

This request is consistent with the mission of the FTA's Bus and Bus Facilities account.

Amount: \$142,500

Financial Breakdown: Most of the money (\$115,000) will be used to purchase one medium duty bus. The rest of the money will be used for upgraded routing software. Van Buren County will be providing their required matching funds.

9. Niles Dial-a-Ride Bus Acquisition

Department: Transportation

Account: FTA—Bus and Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Niles

Address of Requesting Entity: 623 N. Second St., Niles, MI 49120

Description of Request: The City of Niles is seeking to purchase two medium-sized busses to accommodate a new route that will stop at all major retail centers between Niles, MI and South Bend, IN. This request is consistent with the mission of the FTA's Bus and Bus Facilities account.

Amount: \$228,000

Financial Breakdown: The entirety of this money will be used to purchase two medium-sized busses. The city of Niles will be providing their required matching funds.

10. Apple Fire Blight

Department: Agriculture

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University

Address of Requesting Entity:

Description of Request: Fire Blight is a major threat to Michigan's apple trees and has reduced apple acreage in Michigan by an astounding 24%. Michigan and New York researchers are taking aggressive measures against fire blight including development of blight-resistant varieties and new, environmentally responsible control strategies. Finding ways to control and curb fire blight is of critical importance to apple growers in my district and elsewhere. This research is very promising, and its results will help apple growers significantly increase their yields.

Amount: \$346,000

Financial Breakdown: Approximately, \$148,000 is for the salaries of laboratory and field research personal; and \$36,000 is for materials and supplies. Michigan State University has obtained funding from the Michigan Apple Committee and industry sources and will continue to fund the tire blight research at MSU at a level of \$52,500 in FY09.

12. Phytophthora Research

Department: Agriculture

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University

Address of Requesting Entity:

Description of Request: Researchers at Michigan State University are leaders in the fight to control *Phytophthora capsici*, a fungal-like pathogen that lives in the soil and causes numerous plants to rot. *Phytophthora* management has been complicated by its longevity in soils (10 or more years), its ability to spread in water, its resistance to a key fungicides and lack of disease resistant varieties. Michigan State University has developed new techniques for control and resistant varieties. However, losses caused by *Phytophthora* have become so large throughout the nation in recent years that the economic viability of the vege-

table industries in many states is at risk, and more research is necessary. Since 1996, researchers have leveraged private, state and federal funds to significantly advance disease management. The widespread crop loss caused by *Phytophthora capsici* will be lessened, keeping family farms and their communities viable. Spread of *Phytophthora* to new sites will be stopped. Ways to remediate/treat infested ground and water sources will be identified. Integrated management strategies that emphasize cultural methods and environmentally friendly practices will be developed.

Amount: \$346,000

Financial Breakdown: This money will provide 346,000 in funding for *Phytophthora* research at Michigan State University. Approximately 85 percent of the funding will go to researchers, technicians and students. Approximately 15 percent will be used for materials, supplies and administration. Michigan State University has received outside sources of funding for *Phytophthora* research as well. This funding is consistent with the authorized purpose of the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service.

NATIONAL LINK AWARENESS MONTH

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to bring awareness to the link between animal cruelty and other forms of societal violence by designating the month of May 2009 as National Link Awareness Month.

This resolution would highlight the need for more attention and resources to be focused on how violence toward animals is indicative of other violent tendencies. By investigating the link further, information could be gathered that will help mitigate societal violence.

Psychological, sociological, and criminological studies have shown that violent offenders frequently had a history of abusing animals during their childhood and adolescence. The FBI has recognized the connection since the 1970s, when its analysis of the lives of serial killers suggested that most had killed or tortured animals as children. Research has also shown patterns of animal cruelty among perpetrators of child abuse, spousal abuse, and elder abuse. In fact, the American Psychiatric Association considers animal cruelty one of the diagnostic criteria of conduct disorder.

The link between animal abuse and domestic violence is a recognized fact. Each year, defenseless pets face the sad and disturbing reality that they will be victims of cruelty and abuse. Domestic abusers commonly torture or kill family pets as a method of exerting control and ensuring submission. This causes victims, children and adults alike, to remain in violent households in order to ensure their beloved pets are not harmed further.

Research indicates that children who are exposed to domestic violence are nearly three times more likely to mistreat animals than children who are not exposed to such violence. Tragically, this behavior is often symptomatic of future abuse toward other animals or

human beings. Significant research documents a relationship between childhood histories of animal cruelty and patterns of chronic interpersonal aggression.

Due to the correlation between animal abuse and other forms of family and community violence, animal abuse must be taken very seriously. Human services, animal services, and law enforcement agencies must share resources and expertise to address animal and human related violence in communities. By effectively and comprehensively addressing the link between violence toward animals and other forms of societal violence, we can learn information that will help stop violence in the home as well as the community at large.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the designation of May 2009 as National Link Awareness Month so that more awareness will be brought to the link between animal cruelty and other forms of violence in society.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers—Operations & Maintenance

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Port Manatee

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 Tampa Bay Way, Palmetto, FL 34221

Description of Request: I secured \$2,483,000 for Maintenance Dredging at Port Manatee.

Funding will be used to perform maintenance dredging as needed (generally not every year). The funds being requested are appropriated in the Corps of Engineers' O&M Account but are entirely derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF). The Trust Fund is financed by a Harbor Maintenance Tax of 1/8 of one percent of the value of imports and domestic traffic and this generates considerably more than the amount actually appropriated by Congress each year for the navigation projects. The requested funds are needed to restore full project dimension of the Phases I and II work.

The Fiscal Year 2009 federal budget for the Army Corps of Engineers includes \$2.6 million for Manatee Harbor O&M.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers—Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Port Manatee

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 Tampa Bay Way, Palmetto, FL 34221

Description of Request: I secured \$478,000 for a General Reevaluation Report (GRR) on Tampa Harbor.