

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 1526, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Israel Road Southeast in Tumwater, Washington, as the "Eva G. Hewitt Post Office."

Eva Hewitt was not just a business woman and postmaster, but she was often described as the heart and soul of Tumwater.

With her husband, Charles Hewitt, Eva established the Hewitt Drug Store which housed the Tumwater Post Office. Eva Hewitt started as an assistant, and later assumed the role of postmaster in 1915. Following the death of her husband in 1927, Eva Hewitt took over business operations of the drugstore with the help of her daughter, Laura.

Eva would continue to serve as postmaster until 1942. At the time, Eva Hewitt was the longest serving postmaster in Tumwater, where she oversaw a massive growth in the volume of mail in the Pacific Northwest.

Eva Hewitt also was a community leader and was widely regarded as Tumwater's local historian. She was also active in the Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington and was the namesake of the Eva Hewitt Orthopedic Guild. The Hewitt Drug Store was eventually demolished for the construction of Interstate 5.

Naming a post office to honor Ms. Hewitt's public service would help ensure that her pivotal legacy to her home of Tumwater, Washington, lives on.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1526 introduced by Representative HECK. The bill names a post office located in Tumwater, Washington, after Eva Hewitt.

Eva Hewitt was Tumwater's first female postmaster. Before becoming postmaster, Eva and her husband owned and operated a drugstore in the small town they called home. The drugstore housed the Tumwater Post Office, and Eva started working there as an assistant.

In 1915 she assumed the role of postmaster and served there nearly three decades. Following the death of her husband in 1927, Eva took over the family business and served in both positions until her retirement in 1942.

Often described as the heart and soul of Tumwater, Eva was a community leader and a local historian. She spent her free time researching, preserving, and educating the public on the history of the Pacific Northwest.

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

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. HECK), who is the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. HECK. Madam Speaker, today indeed I do rise in strong support of H.R. 1526, a bill to honor the life and legacy of Eva G. Hewitt by renaming the Post Office in Tumwater, Washington, in her honor.

A few blocks from where we stand today is the Smithsonian Postal Museum, a museum that preserves and promotes postal history from every era. In it you can read about the rural letter carriers. This is personal with me. As it turns out, my grandfather was a rural postal delivery member of the post office from 1905 to 1944. Out of Henrietta, Texas, he for many years delivered the mail on horseback. One of the biggest days of his life was when he got a Model T. He, in fact, delivered letters right up to the day he died in 1944. You can read about him and a lot of other people in the museum.

Most notably you can learn about the women trailblazers who built the postal service into what it is today, women like Sarah DeCrow who in 1792 became the very first woman postmaster; or Ethel Hill, who in 1900 became the first woman listed as a full-time rural delivery carrier.

This year, in celebration of the city of Tumwater's 150th anniversary—they call that the sesquicentennial—they are sharing many of the stories there about their own women trailblazers, women like Eva G. Hewitt. She was indeed Tumwater's first woman postmaster during a very pivotal time in Tumwater's history. So it is fitting to rename the post office for her.

In 1893 she and her husband, Charles, purchased that drugstore alluded to earlier right in the heart of Tumwater, and their drugstore became known as Hewitt Drug Store. It was the center of the community, and it housed a store and, yes, a soda fountain, and the post office, all under one roof.

She started as an assistant there, but—get this—prior to that time her husband was the postmaster, but it turns out when the Postal Service adopted civil service rules, she and her husband both took the examination. And guess what?

She passed; he didn't; she became the postmaster in 1915. It sounds like something that would happen in my home.

So following the death of her husband in 1927, she took over the business and served there until her retirement in 1942. She was the very first person to hold the position of Tumwater postmaster. At the time of her retirement she was also the longest serving postmaster in that city's history which dates back to 1824.

During her decades at the store, she saw a massive growth in mail volume throughout the Pacific Northwest. As a matter of fact, she once remarked that the volume at the Tumwater Post Office in terms of monthly mail in 1942

was equivalent to annual mail at the turn of the century.

Yes, indeed, the store was torn down and the post office was torn down to help make way for Interstate 5, the main arterial between Canada and Mexico that runs throughout the West Coast.

Although the drugstore may be gone, her legacy isn't. As postmaster, as business woman, and as community member, it lives on. So I was delighted when the city approached me about this long overdue recognition for Eva. Very few post offices, let us note, are named for women, much less the women who carried out the mission of the Postal Service.

In fact, take note, of the 823 post offices that have been renamed, only 98 of them have been renamed for women—less than 12 percent. We have got a parity issue here, Madam Speaker. That is why I am even more than proud to introduce and support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Olympia Tumwater Foundation for helping to tell Eva's story. I thank the city of Tumwater for sharing her story with our community. And I want to thank all the members of my delegation who joined in to cosponsor this. Eva has earned her place in the South Sound history books that she helped write.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to support this bill to rename the Tumwater Post Office in her honor, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Washington for his comments and also encourage all of the Members to support this bill.

Madam 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. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1526.

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.

CORPORAL ALEX MARTINEZ MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1844) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 66 Grove Court in Elgin, Illinois, as the "Corporal Alex Martinez Memorial Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1844

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

SECTION 1. CORPORAL ALEX MARTINEZ MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 66 Grove Court in Elgin, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the “Corporal Alex Martinez Memorial 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 “Corporal Alex Martinez Memorial Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 1844, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 66 Grove Court in Elgin, Illinois, as the Corporal Alex Martinez Memorial Post Office Building.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY).

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA).

Madam Speaker, I would like to rise in support of my own legislation, H.R. 1844, to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 66 Grove Court in Elgin, Illinois, as the Corporal Alex Martinez Memorial Post Office Building.

Corporal Alex Martinez, a lifelong Elgin resident, wanted to join the Marine Corps since he was a little boy. From a young age, he yearned to follow in the footsteps of his father, Enrique Martinez, who was a longtime Navy reservist, and an aunt who served in the Army.

As a senior in high school, with his whole life ahead of him, he decided to follow his dreams. He surprised his friends and family by attending summer school to graduate early, enlist in the Marine Corps, and marry his high school sweetheart, Juliana Martinez, at the age of 18.

After graduation from basic training, Corporal Martinez was assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, One Marine Expeditionary Force, where he excelled as a combat engineer. In this role, he had the dangerous but crucial responsi-

bility to guide ground forces away from life-threatening obstacles, such as lethal improvised explosive devices.

In his second deployment on April 5, 2012, a unit that Corporal Martinez was guiding began receiving enemy fire. Despite facing an immediate threat to his own life, he continued to calmly and systematically clear lanes for marines to maneuver against the enemy.

Tragically, Corporal Martinez was killed after an explosive device detonated in Helmand province. In that moment, Alex Martinez became the first and only Elgin native to fall in combat since the terror attacks on September 11.

While in Afghanistan, Corporal Martinez would tell his loved ones his plans to start a family and to continue his selfless service by becoming a fireman or a police officer. But as a consequence of his sacrifices to this great Nation and the people who inhabit it, he never could pursue those dreams.

Madam Speaker, you and I and the many Members of this Chamber are fortunate to live in a diverse nation with innumerable freedoms, but we can only enjoy these freedoms and the peace and prosperity that accompany them because of the sacrifices made by Corporal Martinez and the millions of men and women who dedicate their lives to defend our democracy.

To honor Corporal Martinez’s honorable sacrifices to this country, to recognize the sacrifice of his loved ones, and to express solidarity with all servicemembers and veterans in the United States, I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1844.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1844, introduced by Representative KRISHNAMOORTHY. This bill names the post office located in Elgin, Illinois, in honor of Marine Corporal Alex Martinez.

Alex Martinez knew he was destined for public service since he was a little boy. He had a two-phased plan. First, he would join the military, following in his father’s footsteps. Then, upon retirement, he would continue in public service as a police officer or firefighter.

Shortly after high school, Alex joined the United States Marine Corps, filling step one of his boyhood dream. After boot camp, he was assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division.

Corporal Martinez was deployed twice to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. On April 5, 2012, Corporal Martinez was conducting combat operations in the Helmand province of Afghanistan and was killed after an explosive device detonated.

While Corporal Martinez’s life of service was tragically cut short, his sacrifice and bravery will not be forgotten. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers.

I urge all of my colleagues to support 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 California (Mr. ROUDA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1844.

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.

RYAN KEITH COX POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3305) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2509 George Mason Drive in Virginia Beach, Virginia, as the “Ryan Keith Cox Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3305

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

SECTION 1. RYAN KEITH COX POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2509 George Mason Drive in Virginia Beach, Virginia, shall be known and designated as the “Ryan Keith Cox 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 “Ryan Keith Cox Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROUDA) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROUDA. Madam 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 California?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 3305, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2509 George Mason Drive in Virginia Beach, Virginia, as the Ryan Keith Cox Post Office Building.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. LURIA) to further explain her bill.

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and heroic actions of Ryan Keith Cox.

On May 31, the year’s largest mass shooting in America struck in our Virginia Beach community. Keith was