

of the NAACP, a civil rights activist, an educator, a lawyer, and a banker.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join us in honoring the life of Dr. White and his important service by naming a post office in the county of Cape May, New Jersey, after him.

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage my House colleagues to support this bill honoring a great American and a great public servant.

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 Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7607.

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.

#### EDWIN L. DRAKE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7417) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 135 West Spring Street in Titusville, Pennsylvania, as the "Edwin L. Drake Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7417

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

#### SECTION 1. EDWIN L. DRAKE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 135 West Spring Street in Titusville, Pennsylvania, shall be known and designated as the "Edwin L. Drake 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 "Edwin L. Drake Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GROTHMAN. 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 Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY).

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, this bill would designate the post office facility located at 135 West Spring Street in Titusville, Pennsylvania, as the Edwin Drake Post Office Building.

Born March 29 in 1819, Edwin Drake was the first person to successfully drill for oil in the United States.

Drake was sent to Titusville on behalf of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company, where oil had been gathering from ground-level seepages. He said: There must be a way to somehow get to more volume. The answer was, send Drake.

In an attempt to lure local Titusville businesses into investing, the executives sent letters to local businessmen and referred to Drake as Colonel Drake.

In July of 1858, he journeyed to Titusville to begin but struggled for nearly a year until he invented the drive pipe. He continued his attempts with many setbacks and refusal from the oil company to provide any more investment.

Now, despite many of these failed attempts and the shortage of money, he persisted in his efforts, leading some of the locals and executives to begin calling him Crazy Drake.

Finally, on August 27 of 1859, he found success in extracting oil, which was 70 feet beneath the Earth's surface. It had never been done before. Quickly, his well began to produce between 20 and 40 barrels a day, and they ended up using all the whiskey barrels in Titusville to put the oil in.

This immediately launched the Pennsylvania oil rush, sparking a massive economic boom in western Pennsylvania. Drake's discovery changed the economies beyond western Pennsylvania and across the world.

Titusville quickly became a boomtown, and oil wells popped up all over the place. It is reported that these wells produced up to 4,500 barrels in just the first year. By 1866, the population of Titusville had risen to over 10,000 residents, compared to just 250 people when Drake first arrived.

By 1873, Pennsylvania was producing 10 million barrels of oil per year, an incredible amount that nobody could have possibly imagined. Drake would dig two other wells in the months following his invention, but he left the industry the next year due to his declining health, and he became a justice of the peace in 1860.

Unfortunately, Drake never patented his invention, and he lost most of his savings in the stock market in the following years.

Pennsylvania, though, would never be the same, as people rushed to the Commonwealth, much like the gold rush of California.

Drake passed away in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, on November 9, 1880, at just 61 years old. He was moved to Titusville, where he remains today. The original tools are on display in Titusville at the Drake Well Museum, on the same site as his initial discovery.

□ 1600

Oil continues to be a massive industry in Pennsylvania and across our country.

By naming a post office after him in Titusville, this would be a small step in recognizing the man who made it all possible. I urge my colleagues to support this bill to recognize Edwin Drake's contribution to the country by naming the post office facility in Titusville after him.

Mr. Speaker, Drake died broke. He had nothing, but he created an industry in America, in Pennsylvania, that has continued to flourish. I would urge my colleagues to please support the naming of the post office for Edwin Drake.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am rising in support of H.R. 7417.

Edwin Drake, as we just heard, was born in New York and lived for a short period in New Haven, Connecticut, until he moved to Pennsylvania to develop a site and drill for oil. His efforts to strike an oil deposit in Titusville on August 27, 1859, helped create an oil rush and economic boom in Pennsylvania.

Drake, remembered as the first person to successfully drill for oil in the United States, passed away in Bethlehem in 1880. I encourage my colleagues to join all of us in honoring the life of Mr. Drake by naming a post office in Titusville after him.

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, that was a great story. Glad I am on the House floor today to hear it.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my House colleagues to support the bill honoring a great American, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MEUSER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7417.

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.

#### U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS MAJOR THOMAS B. MCGUIRE POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6810) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 518 North Ridgewood Drive in Sebring, Florida, as the "U.S. Army Air Corps Major Thomas B. McGuire Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6810

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

**SECTION 1. U.S. ARMY AIR CORPS MAJOR THOMAS B. MCGUIRE POST OFFICE BUILDING.**

(a) **DESIGNATION.**—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 518 North Ridgewood Drive in Sebring, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "U.S. Army Air Corps Major Thomas B. McGuire 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 "U.S. Army Air Corps Major Thomas B. McGuire Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. GROTHMAN. 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 Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN).

Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 6810, to rename a post office in Sebring, Florida, in honor of Major Thomas McGuire, a distinguished and decorated combat pilot killed in action during World War II.

McGuire graduated from Sebring High School in my district and attended the Georgia Institute of Technology. There, he studied aeronautical engineering, played in the marching band, and joined the ROTC Corps of Cadets.

Answering the call to serve his country, McGuire left Georgia Tech after his third year and entered the U.S. Army Air Corps Aviation Cadet program in 1941.

Major McGuire became a top-scoring combat pilot with a total of 38 enemy planes destroyed, an ace seven times over.

On January 7, 1945, McGuire led a group of four P-38 Lightnings on a fighter sweep in the central Philippines. In an attempt to save another pilot's life who was under attack, Major McGuire risked an extremely hazardous maneuver at low altitude. Tragically, he crashed and was reported missing in action.

In 1947, McGuire was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic actions to save his wingman's life. Two years later, Major McGuire was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

With gallant initiative, unselfish regard for his own personal safety, and heroic determination to destroy the

enemy at all costs, Major McGuire set an aspiring example in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

Mr. Speaker, as a career naval aviator, he certainly inspires me.

We are losing more and more of our Greatest Generation veterans like Major McGuire every day. It is my sincere hope this bill helps immortalize this American hero's legacy and honors his remarkable life and sacrifice. I encourage all my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6810. Thomas McGuire was born and raised in Sebring, Florida, and joined the U.S. Army Air Corps at 20. Major McGuire was known for his daring missions and record-breaking efforts as an aerial combat pilot in the Air Force.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of our colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Major McGuire by naming the post office in Sebring, Florida after him.

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my House colleagues to support this bill honoring a great American hero. I am glad to be on the floor today to have the chance to hear about his exploits.

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 Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6810.

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.

**CHARLESETTA REECE ALLEN POST OFFICE BUILDING**

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5985) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 517 Seagaze Drive in Oceanside, California, as the "Charlesetta Reece Allen Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5985

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

**SECTION 1. CHARLESETTA REECE ALLEN POST OFFICE BUILDING.**

(a) **DESIGNATION.**—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 517 Seagaze Drive in Oceanside, California, shall be known and designated as the "Charlesetta Reece Allen 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 "Charlesetta Reece Allen Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. GROTHMAN. 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 Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, which would rename a post office in Oceanside, California, for Ms. Charlesetta Reece Allen.

Ms. Allen opened the first Black-owned storefront and restaurant in Oceanside and was the first president of the north San Diego County branch of the NAACP and founded the Oceanside Girls Club.

She was a trailblazer for the Black community in Oceanside, and her contributions improved the lives of residents of North County. I fully support naming the historic Oceanside post office after pioneer, activist, and local community leader, Charlesetta Reece Allen.

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 of H.R. 5985.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LEVIN), my good friend, for any remarks he may choose to make.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5985. This legislation, which I introduced last fall, would name the United States Post Office on Seagaze Drive in Oceanside after Charlesetta Reece Allen.

In addition to being one of the first Black residents of Oceanside, Ms. Allen was a pioneer and community leader. She was a businesswoman, a church pastor, and founder of the Oceanside Girls Club.

I can think of no better honor than to permanently recognize her in our community. Ms. Allen was born in Texas in 1913 and came to Oceanside in the 1930s.

Soon after moving to Oceanside, Charlesetta began engaging with her community. She started catering food for her neighbors out of her home and eventually opened the first Black-owned storefront in Oceanside, a restaurant which served as a popular social gathering spot for residents who started to arrive during and after World War II.

Throughout her time in Oceanside, Ms. Allen was dedicated to feeding and caring for the marines stationed at Camp Pendleton.

She went on to found the Oceanside Girls Club where she served as director.