

remembered, many traits of Lincoln that will be exalted and many deeds of Lincoln admired.

While there are many who would lay claim to the mantle of Lincoln, I believe that an honest appraisal of Lincoln's legacy lays bare two critical distinctions of the Great Emancipator.

First, he was a Hoosier; secondly, he was a conservative.

Lincoln, though born in the heart of Kentucky, spent his formative years in southern Indiana. The Lincolns moved to Spencer County, Indiana when young Abe was 7 and for the next 14 years, lived in the Hoosier State. It was during this time as a Hoosier of humble circumstance, living in a log cabin on 160 acres near Little Pigeon Creek, that Lincoln developed his voracious appetite for reading and learning, once walking 20 miles to borrow a book.

He also learned the power and promise of the free market as a young entrepreneur. He crafted his own boat and started his own ferry service to and from the Ohio River. On one occasion, when two patrons each tossed him a silver half-dollar, Lincoln noted, "It was a most important incident in my life. The world seemed wider and fairer before me; I was a more hopeful and thoughtful boy from that time." Indeed, from then on, he was a staunch advocate for the free market and the equality of opportunity.

He also cultivated a real affinity for the ideas of the Founding Fathers as enshrined in the Declaration of Independence—natural rights, economic freedom and equality under the law. It was this commitment to the "first principles" of our nation that served as the fulcrum of Lincoln's leadership during his most heroic—and ultimately heralded—moments.

When others looked forward at an unknowable and uncertain future, Lincoln looked back—he looked back to what sustained this nation through the birth pains of its Founding—and it was in this act of looking back that Lincoln serves as a model of true conservatism.

In 1859, in a speech given in Columbus, Ohio, Lincoln asserted that the "chief and real purpose of the Republican party is eminently conservative" and that the party's sole aim should be to "restore this government to its original tone . . . and thereto maintain it, looking for no further change than that which the original framers of the government themselves expected and looked forward to."

More to the point, to the question "what is conservatism?" Lincoln succinctly answered, "Is it not the adherence to the old and the tried, against the new and the untried?" Surely there are those who would do well to heed those words in these times.

It has been said in many ways and many places before, and it bears repeating, that the promise that all men are created equal—as written in the Declaration of the Independence—and the incredible potential that is inherent in the notion of equality under law—are both established in the Constitution—are both realized in the person and Presidency of Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln himself said that he "never had a feeling politically that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence."

As the Indianapolis Star noted today, "An old Indiana farm boy still has many lessons to teach America."

I close with the words of Lincoln that ring as true today as they did when they were first spoken nearly two centuries ago:

"Our republican robe is soiled, and trailed in the dust. Let us repurify it. Let us re-adopt the Declaration of Independence, and with it, the practices and policy, which harmonize with it. Let north and south—let all Americans—let all lovers of liberty everywhere—join in the great and good work. If we do this, we shall not only have saved the Union; but we shall have so saved it, as to make, and to keep it, forever worthy of the saving. We shall have so saved it, that the succeeding millions of free happy people, the world over, shall rise up, and call us blessed, to the latest generation."

Mr. CHAFFETZ. 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 agree to the resolution, H. Res. 139.

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. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

YVONNE INGRAM-EPHRAIM POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 663) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12877 Broad Street in Sparta, Georgia, as the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 663

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

SECTION 1. YVONNE INGRAM-EPHRAIM POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12877 Broad Street in Sparta, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim 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 "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building".

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Madam 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 Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, as Chair of the House subcommittee with jurisdiction of the United States Postal Service, I am pleased to present for consideration H.R. 663 which renames the postal facility located at 12877 Broad Street in Sparta, Georgia, as the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office building."

A lifelong public servant, Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim rose from public school teacher to become the first African American elected to serve on the city council of Sparta, Georgia.

H.R. 663 has the support of the entire Georgia congressional delegation, and the measure was authored by my friend from Georgia, Representative JOHN BARROW, who at this moment I'd like to yield to for 4 minutes to speak further on the bill.

Mr. BARROW. I thank the gentleman, and I thank the chairman of the committee, Mr. TOWNS, and the ranking member, Mr. ISSA, for advancing the consideration of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 663, a bill to designate the post office in Sparta, Georgia, as the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building."

Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim—or "Von"—as she was known to all who knew and loved her—was one of Sparta's most respected citizens before her untimely death nearly 2 years ago. Von was the first African American to be elected to the Sparta city government when she was elected city councilwoman in 1992, and she was re-elected three more times before her passing.

As a former four-term city councilman myself, I can tell you that doing what it takes to keep folks in your hometown happy enough to keep you in office for that many terms is no easy task.

In 1997, she was appointed Mayor pro tem of Sparta, a title she held until her death in 2007. During this time, she also served as secretary of the Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials, one of our State's most respected and influential political organizations.

Von married Reverend Michael Ephraim in 2000 and found herself managing the demands of a preacher's wife, mother, fourth grade school teacher, and elected official. Any one of those jobs is big enough, but Von was able to perform each of these roles in such a way as to make all those around her feel loved and respected.

On a purely personal note, Von was a good friend to me, and showed by her example that the things we have in common are a whole lot more important than the things that tend to divide us.

And I can't think of a better way to commemorate her example than to

pass this legislation, which would give us all a lasting reminder of what Von accomplished during her too-short life on this earth.

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

I rise today in support of this bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12877 Broad Street in Sparta, Georgia, as the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building."

Born on January 12, 1965, in Bibb County, Georgia, Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim—or "Von" as she was known by those close to her—was a generous and passionate member of the community.

Having grown up in Hancock County, she graduated from high school in 1982 before continuing her education at Macon Technical College. Driven by a desire to serve her country, she took time off from her education to enlist in the United States Air Force Reserve.

After basic training, she continued her academic pursuits at Fort Valley State College where she earned a bachelor's in home economics and a master's in elementary education. Her thirst for knowledge unquenched, in 1997 Von received her Educational Specialist degree in Elementary Education from Troy State University.

After graduation, she returned to Hancock County where she worked as a teacher and assisted part time at the family business, the Ingram Brothers Funeral Home, as a funeral director apprentice and staff member.

Always devoted to her community, Yvonne became active in politics through the Hancock County Democratic Executive Committee. In 1992, she became the first African American elected to serve on the city council and later served as Mayor pro-tem for the City of Sparta.

Throughout her life, Von nourished a tremendous connection to her faith. Joining the Hickory Grove Missionary Baptist Church at a very young age, she remained an active member of the church throughout her life. In December of 2000, Yvonne married the love of her life, Reverend Michael G. Ephraim, Senior.

Sadly, in April of 2007, Von passed away. This devoted wife, mother, and friend will forever be remembered for her loving generosity to those around her.

I rise today to urge my colleagues to support this legislation so that the accomplishments and qualities of this wonderful citizen will not soon be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 663. I have no additional speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, again, I stand with my colleagues, especially

our sponsor, Representative JOHN BARROW of Georgia, in full support of H.R. 663 to designate the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building," and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

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. 663.

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. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

COMMUNICATION FROM DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, THE HONORABLE EDOLPHUS TOWNS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Roberta Hopkins, Deputy Chief of Staff, the Honorable EDOLPHUS TOWNS, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 12, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena, issued in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, for testimony in a criminal case.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

ROBERTA HOPKINS,
Deputy Chief of Staff.

COMMUNICATION FROM COUNSEL, THE HONORABLE BOBBY L. RUSH, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Angelle G. Kwemo, Counsel, the Honorable BOBBY L. RUSH, Member of Congress:

FEBRUARY 12, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena, issued in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, for testimony in a criminal case.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compli-

ance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

ANGELLE B. KWEMO,
Counsel.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1601

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona) at 4 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on one motion to suspend the rules previously postponed.

HONORING GRIFFIN BELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 71.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 71.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF MARY S. (KWIK) CHMIELEWSKI

(Mr. McCOTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, I stand today before the House to recognize an early resident of Redford Township. Mary Chmielewski will celebrate her 90th birthday this Sunday with a celebration for family and friends.

Mary was born on February 23, 1919 in Detroit. Her maiden name was Kwik, and she was one of ten children, all of whom, sadly, are now deceased except her sister Clara. She lived in Hamtramck, attended St. Florian's and worked as a bookkeeper during World War II. After World War II, she married Edward Chmielewski, who was a machinist. He was also of Hamtramck. They moved to Redford in 1951, and lived a long and happy life together in Redford, raising three children.