

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I may repeat some that has already been said, but this is important to the people of Asheboro, and I want to go into a little more detail.

At the outset, I want to thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), the Republican leadership, and the Members of the North Carolina congressional delegation for their assistance in bringing this legislation to the floor in such a timely manner.

On March 1 of this year, Mr. Speaker, I introduced H.R. 821, a bill to designate the new post office at Asheboro, North Carolina, as the W. Joe Trogdon Post Office Building.

Several years ago, it became apparent that the former postal facilities in Asheboro were not adequate. In fact, the building was literally falling down. Condemnation of the original post office in 1997 expedited the need for a new building to serve the area.

During this process, Mayor Joe Trogdon was instrumental in coordinating the wishes of his community with the requirements of the United States Postal Service. He encouraged the people of Asheboro to actively voice their views regarding the location of the new post office to ensure that this new facility would be built where it would best serve Asheboro and Randolph County.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know how many of my colleagues have been involved in building or in relocating post office buildings, but it involves an eternal maze. For many years, the citizens of Asheboro have been inconvenienced by the poor accessibility, insufficient parking, and hectic traffic patterns surrounding the old post office.

After searching for a potential site for the new building, negotiating and renegotiating with the U.S. Postal Service and various landowners in the area, the project was finally completed. This tremendous new asset to the community will have its official grand opening on Sunday, April 1.

Although it has been a long and, at times, a tenuous process, the community, under the leadership of Mayor Trogdon, was able to work through the many frustrations and disappointments and now has seen its goal of a gleaming new postal facility become a reality.

Once the location for the new post office building has been determined, the omnibus task of picking the perfect name still remained. In my opinion, the name of the building should reflect a constant presence in the community, a person who has given of his time, heart and spirit, not only in the creation of this post office, but to the growth and prosperity of the city of Asheboro.

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That being said, I can think of no one more qualified who exemplifies that description than Mayor Joe Trogdon. He is a hometown boy, as the gentleman

from Pennsylvania pointed out. He grew up in the town of Asheboro. Joe received his college diploma from North Carolina State University in Raleigh. Joe honorably served in the United States Army in Germany; 6 years in the U.S. Army Reserve; and following his tour of duty in Germany, Joe returned to his boyhood home to begin work in the family business. But that was not enough for Joe Trogdon. Nearly 4 decades ago, Joe started his public service career in Asheboro. He has served as a member of the Asheboro Planning Board, the City Council, the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, the North Carolina League of Municipalities, and since 1983, as Mayor of Asheboro.

Joe also gives of his time and talent to civic groups and associations such as the Asheboro Jaycees, the Asheboro Kiwanis Club, the Asheboro Rotary Club, and the East Hog-eye Yacht Club. Joe is also on the board of trustees of the First United Methodist Church in Asheboro. What you can say about this man is that Joe Trogdon does not believe in sitting idly on the sidelines. When work needs to be done, Joe is the first one to pitch in and help. Through his many years of dedication to the people of Asheboro, Joe has always put the needs and views of his constituents first and foremost, and for that reason he has gained the respect and support of the people he represents.

Mr. Speaker, I am not alone in my desire to honor Joe Trogdon. We have heard from a number of groups in the area encouraging us to introduce legislation to name the Post Office in Asheboro in honor of Joe. Included on this list is the Asheboro City Council, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners, the Home Builders Association of Asheboro and Randolph County, the American Legion Post 45 of Asheboro, the Randolph County Senior Adults Association and the Asheboro/Randolph Chamber of Commerce.

Additionally, private citizens sent letters of support to our office to endorse this proposal, including my good friend, North Carolina State Representative Arlie Culp.

Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues, one of my constituents did contact me and expressed his opposition to the naming of this building, not because it was being named to honor Joe Trogdon, but he expressed his concern that Federal buildings should not bear the name of people still living. I explained that rules governing the naming of Federal buildings do not prohibit the naming of buildings for people alive, and I do not think anybody is interested in accelerating Joe Trogdon's death to make him eligible to have his name put on the post office building, so I hope that gentleman's discomfort will be assuaged somewhat after he reconsiders it.

Mr. Speaker, I am about to close, but I would be remiss if I failed to mention the names of Rebecca Redding Williams and Missy Branson. Rebecca is

our district representative in the Asheboro office; and Missy, who is from Thomasville, North Carolina, is our legislative director here; and both of them worked tirelessly on this legislation, and I thank them for their efforts.

It is for my friend and constituent, Joe Trogdon, that I move to pass this bill today. We wish Joe's wife could still be with us, but we know that Anne Trogdon is smiling down upon us today. Joe and Anne's three children and six grandchildren are very proud of what we are doing today.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will all join me in celebrating this great man by voting in support of this bill designating the new post office in Asheboro, North Carolina, as the W. Joe Trogdon Post Office Building. My hat goes off to Joe, and I thank you all for what you have done for Asheboro and Randolph County. What we do here today is a fitting tribute to your dedicated career of public service, Joe Trogdon.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute to speak about this outstanding person for whom the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE) has decided to name a post office.

Listening to all of the information concerning this mayor, he must be a very outstanding man and has made a great contribution to his community, so it is good he is getting his flowers while he is alive and will hear the acclamations that will come from his community.

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE) is to be commended in seeking to honor Mayor Trogdon. The mayor has shown tremendous leadership and deserves to be acknowledged for his hard work. I urge swift passage of this bill.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 821.

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.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. 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 the following bills:

H.R. 809, H.R. 741, H.R. 860, S. 320, H.R. 861 and H.R. 802.

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

There was no objection.