

Then they took a large number of men hostage in order to guarantee the docility of their families at the time of deportation. Approximately three-quarters of the total Acadian population was deported. Some were sent to England, others to France, and still others to the area that was to become Louisiana.

During the campaign against the Acadians, property was plundered, communities were torched, lands were seized, and thousands of Acadian lives were claimed.

□ 1445

Over several generations after the Great Upheaval, the presence of Acadians in Louisiana grew, and their descendants helped to form the nucleus of Louisiana's Cajun life and culture.

On December 9, 2003, Queen Elizabeth II issued a proclamation that acknowledged the suffering experienced by the Acadian people during the Great Upheaval and designated July 28 as "A Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval."

H. Res. 294 supports the goals of the proclamation. It also points out how our country has grown and developed and how many of the prejudices that at one time people held have begun, in a serious way, to have diminished. Anybody who has ever visited Louisiana or knows anything about Louisiana knows that the Acadian population is an integral part of the life, the culture, and of the development in the State of Louisiana. So I am proud to support this resolution. I urge its passage.

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY), the author of the bill.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) for yielding me time, and I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his eloquent comments today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 294, supporting the goals of "A Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval." This resolution recognizes the importance of the Acadian people to Louisiana and is intended to celebrate their contributions to my State of Louisiana and this country.

During the Acadian deportation of 1755, approximately 14,000 men, women and children were expelled from Nova Scotia. Some returned to France, but most wound up scattered throughout the American colonies. Many sailed through to the French colony of Louisiana, where, over the centuries, they have established their own unique French-Acadian or Cajun culture. It is now estimated that there are over 450,000 Acadian descendants in Louisiana alone.

Cajun means many things to many people. While not all Cajuns have Acadian ancestry, a shared heritage, the legacy of the expulsion, and the main-

tenance of a language and culture distinct from other Americans define the Cajuns as a distinct ethnic group.

Cajun French is a unique dialect of the French language. It is still spoken throughout the Acadiana region of Louisiana, although the number of people who speak Cajun has declined dramatically over the past 50 years. For many years it was considered a distortion of the French language; however, recently it was discovered that a number of Cajuns served as French interpreters for American forces in France during World War II, and their importance has been recognized.

It is difficult to summarize Cajun cuisine and music. I guess you could say we like them both hot and spicy. Gumbo, jambalaya, and etouffee can be found in restaurants throughout the country. Cajun music and its cousin zydeco influenced country music and early rock and roll. Their mark on American music can still be heard on popular radio today.

Cajuns have had an impact on virtually every aspect of American life. Just some examples I will give you, national recording artist Wayne Toups, who has traveled internationally; Super Bowl quarterback of the NFL's Carolina Panthers, Jake Delhomme; painter and creator of the world-famous "Blue Dog," George Rodrigue; Grammy Award-winning artist Michael Doucet of the band Beausoleil; the 13th Commandant of the United States Marine Corps John Archer LeJeune; Cy Young Award winner and New York Yankee Ron Guidry; and last but not least, 12-term Congressman and former chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, our colleague Billy Tauzin. We all remember Billy. He was famous for his keen wit, but also his great jokes, his great Boudreau and Thibodeau jokes.

So from music to sports, from the military to the United States Congress, Cajuns have left their mark on American culture.

In an effort to preserve the Cajun language and culture, the Louisiana State Legislature created the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana, or CODOFIL, in 1968. This organization is committed to the development, utilization and preservation of the French language as found in Louisiana for the cultural benefit of the State. It is to this end that Mr. Warren Perrin, a constituent of mine, has committed years of toil and time to make this day of commemoration a reality. The people of Acadiana and all of Louisiana are grateful to Mr. Perrin for his efforts to preserve and expand the Cajun heritage in Louisiana.

On December 9, 2003, Queen Elizabeth II set July 28 by royal proclamation as a Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval to recognize the struggles of these Cajuns who left Nova Scotia. In 2004, the Louisiana Legislature declared Acadian Heritage Week to be the third week in September and urged schools to teach children about their

Acadian heritage, history and culture. And the story of the Acadian people should be commemorated and celebrated because of their impact upon American history and society.

This resolution would serve that end by supporting the goals of Acadian Heritage Week and "A Day of Commemoration of the Great Upheaval." I urge colleagues on both sides of the aisle to pass this resolution.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KOLBE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 294.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PAUL KASTEN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2977) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 306 2nd Avenue in Brockway, Montana, as the "Paul Kasten Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2977

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

SECTION 1. PAUL KASTEN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 306 2nd Avenue in Brockway, Montana, shall be known and designated as the "Paul Kasten 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 "Paul Kasten Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2977, introduced by the distinguished gentleman and colleague and classmate of mine, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. REHBERG), would name the post office in Brockway, Montana, as the "Paul Kasten Post Office Building." The bill honors rural mail carrier Paul Kasten for his more than five decades of dependable work in the Postal Service.

Mr. Kasten began his postal career in 1947. Believe it or not, in the early years he delivered the mail on horseback. After his lengthy career, Kasten retired earlier this year at the age of

86. He is a credit to the tremendous work performed by the entire Postal Service. That is why we are so pleased to see the House is considering an appropriate honor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana (Mr. REHBERG) for his work, and I ask that this postal naming be approved on behalf of Paul Kasten.

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 Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H.R. 2977, legislation designating a postal facility in Brockway, Montana, after Paul Kasten. This measure was introduced by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. REHBERG) on July 17, 2005.

A rural letter carrier, Mr. Kasten retired this spring at the young age of 86, after delivering mail for over 50 years. He began his career delivering mail on horseback, covering miles and miles of roads in Montana.

Mr. Speaker, it always gives me such pleasure when we recognize the contributions of postal workers by dedicating a facility in their honor, and I could think of no better way to honor the more than 50 years of service given by Mr. Kasten than to name a postal facility in his honor.

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

Mr. ISSA. 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 California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2977.

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. ISSA. 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 motion will be postponed.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2894) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 102 South Walters Avenue in Hodgenville, Kentucky, as the "Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2894

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

SECTION 1. ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 102

South Walters Avenue in Hodgenville, Kentucky, shall be known and designated as the "Abraham Lincoln Birthplace 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 "Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

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

Mr. Speaker, it would be nearly impossible to pay sufficient homage to President Abraham Lincoln, our sixteenth President of the United States. President Lincoln was a man whose convictions enabled the emancipation of thousands from slavery and led to the preservation of the Union, which allowed our United States to develop into a strong and free Nation that it is today.

In our efforts to commend these and other contributions, it should be recognized that Lincoln's greatness extended far beyond the reaches of his Presidency. Today, however, through the consideration of this legislation, H.R. 2894, we focus on the humble origins that produced for us this great President. Considered by many to be our greatest President, we are designating Abraham Lincoln's Birthplace Post Office Building, for it was in Kentucky that he was born on February 12, 1809, in a log cabin near Hardin County, Kentucky. During his childhood, Lincoln's determined spirited led him to covet education and to develop an insatiable appetite for reading and learning.

Undoubtedly as a result, Lincoln's incredible oratorical capacity strengthened his political influence throughout his life. He effectively appealed to the Nation in such unforgettable speeches as the Gettysburg Address, the Second Inaugural Address, and the famous "House Divided" speech. He truly used his verbal skills to his fullest advantage.

As I am sure the distinguished sponsor of H.R. 2894 would assert, Lincoln's characteristic determination embodied the hard-nosed and ambitious attitude with which Kentuckians as he are often associated. His labors to free the slaves and preserve the Union positively impacted our Nation to an extent that cannot be overstated.

Again, we have often looked at President Lincoln as our greatest President. We have often honored him. But I think it is particularly important to recognize that H.R. 2894 speaks not to the State from which he heralded at the time of his election, not about the end of his life, but Kentucky, the place of the origin and the roots of his life.

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, I am pleased to join with my colleague in consideration of H.R. 2894, and I want to commend the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. LEWIS) for introducing this legislation.

Although Abraham Lincoln was indeed born in Kentucky, he did, in fact, ultimately move to Illinois. And those of us who live in Illinois, we often regard him as perhaps our greatest citizen, one who emerged from very humble beginnings, was somewhat of a non-traditionalist, but ultimately became President of the United States.

□ 1500

And then after becoming President of the United States had the courage to take some very decisive action when there was opposition swirling all around him. So I commend the gentleman from Kentucky for naming a postal facility in Hodgenville.

I was always a great Abraham Lincoln fan. As a matter of fact, when I was a small boy, my mother used to tell me stories about Abraham Lincoln, and she would read to us from books about Abraham Lincoln as a way of expressing to us that it was not always a matter of where you came from but of tentimes it could be a matter of where you were going.

So, again, I commend the gentleman for recognizing and honoring the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln with the naming of a postal facility in his honor.

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. LEWIS), the author of the bill, and just note that I feel I am on the path between Kentucky and Illinois here, with my own birthplace being Ohio.

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2894, a resolution to designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 102 South Walters Avenue in Hodgenville, Kentucky, as the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Post Office Building.

Hodgenville, Kentucky, is the birthplace and childhood home of our 16th President, one of the most influential figures in American history. Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809, in a one-room log cabin at the Sinking Spring Farm in what is now LaRue County, Kentucky. His family lived at Sinking Spring Farm for 2½ years before moving 10 miles away to Knob Creek Farm.

Of his birth and childhood, Lincoln wrote: "I was born on February 12, 1809, in then Hardin County, Kentucky, at a point within the now county of LaRue, a mile or mile and a half from where Hodgen's Mill now is. It was a wild region, with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods. There I grew up."