

McCloskey was conducting a mounted patrol in Afghanistan when his vehicle was fatally struck by an improvised explosive device, an IED.

I support naming a post office in memory of Sergeant First Class McCloskey, and I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8919. Shawn McCloskey was a member of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group, as an engineer sergeant in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

While serving as an intelligence sergeant, Army Sergeant First Class McCloskey made the ultimate sacrifice on September 16, 2009, when he was killed by enemy forces on his third deployment to Afghanistan.

I urge passage of this legislation, which would honor his legacy and the sacrifice of Sergeant McCloskey and his family by naming a post office after him.

If I could add, Mr. Speaker, I just want to say something about the process by which we adopt post office namings because I am not sure that the whole Congress, much less the public, understands what we do.

This has been, for decades, a bipartisan process where a Member who is seeking to get a post office named after someone in his or her district will go and get the support of every member of that delegation, whether it is the Kentucky delegation, as in the case of the distinguished chairman, or the Maryland delegation in my case, and so on.

Once all the members of that delegation on a bipartisan basis, if it is bipartisan, have signed off, then it comes to our committee. We package them together and bring them to the floor precisely because we don't want it to be a matter of controversy. It should be a unifying thing for us when the beautiful thing occurs of naming a post office after someone.

Alas, we have a problem, and I am hoping that our experienced and talented chairman will help us resolve it. Apparently, in the Texas delegation, there are people who are refusing to sign on to bills on a bipartisan basis, and that is causing a lot of rancor. It is causing a lot of division, and we don't want this whole thing to blow up. We don't want it to be said that this is the first Congress in decades that can't even name a post office after someone.

I would just urge the chairman to work with us to help our colleagues in Texas get to yes and to return to what has been protocol, policy, and custom in the Oversight Committee for the last several decades.

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

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

Before I yield, I might add to what Mr. RASKIN said. There was also a bill that the minority party had that didn't

get all the delegation in his home State of Maryland, but we passed that bill through the committee as well.

I understand what his argument is, but again, both post offices were, I think, of the utmost importance to the sponsors and the majority of each State's delegation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. FERGUSON), who will be greatly missed upon his retirement from this great body.

□ 1400

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 8919, which designates the United States Post Office in Peachtree City, Georgia, as the Sergeant First Class Shawn McCloskey Post Office.

After working in construction since graduating from North Cobb High School, Sergeant First Class McCloskey enlisted in the Army in response to 9/11.

Sergeant First Class McCloskey was killed in action on September 16, 2009. It was during his third deployment in Afghanistan when an IED struck his vehicle. He was conducting a mounted patrol in the Afghan city of Ghur Ghuri in support of operations while serving with Company B, 3rd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant First Class McCloskey earned the title of Green Beret as a Special Forces Engineer Sergeant and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Deployment Ribbon, NATO Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, Special Operations Diver Supervisor Badge, and the Special Forces Tab.

Sergeant First Class McCloskey left behind his wife, Jessica; his two children, Katie and Collin; as well as his parents, Patrick and Kathryn; and many other friends and family.

Although this Nation can never fully repay Sergeant First Class McCloskey for making the ultimate sacrifice, renaming this post office is a solemn tribute to his courageous service and ultimate sacrifice.

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

Mr. Speaker, I restate our strong support for the post office being named after Mr. McCloskey in honor of his service and his sacrifice and in recognition of the sacrifice of his whole family.

I am sorry to intrude on Mr. McCloskey's time here by just returning to the general problem we are having.

I thank the chairman for his remarks, and I thank him also for helping us to pair together a post office favored by a Member of the minority with a post office favored by a Member of the majority, both of whom did not get the complete support of their dele-

gations. We paired them together and we have decided to proceed in a bipartisan way to make that happen.

I am just addressing the general problem that seems to be spinning out of control a little bit where there are Members who are deliberately blocking unanimous consensus within their State, and that is going to create real problems. We don't want it to be a tit-for-tat situation where we have legislative sharpshooters trying to bring down post office namings in someone else's district or someone else's State.

I hope we can sit together and have a meeting and brainstorm about this for the next session because this is, obviously, at the very lowest level of Maslow's hierarchy of legislative need. However, if we can't even get together to do the postal namings as we have done for decades, it doesn't hold a lot of promise for bigger things like the budget, climate change, and so on.

I do hope the chairman will work with us in trying to address both the specific State eruptions that have occurred, and let's hope that we can keep them from spilling outward. That is not any kind of finger-pointing. We have had the problem on both sides, as the chairman knows. Let's just see what we can do to restore what I think has been a very good tradition, custom, and policy for several decades.

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill honoring Sergeant First Class Shawn McCloskey, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8919.

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.

JIMMY AND ROSALYNN CARTER POST OFFICE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9600) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119 Main Street in Plains, Georgia, as the "Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9600

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

SECTION 1. JIMMY AND ROSALYNN CARTER POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119

Main Street in Plains, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter 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 "Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. 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 this suspension.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill which would rename a post office in Plains, Georgia, for Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter.

Jimmy Carter married Rosalynn Carter in 1946. Jimmy Carter served as the Governor of Georgia until 1974 before serving as President of the United States from 1977 to 1981.

During their time in the White House, Mrs. Carter worked tirelessly to assist refugees escaping Cambodia's genocide and was a strong proponent for mental health.

I might add, Mr. Speaker, I may not have agreed with all of President Carter's policies. From a historical standpoint, I was a very young boy when he was President. I have always been a fan of the Carter family, their great Christianity and their great support for Habitat for Humanity, and I believe that President Carter will go down in history as one of the greatest former Presidents in the United States of America.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in very strong support of H.R. 9600.

President Carter was a great patriot, a great humanitarian, and a great citizen. He, of course, was a member of the Georgia State Senate. He wrote a beautiful book about his rise in politics. He was the Governor of Georgia, and he is, at 100 years old, I think our longest lived President that we ever had.

He did remarkable things in office, and he did remarkable things when leaving office. His wife, Rosalynn Carter, was an extraordinary first lady, beloved by our whole country. We are going to urge passage of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP)

for any remarks he may have on this occasion.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise as the sponsor of H.R. 9600, legislation to designate the United States Postal facility in Plains, Georgia, as the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Post Office.

President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter dedicated their lives in service to their community, their country, and the world. Together they rose to the greatest heights, supporting and cherishing one another along the way as they helped people across Georgia, America, and across the globe.

Yet, no matter where they went, they remained grounded and humble, and Plains always remained home in their hearts.

Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter both grew up in Plains and attended Plains High School. They married in 1946 and would go on to spend 77 cherished years together until Mrs. Carter's passing in November of 2023.

President Carter graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1946 and was an Active-Duty servicemember for 7 years. Following the death of his father, Jimmy took over the family's struggling peanut farm, quickly turning its fortunes around with Rosalynn's help and support every step of the way.

Wanting to be more involved in the local Plains community, Jimmy began advocating for racial integration at his church. He ran and won a seat on the Sumter County School Board and served as its chairman for 2 years.

In 1962, Jimmy Carter decided to run for the Georgia State Senate where he would go on to serve two terms.

In 1970, Senator Jimmy Carter launched his campaign for Governor, and Rosalynn took a leading role on the campaign trail.

Following Jimmy Carter's election as Governor, Mrs. Carter served as Georgia's first lady from 1971 to 1975, where she would take on the role of her husband's most trusted adviser and confidante.

In his inaugural address as Governor, he famously declared that the time for racial discrimination is over.

Mrs. Carter made her own mark in public policy, serving on the Governor's Commission to Improve Services for the Mentally and Emotionally Handicapped.

Governor Jimmy Carter completed his term in January of 1975. Prior to moving back to Plains from Atlanta, Governor Carter had already announced his intention to make what would become his successful run for the Presidency of the United States in the 1976 election.

As President, Jimmy Carter showed great success in international affairs, delivering the Camp David Accords, Panama Canal Treaties, SALT II Treaty, and the establishment of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China.

He also delivered on his domestic agenda, signing legislation to establish the United States Department of Education, expanding the Head Start program, successfully making America less dependent on foreign energy, and protecting millions of acres of public lands for future generations.

As an equal partner to her husband, Rosalynn Carter attended many Cabinet meetings and attended weekly business meetings with President Carter where she could draw his attention to the policy issues of the day.

In 1977, President Carter appointed Rosalynn the honorary chair of the President's Commission on Mental Health. Thanks to her advocacy and testimony before the United States Senate, the Congress passed the Mental Health Systems Act when it was signed into law by President Carter on October 7, 1980.

Following the Carters' loss in the 1980 Presidential election, Jimmy and Rosalynn continued their ministry of service after their time in the White House with the same vigor and urgency, becoming heavily involved in Habitat for Humanity.

In 1982, they founded The Carter Center, a nonprofit human rights organization, which has since become famous for its work eradicating disease, strengthening democracies, and alleviating human suffering all around the world.

In 1999, Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter were jointly awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian honor, by President Bill Clinton, and in 2002, President Carter received the Nobel Peace Prize for decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflict, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development.

On a personal note, it has been a privilege to call Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter my friends and fellow southwest Georgians for over five decades. I will always cherish their friendship, as well as their sage counsel and advice which has been invaluable to me as I have served in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to support H.R. 9600, legislation to designate the U.S. Postal facility in Plains, Georgia, as the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Post Office. This is a small but meaningful gesture we can make to honor two dedicated servant leaders who spent their lives working on behalf of others.

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

I thank Representative BISHOP for those beautiful and eloquent words. I am not sure in the extraordinary encyclopedia of President Carter's accomplishments if the gentleman from Georgia had a chance to mention his work with Habitat for Humanity, but I got a chance to work on a Habitat for Humanity project once with President Carter, and that is an indelible experience in my mind.

He is someone who operated with great compassion, as Lincoln said: "With malice toward none; with charity for all."

I thank the gentleman for doing this.

That will be an amazing post office for people to be able to go to, and people will be able to travel there with pride.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill to designate a post office for Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter, two people who lived a purpose-driven life that is a model for Americans. They have done a lot for the community of Plains, Georgia, as well as all across America and the world for that matter.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this 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 Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9600.

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. COMER. 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 motion will be postponed.

□ 1415

BENJAMIN BERELL FERENCZ POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6116) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14280 South Military Trail in Delray Beach, Florida, as the "Benjamin Berell Ferencz Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6116

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

SECTION 1. BENJAMIN BERELL FERENCZ POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14280 South Military Trail in Delray Beach, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Benjamin Berell Ferencz 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 "Benjamin Berell Ferencz Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. 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 this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, which would rename a post office in Delray Beach, Florida, for Benjamin Berell Ferencz.

Benjamin Ferencz was an American lawyer and investigator of Nazi war crimes following World War II. He served as the chief prosecutor of the United States Army at the Einsatzgruppen Nuremberg trials. I encourage my colleagues to support the renaming of the post office after Benjamin Berell Ferencz.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in very strong support and great pride in this legislation, H.R. 6116.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL) for any remarks she may have.

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair and ranking member for their help in bringing this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise with immense pride to support my bill to name a post office in Delray Beach, Florida, after Benjamin Berell Ferencz, a Congressional Gold Medal recipient, a man whose life was a master class in courage, justice, and humanity.

I am deeply honored to say that Mr. Ferencz was my constituent, who enjoyed the latter years of his life in a vibrant community of retirees called Kings Point, where he was not only a neighbor, but an inspiration to those who knew him.

The post office is situated in the very community where Mr. Ferencz and his neighbors lived, and it will stand as a daily reminder of his incredible life and legacy and bring much pride to the community.

Mr. Ferencz' story is extraordinary. He was the last living Nuremberg prosecutor when he passed away at the remarkable age of 103.

During World War II, Mr. Ferencz served in an antiaircraft military unit in the U.S. Army before being assigned to gather evidence of Nazi crimes. That assignment led him to witness firsthand the horrors of the concentration camp, where millions of Jews and others were systematically murdered. He later described that experience as having peered into hell.

At just 27 years old, with remarkable courage and resolve, Ben served as the

chief prosecutor in one of the Nuremberg trials, what scholars have called the biggest murder trial in history. It was his first case as a lawyer, and he successfully prosecuted 22 high-ranking Nazi officials responsible for the deaths of over 1 million people.

His work set a global standard for justice and accountability and made clear that even the most powerful perpetrators of evil would face consequences.

His fight for justice did not end in the courtroom. For the rest of his life, he was a tireless advocate for global peace, for human rights, and the rule of law. He believed in building a better and more compassionate world where atrocities would never happen again.

Now more than ever, Mr. Speaker, his legacy calls to us because anti-Semitism is on the rise, with 2023 marking the highest recorded incidences in U.S. history.

The Jewish people and, indeed, all who value justice and tolerance are facing growing threats. Mr. Ferencz warned us that creating a world of tolerance and compassion would be a long and arduous task, and that task remains unfinished.

By naming this post office after Mr. Ferencz, we honor not only the man, but also the principles he dedicated his life to: justice, dignity, and the fight against hatred and division. It is a reminder for all of us to stand against the forces of hate and division and recommit to building a future defined by justice and humanity.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL) for bringing this forward.

Mr. Ferencz was, indeed, a great lawyer, a great humanitarian, and a great defender of freedom and democracy. We are proud to be able to push this legislation forward.

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING).

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), my friend, for yielding time to me.

I also thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL), my good friend, for her efforts to recognize the hard work and dedication of Benjamin Ferencz by naming a post office in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, in the wake of World War II and the Holocaust, Mr. Ferencz bravely prosecuted Nazis during the Nuremberg trials. Mr. Ferencz' family fled Jewish persecution in Romania and immigrated to the United States when he was just a baby.

He later studied law and joined the U.S. Army. Through his military service and his tireless pursuit of justice at the Nuremberg trials, he proved himself to be a true American patriot.