

throughout Sonoma County, created a study abroad program for SRJC students, and developed an educational telecommunications program at the college.

Throughout his career, Dean Olson has been an active participant in many professional associations, serving as Vice President of the California Agricultural Teachers Association, CATA, President of the North Coast CATA, founding Chairman of the State Advisory Committee on Vocational Agricultural Education, a member of the California Joint Policy Council on Higher Education in Agriculture, President of the California Agricultural Leadership Associates, and co-chair of the Northern California Advocates for Global Education. His involvement in his community has also extended to numerous non-profit organizations including the Sonoma County Farm Bureau, the Sonoma County 4-H Foundation, Chair of the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa Foundation, and Director of the Sonoma County Harvest Fair among others.

Over the years, Dean Olson has been recognized for his many accomplishments with such honors as the Friend of 4-H Award, the Rotarian of the Year Award for Northern California, the Friend of Sonoma County Agriculture Award and the Harold D. Bostock Lifetime of Service Rotary Award.

Madam Speaker, Dean Olson has had a long and distinguished career where he has been a model for his community and his profession. He plans to spend his retirement years with his wife, Elaine, and their 6 grandchildren pursuing their many hobbies. It is appropriate at this time that we honor Dean Olson for his many accomplishments and wish him well in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2008 CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LEGACY AWARDS

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 29, 2008*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the recipients of the 2008 Chester County Community Foundation Legacy Awards.

The Foundation annually recognizes members of the community who embody its mission of making Chester County, Pennsylvania a vibrant place to live, work and raise a family.

The following awards will be presented to those who have exhibited exceptional charitable commitment and dedicated community involvement:

Carol Ware Gates, Ph.D. of Christiana will receive the Jordan Award for Lifelong Philanthropy; Peg Anderson of Coatesville will receive the Thanks For Caring Award for community involvement; Herr Foods of Nottingham will receive the Corporate Social Investment Award; John A. Featherman, III, Esq. of West Chester will receive the Door Opener Award for introducing prospective endowment fund donors to the Community Foundation; and the West Chester University Relay for Life Student Committee will receive the Youth Philanthropy Award.

The Community Foundation will honor the contributions these recipients have made to

the community during the Annual Meeting and Legacy Awards Ceremony, Tuesday, October 14, 2008, in Philips Auditorium on the campus of West Chester University.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting all of the recipients for these well-deserved awards and commending them for giving so much of themselves while serving others and building a better Chester County.

INTRODUCTION TO H.O.P.E.

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 29, 2008*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of my bill, the H.O.P.E. resolution of 2008: Honoring Organizers for Promoting Equality.

In every community across our Nation, the contributions of community organizers are woven into the fabric of our history. They have worked to ignite movements such as the Underground Railroad, farm laborers' rights, civil rights, and women's suffrage. Today, community organizers in my own city of Chicago fight for improved housing, adult literacy initiatives, equal access to quality healthcare, and fair and just immigration laws.

As citizens of the United States—a country founded on the principles of freedom and justice—we should not discredit the serious and historic responsibilities of community organizers. I believe that there is no greater responsibility than standing up to injustice.

The men and women who followed in the footsteps of César Chávez and were committed to speak out for the voiceless, who saw the work of Jane Addams and decided to champion an unpopular cause, or who heard the words of Dr. Martin Luther King and chose to stand firm against the status quo—these men and women know where true power lies. In educating and encouraging others to reject injustice and to demand change, organizers create better communities and a better country for us all.

Madam Speaker, let me conclude with these words from Thomas Jefferson: "Enlighten the people, generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like spirits at the dawn of day." Community organizers play an integral role in empowering people of every faith, gender, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation, and their efforts are worthy of more than a punch line.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 29, 2008*

Mr. BILBRAY. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman BRIAN BILBRAY.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: RDT&E, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Burnham Institute for Medical Research.

Address of Requesting Entity: 10901 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037.

Description of Request: Recent world events have made abundantly clear the need for a deeper understanding of the molecular and cellular mechanisms employed by bacterial and viral pathogens that would facilitate the design of countermeasures to weaponized biological agents such as anthrax, ricin, smallpox virus, botulinum toxin or plague bacteria. Additionally, as evidenced by the ever-present threat of viral pandemics and the relentless rise of antibiotic-resistance, there is a clear and urgent need for the development of new families of therapeutic agents—antibiotics, vaccines, antitoxins and antivirals. Given the large and growing number of recalcitrant pathogens, the most useful new therapeutics are likely to have broad-spectrum efficacy; to target immutable elements of the pathogen or host; to be rapidly adaptable in the face of natural or engineered variants; and to be physically robust.

To assist the United States Army in protecting our soldiers against these growing threats, I secured \$2.4 million for the Infectious & Inflammatory Disease Center (IIDC) at the Burnham Institute for Medical Research, which will build on its studies of diseases that result from a broad range of human pathogens. The work will define and characterize host responses to infection, including innate and adaptive immunity and inflammation, providing a molecular understanding of host-pathogen interactions. Over the next ten years, many antibiotics currently prescribed to treat bacterial infections will no longer be effective owing to microbial resistance. Drug-resistant strains of some pathogens, such as the bacteria that cause tuberculosis, and MRSA, have already appeared. Several deadly viral agents have also emerged, threatening both our soldiers in the battlefield as well as large civilian populations; and, except for some vaccines, few treatments for viral infections exist to date.

With regard to infectious diseases, a major goal of the IIDC is to discover, characterize and validate novel virulence factors and toxins from infectious agents, working closely with our bioinformatics group who annotate (attempt to assign function based on the DNA sequence) the rapidly expanding number of pathogen genome sequences. These combined studies facilitate the discovery of novel but conserved pathways that may be validated as targets for broad-spectrum antibiotics. Complementary strategies will be developed to produce drug-like compounds for further development, including High-Throughput Screening (HTS), 'in silico' screening, and the development and application of NMR-based fragment approaches (the Institute hosts "The San Diego Chemical Library Screening Center", one of 5 such centers nationwide). The IIDC will continue its well-funded studies of the most likely agents of bioterrorism, including anthrax (*Bacillus anthracis*), smallpox (*Variola virus*), and plague (*Yersinia pestis*); but it will also expand its focus to the study of emerging diseases such as SARS, West Nile and Dengue Viruses, as well as preparing countermeasures to treat a possible influenza pandemic—should avian flu strain H5N1 gain the ability to transmit directly from person to person.

A major new focus of the IIDC will be to understand and exploit host responses to infection. Human cells provide the never-ending