

women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Shirley Noble Volunteerism Award will be given to Doris Zampella, owner and executive vice president of E.A. Boniakowski Agency Inc. in Green Brook.

Doris also is a founding partner of two insurance agencies, Jaz Maz Enterprises LLC, and owns and operates three Rita's franchises in Central Jersey. She is a volunteer Emergency Medical Technician with the Martinsville Rescue Squad.

I am pleased to congratulate Doris Zampella for her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 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: NOAA—Operations, Research, and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mote Marine Laboratory

Address of Requesting Entity: 1600 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota, Fl. 34236

Description of Request: I secured \$500,000 for Science Consortium for Ocean Replenishment (SCORE) at Mote Marine Laboratory.

SCORE is a multi-state initiative for the recovery of the nation's ocean fisheries. Its approach is to replenish diminishing marine fisheries stocks based on scientific protocols developed through a highly coordinated national effort focused on demonstration of successful stock enhancement. This fast-track strategy has the potential to be more cost-effective and timely than policy measures traditionally used to conserve and sustain ocean resources. The consortium includes institutions from Florida, New Hampshire, Washington and University of Southern Mississippi.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service—SRG Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mote Marine Laboratory

Address of Requesting Entity: 1600 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota, Fl. 34236

Description of Request: I secured \$416,000 sustainable aquaculture food technology innovations.

Mote Marine Laboratory and the University of Texas Marine Science Institute are seeking funds for a five-year research program to develop innovative and sustainable technologies to farm marine fishes on land and to expand the supply of safe seafood for U.S. consumers. A critical need exists for inland recirculating aquaculture technologies to reduce

the large and growing global demand for seafood, to reduce fishing pressure on declining wild fish populations, and to improve our nation's food security and health. The growing demand for marine fishery resources is currently being met through imported seafood produced in coastal ponds or sea cages in other countries around the world.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding an earmark I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Member requesting: Congressman Gus M. BILIRAKIS

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Name of requesting entity: Phoenix House

Address of requesting entity: 6604 Harney Road, Tampa, Florida 33610

Description: The \$200,000 will be used to help develop an enhanced residential substance abuse treatment program for women in Hillsborough County, Florida. This funding is justified because Byrne discretionary grants are used to help states and local communities prevent drug abuse and crime, which is the purpose of this program.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Women's History Month, and I would like to congratulate a number of outstanding women who will be recognized at the Somerset County's Commission on the Status of Women awards in New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District.

The Commission presents awards annually in celebration of National Women's History Month in March. This year there are 17 women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Hometown Hero Award winner is Edith Lit of Manville.

For the past seven years, Edith has organized a "Wish List" campaign to make the holidays brighter for clients of Alternatives Inc. by encouraging her fellow Somerset County Library System employees to adopt a person or family.

For the past three years, she has included the Somerset Regional Animal Shelter in the libraries' "Wish List" drive.

Edith also participates in the "point in time" survey conducted by the county Department of Human Services to identify homeless individuals and families, and actively organizes co-workers and friends to help too.

I am pleased to congratulate Edith Lit for her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night, March 9, 2009, I was unable to cast my votes on H. Res. 210, H. Res. 222, and H.R. 131.

Had I been present for Roll Call #110, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Res. 210, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that providing breakfast in schools through the National School Breakfast Program has a positive impact on classroom performance, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for Roll Call #111, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Res. 222, Congratulating the National Assessment Governing Board on its 20th Anniversary in measuring student academic achievement, I would have voted "Aye."

Had I been present for Roll Call #112, on suspending the Rules and passing H.R. 131, the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act, I would have voted "Aye."

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information in regards to H.R. 1105, the Consolidated Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2009.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: COPS-Meth

Requesting Entity: Southeast Missouri Drug Task Force

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1763, Sikeston, Missouri 63801

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$165,000 to supplement and support operations of the Southeast Missouri Drug Task Force (SEMO DTF). SEMO DTF is a multi-jurisdictional drug task force unit that serves a 10 county area of Southeast Missouri. The unit conducts both cover and overt investigations into the possession, manufacture, and distribution of controlled substances. The funds will be spent as follows: \$28,000 for personnel, \$68,000 for overtime compensation, \$60,000 for equipment, \$2,500 for telecommunication services, \$5,000 for supplies, and \$1,500 for personnel expenses.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

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This year's Education Award winner is Karyn Malinowski of Manville. Karyn is the director of the Rutgers Equine Science Center at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station in New Brunswick.

Karyn has been a faculty member at Rutgers University since 1978. She is believed to be the first female equine-extension specialist in the nation.

I am pleased to congratulate Karyn Malinowski for her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INCLUSIVE HOME DESIGN ACT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Inclusive Home Design Act. This critical legislation will make more new homes accessible, or inclusive, for people with disabilities. I want to thank my colleagues SAM FARR, MADELEINE BORDALLO, and JIM MCGOVERN for joining me today as original cosponsors of this legislation. I would also like to thank Eleanor Smith of Concrete Change and Beto Barrera and the staff of Access Living for their tireless efforts to move this legislation forward. This legislation is supported by the Paralyzed Veterans of America and many other national and local disabilities rights organizations.

Currently, only five percent of new single-family homes and townhouses built with federal assistance require any design features that make it possible for people with mobility impairments to live in or even visit the homes. The remaining 95 percent are built with unnecessary architectural barriers.

The Inclusive Home Design Act is based on the concept of integrating basic accessibility features into newly-built homes and builds on the movement of establishing "visitability" standards. Visitability is an affordable, sustainable, and inclusive design approach that will improve the availability of accessible housing for individuals with mobility impairments, including disabled veterans and seniors.

Specifically, the legislation would require all newly-built single-family homes and townhouses receiving federal funds to meet four accessibility standards:

First, there must be at least one accessible, or "zero step," entrance into the home.

Second, the doorways on the main level of the home must be wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair.

Three, at least one bathroom on the main floor must be wheelchair accessible.

And finally, light switches and thermostats must be at a reachable height from a wheelchair.

Adopting these standards for a single family home is not prohibitively expensive. The average added cost for homes built with accessibility features is between \$100 and \$600. Retrofitting a home, on the other hand, can cost several thousand dollars.

Architects and builders would also have latitude in how they comply with the act. For example, the zero step entrance can be placed at the front, side, or back of the home. The accessible route can even go through an attached garage. In addition, the zero step entrance requirements can be waived if the terrain makes compliance impractical.

When homes are accessible, it benefits not only today's disability community but also all of us who have friends and family members with disabilities. Accessible homes also benefit many people who are not currently disabled but may experience a temporary injury or permanent disability during their lifetimes. In fact, 3 out of 10 people will face a disability before age 67.

In addition, by making more new homes accessible, we also make it possible for more seniors to age at home—an issue that is increasingly important as the population grows older. In 2000, there were 30.5 million people between 65–84 years old; that number will grow to 47 million by 2020. 58 percent of people over the age of 80 suffer from some kind of physical impairment. Often, the prohibitive cost of making existing homes accessible deprives seniors of their independence and pushes them into nursing homes. Allowing more people to age at home will both save taxpayers money and help improve the quality of life for our seniors.

Many towns and states have already incorporated visitability standards. This list includes Chicago, Naperville, Bolingbrook, and Urbana, Illinois; Atlanta, Georgia; Iowa City, Iowa; St. Petersburg, Florida; Pima County, Arizona; Vermont; Texas; Kansas; Minnesota; and others. The United Kingdom also passed a law in March 1998 mandating that every new home become accessible. A federal law in the United States will build on the momentum that has already been created.

Passage of the Inclusive Home Design Act would mean that all homes built with federal dollars would be accessible, and the number of homes available for people with disabilities would be greatly increased. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues to pass this legislation, the Inclusive Home Design Act, into law.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Month in March. This year there are 17 women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Education Award winner is Helen "Chickie" Haines of Hillsborough. Chickie has helped educate thousands of students in her 38 years with the Bound Brook School District.

She started as an elementary school teacher, and in 2004 became principal of the Lafayette and LaMonte elementary schools, earning the "Who's Who Among America's Teachers" award in 2002. Chickie has served on Hillsborough's Township Committee, Zoning Board, environmental commission and open space committee.

I am pleased to congratulate Helen Haines on her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

STOCK MARKET RECOVERY ACT, H.R. 1406

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, the stock market's loss over the last six weeks suggests that the policies of this Congress are magnifying the depths of this recession, not aiding its recovery. Let's look at recent events:

1. Stocks are now traded in a bear market that declined 20 percent since the President's inauguration. This decline is faster than any other President since the First World War. The decline is steeper than Presidents Hoover or Roosevelt experienced. In fact, by this point in the Roosevelt administration, the market showed gains.

2. The market decline accelerated as the Congress and President promulgated their policies:

a. From the year's-end to the inauguration, the market fell 5 percent.

b. From inauguration to Secretary Geithner's speech, the market rose 2.5 percent in anticipation of good economic policies.

c. From Secretary Geithner's speech to the budget release, the market fell 12 percent.

d. From the budget release to March 6, the market fell another 11.2 percent.

As details of congressional legislation and the Administration's plans were published, the market accelerated its fall. A number of "recession-proof" industries lost value after the President released his budget. Oil prices rose nearly 4 percent, but the value of American energy companies fell by the following amounts up to 20 percent.

In other words, Americans are paying higher gas prices while the American companies that hire our people for this sector expect to see lower returns on capital. This is not a good trend and sends a strong market signal to serve the U.S. market (where prices are higher) from offshore facilities (where costs are lower).

Congress should consider more than just spending and borrowing from abroad. Key policies that would make stocks more attractive include:

Suspending the Mark-to-Market rule that makes banks look less valuable than they actually are.