

that is the goal that both the chairman and I share.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. If the gentleman would yield one more time. And I appreciate, as I said, we had a bipartisan approach at the committee level. Partisanship took over at the recommitment process. I was glad to cooperate with the gentleman in correcting that. And I would just say to the gentleman, in the words of the song, "It's his party and he can cry if he wants to."

Mr. BACHUS. Well, I'm a great believer in quoting Psalms.

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

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

#### ALONZO WOODRUFF POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5479) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 117 North Kidd Street in Ionia, Michigan, as the "Alonzo Woodruff Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5479

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

#### SECTION 1. ALONZO WOODRUFF POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 117 North Kidd Street in Ionia, Michigan, shall be known and designated as the "Alonzo Woodruff 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 "Alonzo Woodruff Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I stand for the purpose to move H.R. 5479, which seeks to pay tribute to a Civil War veteran and hero, Mr. Alonzo Woodruff, by designating the North Kidd Street Post Office Building in Ionia, Michigan, after this forgotten soldier.

H.R. 5479's introduction came on February 25, 2008, introduced by Representative VERNON EHLERS of the great State of Michigan and is cosponsored by the State's entire congressional delegation. The measure was considered and approved by the Oversight and Government Reform committee on March 13, 2008, which brings us to this morning's discussion on the measure.

History reveals that Alonzo Woodruff was a Union soldier during our country's Civil War and received the Medal of Honor for his courageous acts of service at the 1864 Civil War Battle of Hatcher's Run in Virginia.

Mr. Woodruff's story of heroism and service provides an interesting glimpse into 19th century history. According to legend, Alonzo Woodruff was only 22 years old and recently married when the Michigan farmer joined the Union cause at the end of 1861. Two years later, Woodruff risked his life in hand-to-hand combat when he charged into Confederate lines to rescue a fellow soldier.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of Mr. Woodruff's heroism and dedication to preserving the United States, I would urge that we pass H.R. 5479 without reservation.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would recognize the author of this resolution, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), for as much time as he may consume.

Mr. EHLERS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Perhaps the best part about this particular bill and our action on it is to inform us once again how important it is to remember those who have served this country well and have passed on, and to not forget them, because in this case, an entire community, after a period of 145 years, forgot the significance of this individual.

I rise today in support of this bill to designate the Ionia, Michigan, Post Office, located in my district, as the "Alonzo Woodruff Post Office Building."

Earlier this year, students from Ms. Maureen Powell's eighth grade American social studies class at Ionia Middle School heard about Alonzo Woodruff and the fact that the community had neglected him. They raised private funds, with the assistance of VFW member Commander Denny Craycraft, to place a monument honoring Alonzo Woodruff in front of the Ionia Courthouse. I attended that ceremony and

learned a great deal about Alonzo Woodruff, a sergeant on the Union side during the Civil War, who was an amazing man and did much for his country.

A Michigan native, Sergeant Woodruff was born near Detroit in 1839 and was married to Harriet Hill in 1859 in Ionia County. Alonzo Woodruff was 22 years old when he joined the Union cause in 1861. At the Battle of Hatcher's Run in Virginia, Sergeant Woodruff fought, in hand-to-hand battle, to save and free a fellow soldier. He did this again on the same day by charging Confederate lines single-handedly to rescue another comrade held by a Confederate soldier. Sergeant Woodruff even made the Confederate soldier his prisoner. For these actions, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Both Patricia Provot and Sandra Provot Elmer, great-great-granddaughters of Alonzo Woodruff, support this initiative, as does Mayor Dan Belice of the city of Ionia.

It is most appropriate to honor Sergeant Woodruff by naming this post office building in his honor. We must remember the sacrifices made not only during the Civil War, but in every war, by prominently displaying Sergeant Woodruff's name in the Ionia Post Office. It is my hope that more people will remember and honor the bravery of all our young men and women who are fighting for our country.

I urge all Members to support this bill.

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

I rise today in support of this bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 117 North Kidd Street in Ionia, Michigan, as the "Alonzo Woodruff Post Office Building."

Born near Detroit in March of 1839, Alonzo Woodruff was a simple man. He was a farmer by trade, but the recently married Woodruff decided to join the Union Army when tensions flared between the North and the South. He was 22 years of age at the time. In March of 1862, he was assigned to the 1st U.S. Regiment of Sharpshooters.

In October of 1864, Union forces continued their advance on Confederate lines at Hatcher's Run, Virginia. It was on October 27, 1864 that this simple farmer earned a place as an American hero. Posted on the extreme left of the Union line, Sergeant Woodruff and his comrade in arms, Corporal John Howard, encountered Confederate forces flanking their position. After discharging their weapons and being unable to reload, Corporal Howard engaged the Confederate leader in hand-to-hand combat, only to be overwhelmed and severely wounded in both legs. Unloaded rifle in hand, Sergeant Woodruff fell upon the Confederate soldiers and through desperate hand-to-hand combat rescued Corporal Howard and facilitated their escape.

Additional accounts claim that later that same day, upon witnessing a

wounded private from his company being marched away as a prisoner by a rebel soldier, Woodruff again took decisive and brave action. Though he was severely wounded in the struggle, Woodruff succeeded in freeing his comrade, and in turn made the Confederate soldier his prisoner.

On January 29, 1896, Sergeant Alonzo Woodruff was awarded the Medal of Honor. His citation reads, "Went to the assistance of a wounded and overpowered comrade, and in a hand-to-hand encounter effected his rescue."

After the war, Woodruff settled in Lake County, Michigan, where he and his wife raised their three children. Alonzo Woodruff passed away in 1917, a true American hero.

I would urge my colleagues to support this bill honoring the life and actions of a simple man who answered the call to fight for the sound future of his country. In a violent and difficult time, his bravery embodies a commitment not only to his comrades, but also to his country.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5479.

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.

#### ROCKY MARCIANO POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5528) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 Commercial Street in Brockton, Massachusetts, as the "Rocky Marciano Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5528

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

#### SECTION 1. ROCKY MARCIANO POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 Commercial Street in Brockton, Massachusetts, shall be known and designated as the "Rocky Marciano 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 "Rocky Marciano Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman who introduced this legislation, Representative LYNCH from Massachusetts.

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

Mr. LYNCH. Thank you, Chairman DAVIS, for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5528 will designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 120 Commercial Street in the city of Brockton, Massachusetts, as the "Rocky Marciano Post Office Building."

At the outset, I would like to thank the members of the Marciano family and the public officials and the residents in the city of Brockton for their dedication in honoring Rocky Marciano, who was a remarkable champion and citizen, through the naming of this Commercial Street post office.

In particular, I would like to note the contributions made by Rocky Marciano's younger brother, Peter Marciano, Sr., also Brockton Mayor Jim Harrington, my good friend, his staff assistant, Donna Daily, Senator Bob Creedon, Representative Tom Kennedy, Chris Canavan and Gerry Creedon, as well as the city council, led by City Councilman Mike Brady.

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In addition, I would like to note the support of the Brockton High School's legendary football coach, Armond Columbo; Brockton resident Mark Casieri, who owns Rocky Marciano's boyhood home on Dover Street; Goody Petronelli, the iconic fight trainer and owner of downtown Brockton's renowned Petronelli Brothers Gym; and last but not least, Charlie Tartaglia, who is the owner of the historic George's Cafe on Belmont Street and whose walls and whose institution there serves as a pictorial shrine to the sport of boxing and also to the life of Rocky Marciano and the city of Brockton.

Mr. Speaker, Rocco Francis Marchegiano, better known as Rocky Marciano, was born and raised in a working class family in the city of Brockton, Massachusetts. He attended Brockton High School, and from his induction in 1943 to his discharge in 1946, he served this country proudly as a United States Army private with the 150th Combat Engineers. It was during his Army service that Rocky Marciano first discovered his love for boxing.

And as noted in Mr. Marciano's official biography, "There were those who

didn't think much would become of the 190 pound heavyweight from Brockton in the early days." Nevertheless, during his subsequent professional heavyweight boxing career, Rocky Marciano, nicknamed the "Brockton Blockbuster," amassed a professional record of 49 wins, no draws, and no losses, with 43 knockouts. Rocky Marciano held boxing's heavyweight title from 1952 until 1956, and, notably, he remains the only heavyweight champion in boxing history to retire undefeated.

However, Rocky Marciano's legacy extends beyond the boxing ring. His achievements, his skill, and relentless work ethic and determination made Rocky Marciano the personification of what is best and proudest in the city of Brockton and in this country.

As noted by sportswriter Ed Fitzgerald in a January, 1953, SPORT magazine article, "All Brockton came to love him and always will . . . He put the city on the map; he gave its citizens a new interest in life."

In his honor Brockton is commonly referred to as the "City of Champions," and in his footsteps, the city has borne other great champions, including former boxing middleweight champion Marvin Hagler and also the celebrated Brockton High School Boxers football team, who won back-to-back State championships in 2004 and 2005.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman DAVIS and his subcommittee staff, as well as Denise Wilson of the full committee, for their assistance with this bill.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5528.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 5528, Representative LYNCH's legislation to name a post office in Brockton, Massachusetts, on behalf its favorite son, Rocky Marciano.

Mr. Speaker, the men who occupied the opposite corner for Rocky Marciano's 49 professional fights probably would agree on only one thing about him: that he was a magnificent fighter. In a career that lasted a little more than 8 years, he won all 49 of his pro fights. He still to this day is the only heavyweight to finish undefeated. He won 43 by knockouts, 9 of those in the first round. None of his first 16 fights lasted even five rounds. Only once did he win on a split decision, and only once did he have to go the full 15 rounds to subdue an opponent.

His nose looked like a piece of cork, his eyes like black stiletos angrily firing out at his foes. His hands were like hammers, pounding relentlessly on the hapless men who opposed him. At 5'10", 185 pounds, he was smaller and slower than most heavyweights. But what he lacked in size and speed, he made up for in his desire and toughness. And that's why the crowd loved him.

It was said that a Marciano knockout blow packed as much punch as an armor-piercing bullet; that it equaled