

remainder of the war. On November 29, 1993, Newsweek quoted a senior U.S. Government official as saying, "what we see now is a systematic destruction of every village in their (the Armenians) way. It's vandalism."

Altogether, the occupied areas represent roughly 20 percent of the territory of Azerbaijan. And, altogether roughly one million Azerbaijanis were evicted from their homes over the course of the Armenian-Azerbaijan war.

Armenia's then-defense minister Serge Sarkisian in an interview with British journalist Tomas de Waal openly admitted that "before Khojaly the Azerbaijanis thought that . . . the Armenians were people who could not raise their hands against the civilian population. We were able to break that [stereotype]."

Madam Speaker, in recognition of this horrific day, an international humanitarian awareness campaign, "Justice for Khojaly," was initiated by Mrs. Leyla Aliyeva, and provides much needed information on the massacre through its website for interested parties. In the wake of the 17th anniversary of this massacre, I encourage all of us to familiarize ourselves with this dreadful past so it is not repeated in the future. I also stand with all Azerbaijani-Americans as they recognize and commemorate this solemn day.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES "CHUCK"
BEEMAN

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor a loving father, loyal husband, adoring grandfather, Charles "Chuck" Beeman.

Born in Clovis, New Mexico, his family moved to San Bernardino, California where he grew up to become a longstanding, influential member of the community. Having graduated from San Bernardino High School in 1950, Chuck received a track scholarship to attend USC. However, it was his thirst for education that made him truly shine as he earned a doctorate in pharmacy from USC in 1956.

In addition to serving in the Army and the Army Reserve, Chuck became a successful businessman, opening Beeman's Pharmacy at St. Bernardine Medical Center in 1963. At the same time, he continued working at Krause Pharmacy on North E Street. In 1971, Chuck expanded his business by opening a second Beeman's Pharmacy across the street in 1971. However, his passion and concern for the community reached beyond his place of work as he was a strong advocate for higher education.

Appointed to the San Bernardino Community College District board in 1983, Chuck served until November 2008. Having served for twelve years together on the board, I always respected his leadership and dedication to the community. Through our bipartisan efforts, we were always very supportive of one another. Together, we were successful in helping implement the first Hispanic President of sister schools San Bernardino Valley Col-

lege and Crafton Hills College. We also were instrumental in securing funding from public and private partnership in order to reinstitute the wrestling program at San Bernardino Valley College.

Survived by his wife, Janice, his memory will also be carried on by his children Christopher Beeman, Beth Beeman Dorado, Roland "Scott" Beeman and Gary Beeman; his brother; Jerry Beeman; his sister, Lois Waugh; and Chuck's loving twelve grandchildren.

As a longtime colleague and friend of Chuck's, I'll always remember his love for model car racing and though new to the game, a great golfer as well. At the last San Bernardino Community College meeting in December where we were celebrating his contribution to the District, I appreciated the mention that we can now add a 78 for his best round of golf to Chuck's long list of accomplishments.

I would like to express my greatest sympathies for his family's loss. Let us take a moment to remember this great man and his admirable dedication to instilling positive change and leading an exemplary life, one whose footsteps we all hope to follow. The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara, my family and I are with his family at this time.

God Bless Charles "Chuck" Beeman for love of country and mankind.

THE LAWLESSNESS SOUTH OF THE
BORDER CONTINUES . . . TOO
DANGEROUS FOR MARINES?

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Americans are still under vicious attack in Mexico. How violent is it on the border? Last month, Marines at Camp Pendleton were barred from visiting Tijuana, Mexico. Lt. General Samuel Helland of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton restricted Marines from traveling to Tijuana because they are concerned for the safety of Marines. Our United States Marines, Camp Pendleton Marines, who have toured in Iraq and Afghanistan can't travel 60 miles to the Mexican border because it is too dangerous.

In 2008, over 800 people were killed in Tijuana, compared to the 2007 death toll number of 337. Organized, violent crimes continue to spread south of the border. Currently, the U.S. Department of State's travel alert still exists for Mexican border towns. The State Department reports that "Mexican drug cartels are engaged in an increasingly violent fight for control of narcotics trafficking routes along the U.S.-Mexico border . . . recent drug cartels have taken on the characteristics of small unit combat, with cartels employing automatic weapons and, on occasion, grenades." I have been down to the Texas-Mexico border now 14 times, and I have talked to local sheriffs who testify to the wild, Wild West border style wars that take place in these towns and corroborate with the U.S. Department of State's warnings to Americans.

These are dangerous, deadly times on the U.S.-Mexico border, dangerous enough to ban

United States Marines. It is time we deal with the lawlessness on the U.S.-Mexico Border.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 1105, OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009, and I thank Chairman OBEY, my Chairman, as well as the leadership, for their work in putting this bill together.

Today's action on the Omnibus Appropriations bill will complete action on the federal budget for fiscal year 2009.

When we originally began this process over a year ago, we were dealing with a President who rejected the idea that we needed to invest in our children's education.

He didn't think we should fund job training and employment services to ensure that American workers could compete in the global economy.

He didn't think that all Americans should have access to quality affordable health care, or that we should try and lift up the more than 37 million people living in poverty.

He rejected the basic notion that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" and tried to cut funding for the CDC, while opposing increases in funding for cutting edge biomedical research to create the next generation of miracle drugs.

He told us in no uncertain terms that he would veto any federal budget we passed that tried to invest in education, job training, healthcare, alternative energy, and local law enforcement and ensure the continued prosperity of our nation.

And he did so while demanding that we provide hundreds of billions of dollars to fund the ongoing war and occupation in Iraq, and to bail out the banking industry for their greed and mismanagement.

Rather than accepting the President's position that the American people were not worth investing in, we decided to wait him out.

Today we have a President, who rejects the failed economic policies and ideologies of the last eight years.

We have a President who believes that, yes, the American people—our constituents—deserve a government that works for them, and that is willing to invest in them to ensure that they can get a good education, live healthy and productive lives, and obtain meaningful employment, and raise their children in a just and peaceful world.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, change has indeed come to our nation's capital. And now we've got to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

The Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 makes critical investments in a range of programs and builds on the economic stimulus package to help put America to work.

I urge my colleagues to support it.

CAPTIVE PRIMATE SAFETY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, as the lead Republican sponsor I am pleased to rise in support of the Captive Primate Safety Act. This legislation, supported by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, the Humane Society of the United States, and the Jane Goodall Institute, among others, would protect public health and safety and enhance animal welfare by preventing people from keeping nonhuman primates as pets.

On February 16, 2009, Travis, a 200-pound chimpanzee, attacked a 55-year-old woman in Connecticut. Travis, a popular figure in his home town who appeared in television commercials and posed for photographs, inflicted such massive injuries on the victim that she now awaits a face transplant.

This gruesome incident highlights the fact that keeping a primate for a pet is both dangerous to the owner and inhumane to the animal. Over the past decade, roughly 100 people have been injured by primates, many of whom are children. Acts of neglect have also occurred in my home state of Illinois. In October 2008, Chicago police seized a ring-tailed lemur that was reportedly found with no food, little water, and standing in his own waste.

Although nonhuman primates are our closest living relatives, because they have unique needs and can be dangerous, they should not be kept as pets. With an estimated 15,000 primates in private hands, federal legislation is needed to reinforce this fact.

This legislation would amend the Lacey Act by adding nonhuman primates to the list of "prohibited wildlife species," declaring it illegal for any individual person to import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase any prohibited wildlife species. The bill exempts zoos, universities, and wildlife sanctuaries. Having passed in the 110th Congress overwhelmingly, I strongly encourage my colleagues to join me again in passing this needed and timely legislation.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO
FAMILIES OF VICTIMS OF CRASH
OF CONTINENTAL CONNECTION
FLIGHT 3407

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 183, a resolution expressing condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of the crash of Continental Connection Flight 3407.

I want to thank my colleagues, Mr. LEE and the members of the New York delegation, for introducing this resolution.

On February 12, 2009, Continental Connection Flight 3407 crashed just a few miles from the Buffalo Niagara International Airport. It was a tragic accident and our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims.

Fifty people died as a result of this crash, and an investigation is underway to determine the cause of that crash.

While we have the safest air transportation system in the world, we must not become complacent.

Again, we, as a nation, mourn the loss of Continental Connection Flight 3407 and urge my colleagues to strongly support H. Res. 183.

THE GIDEONS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Abraham Lincoln believed that "the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to a man." For 100 years The Gideon's, a non-denominational evangelical group of professional businessmen, have labored to extend this heavenly gift by distributing Bibles throughout the world. I commend the Gideon's as January 2008 marks their centennial anniversary of serving God and sharing the gospel of Jesus.

"Of the many influences that have shaped the United States into a distinctive nation and people, none may be said to be more fundamental and enduring than the Bible." Because of this the Gideon's are an undeniable part of American history. From their humble roots in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, three traveling businessmen devised a plan called "the Bible project". Their mission was to simply furnish a Bible in hotel rooms throughout the United States. One hundred years later The Gideon's presence in America and across the globe has grown tremendously. They have now placed more than 1.3 billion Bibles in more than 180 countries around the world.

The Gideon's patriotic spirit is truly realized through their quest to give all military personnel serving in the United States Armed Forces a small, pocket size New Testament. They also distribute Bibles to patients in United States Veterans hospitals. Their distribution of Scriptures, touches the lives of many people regardless of age, gender, income, or need and for that they are great patriots.

For the past 100 years, Gideons International members have given so much time and service to their communities, state, nation and the world. In so doing, they have brought the Gospel message to life by distributing God's Word. I invite you to join me in honoring all Gideons for their continued faithfulness and service to God.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 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: Health Resources and Services (HRSA)—Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Child Protection Center, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1750 17th St., Bldg. L, Sarasota, FL 34234

Description of Request: I secured \$285,000 for the Child Protection Center.

The "Pillar of Hope" Campaign seeks to build a Child Advocacy Center in Sarasota, Florida. Along with the expansion of the counseling program, the Center will have two new state-of-the-art medical exams rooms at their location. By having the ability to provide more medical services to abused children the burden on local emergency rooms will be lessened. Currently, the Center is unable to offer certain services as they are limited in space in their current location.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Charlotte County

Address of Requesting Entity: 18500 Murdock Circle, Suite 536

Description of Request: I secured \$380,000 for Evacuation Route Widening/Burnt Store Road Project.

Funds will be used to complete design and begin construction of this evacuation route, extending from Zemel Road to the Lee/Charlotte County line. Emergency evacuation times from Charlotte and Lee Counties are unacceptably high. The Burnt Store Road evacuation road, which services over 250,000 residents in Lee and Charlotte Counties, requires 17.3 hours clearance time for a category three hurricane during peak season.

Funds will be used to expand the existing 2-lane rural highway to a 4-lane divided arterial with shoulders. It is estimated that this effort will reduce clearance time by 11 hours and enhance the overall safety of the route.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers—Investigations
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Sarasota

Address of Requesting Entity: 1565 First Street, Sarasota, FL 34236

Description of Request: I secured \$166,250 for the revitalization of the Robert L. Taylor Community Center as part of the Newtown Redevelopment Comprehensive Plan.

The Robert L. Taylor Community Center is the only government sponsored/owned recreation center in Newtown and is the most heavily used recreation center in the City. Its renovation will provide modern recreation facilities for the youth of Newtown. The recreation center and its 10 acres of land, including athletic fields and a pool, is the home of the Redskins football league (little league football), a gym, weight room, auditorium (used heavily by seniors for meetings and bingo, etc.), and business offices. The center is also the primary facility used by local high school student athletes when their school facilities are in use by in-season sports. Unfortunately, most of the facilities are in need of complete intense renovation or replacement.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN