are an excellent example of how two institutions can work in cooperation to serve our veterans. The location of the VA hospital adjacent to the community college campus allows our veterans returning home to seek their medical care and help with benefits, while the college provides the opportunity for educational and training experiences that can help them transition into civilian life.

However, when the property lines were drawn between these two fine institutions, it wasn't in a straight line. Today, that has created a challenge as the VA explores the option of building a security fence along its boundary. Building that fence along the existing property lines will be more expensive. My bill, H.R. 3262, solves this problem by swapping two small parcels of land that both the VA and DACC have agreed to, creating a straight fence line.

Swapping these parcels is beneficial for the local community as well. In exchange for the land it gives up, DACC will receive a parcel of land with a historic, century-old Carnegie Library. This building has become so deteriorated and expensive to maintain that the VA has stopped using it. Now the building sits vacant while the VA still pays for basic maintenance and utilities. In its testimony to the House Veterans' Affairs Committee's Health Subcommittee, the VA stated that disposing of this building would save an estimated $98,000 over the next 10 years.

Danville and DACC see great potential for the building. Through the generosity of a private donor, DACC plans

to transform the old library into a cultural center, providing the local treasure. Swapping these parcels of land is a win for the VA, saving money on the construction of the fence and maintenance of an unused building, and a win for Danville, providing the community with a historically significant location to host a valuable cultural attraction.

H.R. 3262 is a simple, win-win bill for all parties involved.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman MILLER and Ranking Member BROWN for their support in moving this bill, along with the Veterans' Affairs Committee staff for their work in getting the bill to the floor.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3262.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3262.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Once again, I encourage all Members to support H.R. 3262.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. ABRAHAM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3262.

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.

## 9/11 MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3036) to designate the National September 11 Memorial located at the World Trade Center site in New York City, New York, as a national memorial, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3036

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

***SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.***

*This Act may be cited as the ''9/11 Memorial Act''.*

***SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.***

*For purposes of this Act:*

*(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ''eligible entity'' means a nonprofit organization as defined in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)) in existence on the date of enactment of this Act.*

*(2) MAP.—The term ''map'' means the map titled ''National September 11 Memorial Proposed Boundary'', numbered 903/128928, and dated June 2015.*

*(3) NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL.—The term ''National September 11 Memorial'' means the area approximately bounded by Fulton, Greenwich, Liberty and West Streets as generally depicted on the map.*

*(4) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.*

***SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF MEMORIAL.***

*(a) DESIGNATION.—The National September 11 Memorial is hereby designated as a national memorial.*

*(b) MAP.—The map shall be available for public inspection and kept on file at the appropriate office of the Secretary.*

*(c) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—The national memorial designated under this section shall not be a unit of the National Park System and the designation of the national memorial shall not be construed to require or authorize Federal funds to be expended for any purpose related to the national memorial except as provided under section 4.*

***SEC. 4. COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR CERTAIN MEMORIALS.***

*(a) COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary may award a single grant per year through a competitive process to an eligible entity for the operation and maintenance of any memorial located within the United States established to commemorate the events of and honor—*

*(1) the victims of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and United Airlines Flight 93 on September 11, 2001; and*

*(2) the victims of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on February 26, 1993.*

*(b) AVAILABILITY.—Funds made available under this section shall remain available until expended.*

*(c) CRITERIA.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give greatest weight in the selection of eligible entities using the following criteria:*

*(1) Experience in managing a public memorial that will benefit the largest number of visitors each calendar year.*

*(2) Experience in managing a memorial of significant size (4 acres or more).*

*(3) Successful coordination and cooperation with Federal, State, and local governments in operating and managing the memorial.*

*(4) Ability and commitment to use grant funds to enhance security at the memorial.*

*(5) Ability to use grant funds to increase the numbers of economically disadvantaged visitors to the memorial and surrounding areas.*

*(d) SUMMARIES.—Not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal year in which an eligible entity obligates or expends any part of a grant under this section, the eligible entity shall prepare and submit to the Secretary and Congress a summary that—*

*(1) specifies the amount of grant funds obligated or expended in the preceding fiscal year;*

*(2) specifies the purpose for which the funds were obligated or expended; and*

*(3) includes any other information the Secretary may require to more effectively administer the grant program.*

*(e) SUNSET.—The authority to award grants under this section shall expire on the date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PITTENGER). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MACARTHUR) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days 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 New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I was working in New York City in the fall of 2001 when terrorists tore a hole in our skyline and nearly 3,000 Americans lost their lives. Like many others, I lost people that I knew. For many, they lost their dearest loved ones—their soulmate, mother, father, brother, sister, children, child, friend.

All of us were moved by stories of heroism that followed that event—hundreds of firefighters and police and other first responders who gave their own lives to save others.

In the months that followed, I remember coming around that site every morning as I went to work because I couldn't take the tunnel anymore. It was closed. I would take the ferry from New York to New Jersey. We would come around the tip of Manhattan. Every morning as we passed the World Trade Center site, a hush would fall on that ferry boat, and people would ponder what happened there. That went on as autumn turned into winter and winter turned into spring, month after month, as we watched the seemingly endless restoration of that tragic site.

Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2011—10 years later—the National September 11 Memorial opened. It was erected to remember those who fell, to recognize the endurance of the survivors, to honor the bravery of those who risked their lives, and often lost their lives, to save others, and, above all, to remember the power of our free Nation to overcome evil with good. It stands as a reminder to every generation that we must never forget and we must never falter.

Mr. Speaker, private citizens with deep concern erected that memorial. I applaud them for their good work. But now it is our part to preserve and protect this hallowed ground and to answer this national tragedy with national support. The National 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center Act recognizes this site as a national memorial. It provides for funding for security and operations.

I want to thank the many who have endorsed this bill. Eighty-two Members of this Chamber have cosponsored it. Police organizations have gotten behind it, including the National Association of Police Organizations and the Fraternal Order of Police, veterans organizations, including the Iraq and Afghanistan Vets of America, Governor Chris Christie of New Jersey, Governor Andrew Cuomo of New York, and, most importantly, nearly a dozen family and friend support groups of those that were most deeply impacted by 9/11.

Private donors and concerned citizens have done their part at this site, and they continue to. But now it is our solemn duty, I believe, to honor the fallen and to protect the living.

I urge my colleagues to pass the National 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center Act.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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