

dam across the Delaware River. This was the Tocks Island Dam Project, and it required the use of eminent domain, and the government seized many properties. Well, the project fell through and the property that was taken away is now known as the Delaware Water Gap Recreational Area. And residents in the area were upset by the creation of this recreation area. As a result, Congress passed legislation that established a citizens advisory commission, and that was back in 1988.

Now, this advisory commission was reauthorized for an additional decade back in 1998; and it's basically served as a forum, if you will, for the public to interact with park officials. Due to the combined efforts of the various commission members and park officials, the recreation area has now increased in popularity over the years, and we see literally millions of visitors each year. In fact, out of nearly 400 parks in the National Park system, the Delaware Water Gap was just named one of the top 10 most photogenic parks for fall foliage.

And I am confident that the Citizens Advisory Commission will continue to play a valuable role in preserving its splendor in this area and others for future generations.

It's the ability of local residents to communicate with Federal agencies that has been one of my main focuses here in Congress; and I call upon my colleagues—and I am glad that the gentleman from Alaska joins me in this effort—to join with Representative CARNEY and me to support this legislation.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. I again urge Members to support the 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 the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3476.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SABLAN. 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.

1ST LIEUTENANT LOUIS ALLEN POST OFFICE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2877) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 76 Brookside Avenue in Chester, New York, as the "1st Lieutenant Louis Allen Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2877

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

SECTION 1. 1ST LIEUTENANT LOUIS ALLEN POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 76 Brookside Avenue in Chester, New York, shall be known and designated as the "1st Lieutenant Louis Allen 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 "1st Lieutenant Louis Allen Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House subcommittee with jurisdiction over the United States Postal Service, I am proud to present H.R. 2877 for consideration.

This bill, if adopted, will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 76 Brookside Avenue in Chester, New York, as the "1st Lieutenant Louis Allen Post Office."

H.R. 2877 was introduced by my friend and colleague, Representative JOHN HALL of New York, on June 15, 2009, and favorably reported out of the Oversight Committee by unanimous consent on July 10, 2009. Notably, this legislation enjoys the strong support of the entire New York sitting House delegation.

□ 1430

Since this is principally sponsored by my friend, Mr. HALL of New York, I'm going to yield 5 minutes to my colleague so that he may make those remarks.

Mr. HALL of New York. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, First Lieutenant Lou Allen. My bill, H.R. 2877, would designate the post office in Chester, New York, as the "1st Lieutenant Louis Allen Post Office." First Lieutenant Allen was killed in Iraq over 4 years ago by a mine explosion for which another member of the Armed Forces was charged and shockingly acquitted. First Lieutenant Allen was 34 years old.

A pillar of his community, a model National Guardsman, Lou joined the New York National Guard in the year 2000. But when he was not serving in

uniform, he served his community as a science teacher at George F. Baker High School in Tuxedo. He was deployed to New York City with the National Guard to respond to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Lou's service to his community and country made him a great American whom we are all proud of. Lou is survived by his loving wife, Barbara; and their four young sons, Trevor, Colin, Sean and Jeremy; his parents, Bob and Vivian; and his siblings and other friends and family who are all so proud of him. Renaming this post office in his honor will be a tangible reminder of the joy he brought to them and the contributions he made to our Nation, the Hudson Valley community, and the lives of those who knew him.

I cannot imagine how difficult the last few years have been in Lou's family, and their grace in dealing with this tragedy is an inspiration to us all. I have had the honor of meeting them at Bob and Vivian's house when I introduced this bill. And I am honored to represent them in Congress and to be able to come here to Washington and help redesignate the U.S. Post Office at 76 Brookside Avenue in Chester, New York, as the "1st Lieutenant Louis Allen Post Office."

Renaming this post office is not about mourning Lou's death, but about celebrating his life. I am glad that we have the support of the entire New York State congressional delegation, who are all signed on to the bill as original cosponsors.

I urge my colleagues to honor First Lieutenant Allen and support this bill so that he and his family will finally receive the tribute to his sacrifice that they deserve.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the passage of H.R. 2877, a bill designed to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 76 Brookside Avenue in Chester, New York, as the "1st Lieutenant Louis Allen Post Office" in honor of the late Louis E. Allen, a 34-year-old Army National Guardsman killed by an explosion in Tikrit, Iraq, on June 8, 2005.

A native of Goshen, New York, and a West Point graduate, First Lieutenant Allen was not only a model soldier but also a model citizen who had a true passion for helping others.

A loving husband and father of four sons, he drove more than 1 hour each way to George Baker High School in Tuxedo, New York, a school where he taught science. The school superintendent remembers him as loving kids and having a "real passion for our students." He was also known by his family as being fun-loving, gracious and caring as he took care of everyone around him. A longtime friend of Allen's once said that "if my son grows up to be half the man Lou is, I'll be the happiest father in the world."

First Lieutenant Allen is a shining example of an individual who continually and selflessly served those around him, both through his work for his community and country. His spirit lives on through the work of his family and friends as they continue to promote the sacrifice of First Lieutenant Allen through the First Lieutenant Louis Allen Scholarship and Community Foundation.

It is with gratitude for his bravery and sacrifice for his country that I ask all Members to join me in supporting H.R. 2877 in First Lieutenant Allen's honor.

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

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, a resident of Milford, Pennsylvania, First Lieutenant Louis E. Allen bravely served in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a member of the Army National Guard's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 42nd Infantry Division, out of Troy, New York.

Regrettably, as has been noted here by my friend, Mr. HALL, First Lieutenant Allen and fellow unit member Captain Phillip T. Esposito were killed in Tikrit, Iraq, on June 8, 2005, of injuries sustained when a mine explosion occurred near their location. First Lieutenant Allen was 34 years old at the time of his death.

As noted by his fellow Rainbow Division soldiers, who held a ceremony in honor of their two fallen comrades at Forward Operating Base Danger in Tikrit on June 15, 2005, First Lieutenant Allen was highly regarded as a skilled platoon leader who always took care of his troops.

"He was always running around, getting stuff for his guys—food, safety equipment, and billeting—and never forgot where he came from," recalled Colonel Mario Costagliola, the division's assistant chief of staff for operations.

In addition to his distinguished service to his unit and his country, First Lieutenant Allen is equally remembered as a dedicated husband to his beloved wife, Barbara, whom he made sure to call every day throughout his deployment, and as a loving father to their four boys, Trevor, Colin, Sean and Jeremy, whose pictures he always carried in his wallet and would display to anyone who would bother to take a look, according to Captain Steven Raiser, a division legal assistance officer who trained with First Lieutenant Allen.

Moreover, as a high school science teacher at George Baker High School in Tuxedo, New York, First Lieutenant Allen evidenced the same commitment, dedication and generosity to his students as he did to his fellow soldiers and his family. "He loved kids. He had a real passion for our students," recalled Valley Central School District Superintendent Joseph P. Zanetti.

And as noted by all of those who were fortunate enough to know him, First Lieutenant Allen had a unique gift for

making everyone around him feel more positive and happier. A family statement issued following his death perhaps best characterizes First Lieutenant Allen's effect on his loved ones: "Everybody loved Lou for his Lounness."

Mr. Speaker, the life and legacy of First Lieutenant Louis E. Allen stands as a testament to the brave servicemen and -women who have also dedicated their lives to serving our Nation in the United States military. It is my hope that we can honor this young soldier through the passage of H.R. 2877 and by designating the Chester Post Office in his honor.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, so I yield back my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I again urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join with Mr. HALL, the principal sponsor of this resolution, in honoring First Lieutenant Louis Allen through the passage of H.R. 2877.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2877.

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.

COMMEMORATING 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 209) commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope, a preeminent international women's association and affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 209

Whereas generations of Greek-Americans have worked alongside their fellow Americans to build a more perfect Union, and the United States is a stronger country because of them;

Whereas Greek-Americans have served ably in their communities in numerous capacities, such as government, including five-term Maryland Senator Paul S. Sarbanes, and in the Armed Services in every war in which the United States fought since World War I, including patriots such as George Dilboy, a World War I Medal of Honor recipient;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope is a leading international organization of women of Hellenic descent and Philhellenes, founded November 16, 1929, in San Francisco, California, to improve the status and well-being of women and their families and to provide women the opportunity to make significant

contributions to their community and country;

Whereas the mission of the Daughters of Penelope is to promote the ideals of ancient Greece (namely, philanthropy, education, civic responsibility, good citizenship, and family and individual excellence) through community service and volunteerism;

Whereas the chapters of the Daughters of Penelope sponsor affordable and dignified housing to the Nation's senior citizen population by participating in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's section 202 housing program;

Whereas Penelope House, a domestic violence shelter for women and their children sponsored by the Daughters of Penelope, is the first of its kind in the State of Alabama and is recognized as a model shelter for others to emulate throughout the United States;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc., supports the educational objectives of the Daughters of Penelope by providing tens of thousands of dollars annually for scholarships, sponsoring educational seminars, and donating children's books to libraries, schools, shelters, and churches through the "Open Books" program;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope is the first ethnic organization to submit oral history tapes to the Library of Congress, the tapes that provide an oral history of first generation Greek-American women in the United States;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope promotes awareness and research on medical diseases, such as cancer, thalassemia (Cooley's anemia), lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM), Alzheimer's disease, muscular dystrophy, and others;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope provides financial support for many medical research and charitable organizations, such as the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (formerly the Papanicolaou Cancer Center), the Alzheimer's Foundation, the American Heart Association, the Special Olympics, the Barbara Bush Foundation for Literacy, the Children's Wish Foundation, UNICEF, Habitat for Humanity, St. Basil Academy, and others;

Whereas Greek-American directors and performers, such as Elia Kazan, Olympia Dukakis, and Maria Callas, enriched the arts, and medical researcher, Dr. George Papanicolaou, also known as the "The Father of Cytology", saved millions of lives by inventing the Pap Test;

Whereas countless Greek-Americans have risen to become leaders of commerce and industry, thus fulfilling the "American Dream";

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope provides support and financial assistance to victims and communities affected by natural disasters, such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and forest fires;

Whereas the Daughters of Penelope, founded November 16, 1929, celebrates its 80th anniversary as a preeminent international women's association and affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA); and

Whereas Americans can trace the concept and ideals of democracy to the ancient Greeks: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes the significant contributions of American citizens of Greek ancestry and Philhellenes, and the Daughters of Penelope to the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the