

Gorda, Florida as the U.S. Cleveland Post Office Building. All members of the Florida delegation have co-sponsored this legislation.

Ulysses Samuel Cleveland was born September 7, 1919, in Boca Grande, Florida, to Cleve and Jean Cleveland. At the age of 2, Cleveland moved to Charlotte County's Punta Gorda with his family, the town that he would later dedicate a lifetime to preserving its history.

In 1941, U.S. Cleveland was drafted and was later commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He oversaw 20 radio crews with the 3103 Signal Service Battalion. He was a part of the secret disinformation campaign that misled the Nazis and helped contribute to the success of the Normandy invasion. Mr. Cleveland and his unit were credited by Supreme Commander General Dwight Eisenhower with saving the D-Day landing.

After World War II, Cleveland returned to Punta Gorda and became the assistant postmaster. He worked for the U.S. Post Office for nearly four decades. During that time he devoted much of his life to archiving old photos, newspaper clippings, and all kinds of Charlotte County records. With all of his historical records he co-authored two volumes of local history entitled "Our Fascinating Past."

Besides being a well-known historian, U.S. Cleveland also dedicated much of his time to various charities within the community. He produced monthly newsletters for the American Legion Post in Punta Gorda and provided and managed sound systems for various community events, including the Florida International Air Show. He was also the treasurer for the Punta Gorda Historical Society, historian for the Kiwanis Club, and a charter member of the Punta Gorda and Charlotte County Historic Preservation boards.

Although U.S. Cleveland passed away this year at the age of 85, his legacy of public service lives on in Charlotte County, Florida. His vast historic collection, now in storage, will be added to by his fellow historians in time to come. I urge all members to join me in honoring this fine man and his quest to preserve the history of his hometown of Punta Gorda, Florida.

Madam Speaker, I support H.R. 3830, and I salute the sponsor, the gentleman from Florida, for his work on this measure.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

As a member of the House Government Reform Committee, I am pleased to join with my colleague, the chairman of our subcommittee, the gentleman from Nevada, in consideration of H.R. 3830, legislation naming the postal facility in Punta Gorda, Florida, after the late Ulysses Samuel Cleveland. This measure, which was introduced by Representative MARK FOLEY

on September 20, 2005, and unanimously reported by our committee on September 29, 2005, enjoys the support and co-sponsorship of the entire Florida delegation.

Mr. Cleveland, or U.S. as he liked to be called, was a native of Punta Gorda, Florida. After serving in the Army, he returned to his hometown where he became the assistant postmaster for Charlotte County. Mr. Cleveland later became the historian for the Punta Gorda Kiwanis Club and charter member for the Punta Gorda and Charlotte County Historic Preservation boards, authoring books on local history.

Unfortunately, his home was destroyed during Hurricane Charley in August of 2004. He lost his collection of photographs and historical artifacts. U.S. Cleveland passed away on April 22, 2005, a great citizen, a great historian, a person who is deserving of this honor. I commend my colleague for naming the post after the late Ulysses Samuel Cleveland, and I urge swift passage of this bill.

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

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY).

Mr. FOLEY. Madam Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from Nevada and thank the gentleman from Illinois for their kind introduction of our good friend and dear former citizen and resident, Ulysses Samuel Cleveland. Many of those listening to the testimony may recognize the name and they are struggling to remember where they heard the term Punta Gorda, Florida; but I can tell you August 13 was a startling day in Punta Gorda when Hurricane Charley approached landfall and did significant damage to our constituents. U.S. Cleveland was one of those who suffered the loss of his home. He was in the process of rehabilitating it and retrofitting it, because one of the unique features of U.S. was the fact that he made a lifetime commitment out of caring for his son Dallas who has Down's Syndrome from birth.

So not only was he a native of the region, not only was he a veteran of our Nation, not only was he the assistant postmaster of our community, not only had he spent 83 long years as an active member of our community. He also showed the full measure of devotion to the children, his own particularly, who had been brought into this world with a challenge, a challenge so many other families face.

This past weekend I happened to be in Palm Beach County where they were having the Down's Syndrome Walk, families celebrating the lives of their children who have been challenged, but with the support and strength of their family they have been able to overcome that adversity. U.S. was a father and a principled citizen who gave his devotion to both family, community, and always above self, which was the hallmark of American patriots.

It was noted that Supreme Commander General Dwight Eisenhower credited his unit with saving the D-Day landing at Normandy. We mentioned him coming back home. One of the great things about Florida, and of course it is a State now with 16 million people, but the year of his birth there were very few. Florida was an emerging little area in the south of the United States, and our population was not what it is near today, and certainly he was part of that beautiful community, Punta Gorda, in Charlotte County.

And so today we do rise as we do so often to commend the life's work of citizens who are deserving of this high honor. We do not name post offices after everyone, and it is not always the fact that they may have been postal employees. But this significance to Mr. Cleveland was the fact of his devotion to family, devotion to community, devotion to Nation, and of course being a historian for Punta Gorda.

Those in southwest Florida know this beautiful community of ours, and they know full well of his devotion to that community. By cataloging the photos of early days, he was able to, as was mentioned, co-author two volumes of a local history book called "Our Fascinating Past." These are the hallmarks of a great and giant man.

Unfortunately, he passed away this spring due to complications from pneumonia. He was married to Yvonne Cleveland who preceded him in death, and he is survived by three sons, Max, Keith, and Dallas.

I thank the members of the committee, my colleagues, for allowing us to present this bill to the floor and for their expedition in bringing it to the floor. I would like to thank my district director, Dick Keene, who lives in the Punta Gorda area for his work on this bill and also Jeffrey Ostermayer for helping us bring about this tribute to a fine American. I would like to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), the chairman of the committee, for bringing this bill to the House floor so quickly.

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3830.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WILLIE VAUGHN POST OFFICE

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3853) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 208 South Main Street in Parkdale, Arkansas, as the Willie Vaughn Post Office.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3853

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

SECTION 1. WILLIE VAUGHN POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 208 South Main Street in Parkdale, Arkansas, shall be known and designated as the “Willie Vaughn 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 “Willie Vaughn Post Office”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PORTER. Madam 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. 3853.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 3853, introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. ROSS). This bill will designate this post office in Parkdale, Arkansas, as the Willie Vaughn Post Office Building.

Willie Vaughn was born in 1904 in Thomasville, Alabama. He later moved to the State of Arkansas where he spent the better part of his life. Although Mr. Vaughn has little formal education, his dedication and perseverance in bettering his community earned him the undying respect and admiration of his peers. As a farmer who raised hogs, chickens, and cattle, he provided for his family, as well as anyone in need. He was always willing to lend a hand whether it be listening to and counseling members of the community or helping grieving friends plan funerals.

Mr. Vaughn was active in his local church and held various positions within the congregation. As a delegate to the 1945 CME convention, he led the church from the Colored Methodist Church to the Christian Methodist Church. At 101 years of age, Willie Vaughn has experienced life-changing periods such as segregation, reconstruction, the stock market crash, the Great Depression, the civil rights movement, and much more. He is truly a man that has contributed to his community by his commitment to humanity and family and has become an icon in Parkdale, Arkansas. I urge all Members to come together and honor the life of this dedicated humanitarian.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Chicago for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3853, legislation which would designate the postal facility in Parkdale, Arkansas, which is located in Arkansas' Fourth Congressional District, the “Willie Vaughn Post Office.” This bill has the unanimous support of the Parkdale City Council and its mayor, and I would like to personally thank them for their help with this: Mayor Glenda Wells, and to the City Council, Louis Mitchell, Mark Hawkins, Paula Files, and Evora Parker.

Willie Vaughn, known to friends and family as “Uncle Dude,” spent most of his life giving back to this small town located near the Ashley and Chicot County line in southeast Arkansas, just a few miles north of Louisiana. Mr. Vaughn is an active member of his local church, helping not only to build the church but also serving in many leadership positions over the years.

I can think of no person more deserving of this prestigious honor than Willie Vaughn. Mr. Vaughn embodies the definition of “giving back to your community.” At 101 years of age, Mr. Vaughn has spent a lifetime, or one might say over a century, working to improve Parkdale through dedication to the CME Church, as a civil rights leader working to remove racial barriers, lending an ear to friends and family throughout the community, throughout southeast Arkansas, and, yes, throughout America. He did so as a school bus driver, as a farmer, as a devoted husband and father. It is evident that Mr. Vaughn's commitment and dedication to his church, to civil justice, and to community service has made a lasting impact on the Parkdale community and its people.

Willie Vaughn has served as a role model to many young people who grew up in this small town of 377 people, people like the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), who now resides in Chicago but grew up in Parkdale, people like the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), who have gone on to do great things all across America because of the way their lives were shaped and influenced by Mr. Willie Vaughn.

The Willie Vaughn Post Office will stand for decades and generations to come as a testament to Mr. Vaughn's life and the influence, the impact he has made on so many people from all across this great country that spent a little bit of time growing up in that southeast Arkansas community that we call the town of Parkdale.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution to rename the U.S. Post Office in Parkdale, Arkansas the Willie Vaughn Post Office, and I want to first express my heartfelt appreciation to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. ROSS) for sponsoring this renaming legislation. I also want to thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BERRY), the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER) for their cosponsorships. It is also my pleasure to extend thanks to the honorable mayor and members of the Parkdale Arkansas City Council for their concurrence in the renaming of their town's post office: Ms. Glenda Wells, mayor; Louis Mitchell, alderman; Mark Hawkins, alderman; Paula Files, alderman; and Evora Parker, all whose families I knew and in some instances grew up with.

Madam Speaker, I stand here this afternoon with a tremendous amount of pride in being able to participate in passing this legislation.

First of all, I was born and grew up in Parkdale, Arkansas and lived there until I graduated from college. The man for whom we are renaming this post office, Mr. Willie Vaughn, whom we fondly called Uncle Dude and who is now 101 years old, was one of my primary mentors and role models and the most outstanding African American figure in that area for many years. Uncle Dude, who technically was not my uncle, he and my mother were stepbrothers, as they would be called, and sisters because their parents got married after his father's wife had died, and yet our families blended so close together until we were much closer than many blood relatives. As a matter of fact, as a result of the blending, my mother ended up with about 25 brothers and sisters.

In addition, Uncle Dude and my father were close associates and the best of friends, and I spent many a Sunday afternoon in their home eating Aunt L.C.'s famous egg pies.

Uncle Dude never had much formal education. My cousin Cora said that he finished the second grade, and yet he has always been one of the smartest and wisest persons that I have ever known. He had what we call a degree in CSTA; that is, common sense, talent, and ambition.

Legend of Folklore has it that Willie as a little boy did not take kindly to farm work, did not practice it, and did not act as though he wanted to learn. Therefore, he was called “Dude” and it stuck. However, Mr. Vaughn became self-taught and in many ways self-educated. He could do almost anything on and off the farm. He, like most of his peers, was a sharecropper, but he also owned the molasses mill and made syrup. He was a tailor and measured me for my first tailored suit, which another uncle of mine sent to me from St. Louis when I was graduating from elementary school, and, I might add, it was one of the few tailored suits that I have ever owned.

He was the chief lay person at our church, the Penny's Chapel CME Church, for more than 50 years, drove the school bus after we got one because we did not always have one, and was oftentimes the bridge between the black and white factions of the community in a small, rural southern town. Mr. Vaughn worked hard, acquired property, was a leading advocate for education, and commanded the respect of all segments of the town and of the area.

Uncle Dude was the Sunday school superintendent at our church for decades, and I shall never forget that, as a teenager, he gave me the opportunity to teach Sunday school, which may have been the reason that I eventually became a schoolteacher. Even in our small semi-isolated town, and he and other adults expressed and conveyed a strong appreciation for education, and I remember my cousin Aubry graduating from high school as the only person in his class.

As an avid church leader, Uncle Dude became a member of the general board of the CME Church and expressed great pride in the fact that he was able to vote to change the name from Colored Methodist Episcopal Church to Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

He was born the son of former slaves. Mr. Willie Vaughn epitomizes progress that this country has made. He is indeed a living legend who is still alive, alert, and spiritually as well as intellectually engaged. I would not be surprised to find out that he is watching these proceedings on C-SPAN. And if he is, I say congratulations, Uncle Dude, on a life well spent, a Nation well served, a family well loved, and a faith in God well preserved.

Madam Speaker, it is indeed with great pride that I urge passage of this bill and again thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. ROSS) for introducing it.

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

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 3853. I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3853.

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. PORTER. Madam 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.

RECOGNIZING THE SOUTH CAROLINA FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 300) recognizing the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and saluting the outstanding service of the Company to the people of South Carolina.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 300

Whereas the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company was organized on December 19, 1955, to provide members of the Farm Bureau Federation with insurance coverage that was difficult to obtain and to assist such members with safety programs and loss control measures;

Whereas the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company is the largest domestic property and casualty insurer in the State of South Carolina;

Whereas the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company has 245 employees and 250 exclusive licensed agents throughout South Carolina that offer various insurance and financial services;

Whereas the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company provides a diverse line of products, including auto, homeowners, and other insurance coverage with sales exceeding \$190,000,000 on more than 344,000 policies;

Whereas in 1999, after Hurricane Floyd struck the coast of South Carolina, 90 percent of reported claims made with the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company were settled within one week; and

Whereas the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company serves families of farmers and non-farmers in rural and urban communities and the slogan of the Company is, "Helping you is what we do best": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and salutes the outstanding service of the Company to the people of South Carolina.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BARRETT) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BARRETT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to include extraneous material thereon.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from my home State of South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for introducing this measure.

The South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company motto is

"Helping you is what we do best." They have been committed to that motto for the past five decades. During that time, the company has grown from serving South Carolina's agricultural community to becoming the State's largest domestic insurer. Today we recognize the company's accomplishment of providing outstanding service to the people of South Carolina for the past 50 years.

As a coastal State, South Carolina has received its fair share of severe storms. When Hurricane Hugo devastating our State in 1989, the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company was there to pick up the pieces, paying out more than \$71 million in claims. Ten years later Hurricane Floyd slammed into our coast, and the company once again did a remarkable job helping us recover, settling 90 percent of its reported claims within 1 week.

Madam Speaker, the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company has helped many South Carolinians through difficult times. It is no wonder the company received an excellent rating from the world's leading insurance rating agency.

Again let me thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for introducing this measure on behalf of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I too join with my colleagues, especially the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) in introducing House Resolution 300, in recognition of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company.

Madam Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Financial Services, I want to join with all of my colleagues in supporting this legislation that gives due recognition to the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company on its 50th anniversary.

□ 1430

I recognize the mutual insurance company both as a member of the Committee on Financial Services and as a member of the Committee on Agriculture, but Madam Speaker, even more so, I recognize South Carolina's Farm Bureau because I am a native of South Carolina, having been born on a farm in Aynor, South Carolina, raised in an agricultural community in the tobacco farming area. I have now fond memories, as I serve in Washington, often remembering my days of cropping and suckering and dragging and curing tobacco and then taking it to market in some of the areas around Mullins and Marion and Conway, South Carolina.

On December 19, 1955, the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company was organized and began