

Dennis Wilcox on his accomplishments. It is an honor to represent Dennis in Congress, and I wish him the best in his future.

HONORING ALISA FERGUSON FOR  
HER DEDICATED SERVICE

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 2009*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Alisa Ferguson for her dedicated service over the last six years as she has worked in my personal office and on the staff of the Science and Technology Committee. Friday will be her last day working in the House, and she will certainly be missed as she leaves the Hill to pursue a new endeavor.

Alisa began her career on Capitol Hill seven years ago as a legislative assistant to Rep. Brian Baird, where she developed an affinity for energy policy. In 2003, she began working in my personal office and quickly proved herself to be a valuable addition. She was adept at handling a myriad of issues, including appropriations and my Energy and Commerce Committee work, and addressing the concerns and needs of my constituents in Middle Tennessee.

When I became chairman of the Science and Technology Committee in 2007, I asked Alisa to join the committee staff as legislative director. She has risen to and triumphed over every challenge, and she has won the respect of her colleagues for her skill in running the committee's legislative operation. Two of the committee's finest legislative achievements, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and the America COMPETES Act, are due in no small measure to Alisa's command of the issues, knowledge of the legislative process and ability to get things done.

Alisa has been invaluable to me, the committee, the state of Tennessee and our nation. She is the very definition of a "go-to" person, and I'm fairly certain her blood now bears a tinge of MTSU Raider Blue as a result of her hard work over the years.

While I am sad to see her go, I will always be grateful for her advice and counsel over the years. Alisa, I wish you all the best.

TRAVIS REA MYERS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to recognize Travis Rea Myers on the occasion of his approaching graduation from the United States Naval Academy on May 22nd, 2009.

Travis is the son of Rea and Myrna Myers and is a graduate of Blue Springs High School in Blue Springs, Missouri. In 2005, I was proud to nominate Travis to the Naval Academy. It was evident that Travis was among the best and brightest of his class, and that he was going to be successful in life, no matter which path he chose. He will graduate in May with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aero-

space Engineering. Following in the footsteps of his father Rea, Travis will be a second generation graduate from the Naval Academy.

Travis has earned the gratitude and respect of his community of Blue Springs, Missouri. The Blue Springs Rotary Club even honored Travis by presenting him with his Officers Sabre at a meeting in his honor. His dedication and hard work should serve as an example to the rest of us on how we can better serve each other and our great nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending Travis Myers for his dedication to his community and his country. I know Travis' family and friends join with me in congratulating him on his graduation and wishing him best of luck on all of his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE MEN AND  
WOMEN OF THE ARMED SER-  
VICES AND THEIR FAMILIES

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 2009*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the honorable service and devotion to duty of our men and women of the United States Armed Services. These men and women in uniform have put themselves in harms way—many having given the ultimate sacrifice—in defense of freedom and liberty at home and abroad. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my utmost thanks and appreciation to their selfless service and to wish them all the best in the years to come.

As part of this recognition, I would like to thank the military spouses who spend weeks and months without their significant others, often having to raise families on their own. My appreciation also goes out to the parents, family members and communities who provide support for the soldier and their family during these trying times. I would also like to extend my condolences and appreciation to the American Gold Star Mothers who have lost a son or daughter while serving our great country. These women are too counted as heroes for our country.

In addition to our active duty soldiers, I would like to thank our veterans, Reservists and Military Academy personnel. These individuals are the past, present and future of what protects American values each day. May all those who are involved with the Armed Services know the support of a grateful nation.

THANKS TO DOREEN WELSH, A  
SELFLESS HERO OF U.S. AIR-  
WAYS FLIGHT 1549

**HON. JASON ALTMIRE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 2009*

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I would like to salute Doreen Welsh of Ambridge, Pennsylvania for her heroic and selfless action on U.S. Airways Flight 1549, now known as the "Miracle on the Hudson." Doreen Welsh served as a flight attendant on Flight 1549,

which made a successful emergency landing on the Hudson River on January 15, 2009, and helped to safely evacuate the flight's passengers.

The heroic deeds and masterful skills of Flight 1549's crew is something our nation will never forget.

Despite being injured during the landing, Doreen Welsh helped to evacuate passengers and ensure that no lives were lost that day. All western Pennsylvanians should be proud that one of our own played such a crucial role in saving the lives of 150 passengers and making this a truly miraculous landing.

I want to salute Doreen Welsh for her admirable service and thank her for sacrificing her own comfort for the safety of the passengers in her care and inspiring Americans everywhere in the process.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 2009*

Mr. GERLACH. 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, Consolidated Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2009.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—FTA PRIORITY CONSIDERATION PROJECTS

\$6 million for the Ardmore Transportation Center—Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority—123 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the funding made available for the Ardmore Transportation Center through the U.S. Department of Transportation Appropriations Acts for Federal Fiscal Year 2005 shall remain available for that project during fiscal year 2009."

\$1 million for the Coatesville Train Station—City of Coatesville—One City Hall Place, Coatesville, Pennsylvania. "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the funding made available for the Coatesville Train Station through the U.S. Department of Transportation Appropriations Acts for Federal Fiscal Year 2006 shall remain available for that project during fiscal year 2009."

TRIBUTE TO SANDRA BROCKMAN

**HON. KEVIN McCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 2009*

Mr. McCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a community leader, Sandra Brockman, on her retirement after 27 years of service to the people of Kern County, California, most recently as Chief Deputy Registrar of Voters.

Sandy Brockman began her career with Kern County on February 8, 1982 as a Deputy Court Clerk with the West Kern Municipal Court. In June 1984, she was promoted to Secretary, and five months later transferred to the County Clerk Election Division, where she has worked for over 25 years in the elections

field. Ms. Brockman's position was reclassified to Senior Secretary in 1987, and by taking specialized classes relating to the conduct and history of elections over a two year period, she earned a National Certification as a Certified Elections Registration Administrator. In 1998, she was promoted to Election Process Supervisor and became interim Election Division Chief in 2000, accepting the position as a permanent appointment six months later. Ms. Brockman continued her education by attending classes designed specifically for California election law and became a Certified California Professional Elections Administrator in 2005. She has worked and supervised nearly every section in elections and capped her career off as Chief Deputy Registrar of Voters.

Under her leadership, the Election Division, which conducts all federal, state and local elections in Kern County and maintains voter registration and precinct boundaries, implemented both voter registration and voting systems. She was the right person at the right time for the job; during the past seven years, the Elections Division has experienced more material changes in election law than in the previous 18 years of Ms. Brockman's career.

Ms. Brockman has worked long hours to ensure that the election process has integrity and transparency. Her accessibility and commitment to helping anyone needing information, assistance or direction personifies how dedicated she was as a public servant. Ms. Brockman's institutional knowledge, personality and dedication to the citizens of Kern County will be sorely missed. I thank Sandy for her service to Kern County and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

#### NATIONAL MS AWARENESS WEEK

### HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 2009*

Mrs. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today during National MS Awareness Week to bring attention to a disease that affects an estimated 400,000 people living in the United States. Multiple sclerosis is a chronic disease of the central nervous system that is unpredictable, the symptoms of which vary from person to person. Because MS affects individuals so differently, it is difficult to make generalizations about disability; however, MS is often characterized by tingling, numbness, painful sensations, muscle tightness or paralysis. Statistics suggest that two out of three people with MS remain able to walk over their lifetime, though many require a cane or other assistive device. MS is not always easy to diagnose because symptoms come and go but it is estimated every week, 200 people in the United States are diagnosed with MS.

I was diagnosed with MS in 2003; I have an intimate understanding about how important it is to find a cure for the disease. Research has developed "disease-modifying" drugs that help lessen the frequency and severity of MS attacks, reduce the accumulation of lesions in the brain and may slow the progression of disability, but we can do more.

Health insurance reform is a necessity in this country. Because insurance companies "tier" medications as a way to cut costs, peo-

ple diagnosed with MS often find their necessary medications financially out of reach. Decisions about which medications patients should take must be made by doctors, not corporations.

The National MS Society has been a tireless advocate for health care reform and research on behalf of persons living with MS. I would like to take a moment to recognize all the work the National MS Society has put into combating this disease. Through extensive research, providing comprehensive services to people with MS and through their advocacy, they have made great strides in raising MS awareness. I congratulate them on their hard work.

Madam Speaker, I know first-hand how important it is to fund medical research to find cures for chronic diseases. As individuals and as a government, we need to come together and provide the resources necessary to create a world free of MS. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in fighting for a cure for MS and other diseases, so that all Americans can live fully active, healthy lives.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 12, 2009*

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure and certification information for requests I made which are included in the text and/or report to accompany H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009. I certify that neither I, nor my spouse, have any financial interest in these requests, and certify that, to the best of my knowledge, these requests: (1) are not directed to an entity or program named or that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) are not intended for a "front" or "pass-through" entity; and (3) meet or exceed statutory requirements for matching funds (where applicable).

Requesting Member: Representative ROB BISHOP

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: COPS, Department of Justice

Name of requesting entity: Kaysville City, Utah

Address of requesting entity: 23 East Center, Kaysville, Utah 84037

Description of request: \$300,000 for law enforcement communications and operations technology

Requesting Member: Representative ROB BISHOP

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Name of requesting entity: Clearfield City

Address of requesting entity: 55 South State Street, Clearfield, Utah 84015

Description of request: \$200,000 for technology to combat gang activity

Requesting Member: Representative ROB BISHOP

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: Bureau of Reclamation, Water and Related Resources

Name of requesting entity: Park City

Address of requesting entity: PO Box 1480, Park City, Utah 84060

Description of request: \$200,000 for water feasibility study

Requesting Member: Representative ROB BISHOP

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy—Solar Energy

Name of requesting entity: Salt Lake County, Utah Address of requesting entity: 2001 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84190

Description of request: \$618,475 for the Energy Efficient Buildings Project

Requesting Member: Representative ROB BISHOP

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: Small Business Administration

Name of requesting entity: World Trade Center Utah

Address of requesting entity: 175 East 400 South, suite 609, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Description of request: \$385,000 for the World Trade Center Utah to connect the Utah and Intermountain business community to the people, companies, data, and government agencies which make up the fabric of global commerce, through training classes and cross cultural seminars, identification of new market opportunities, creating access to trade missions, and facilitating export financing, controls, and distribution.

Requesting Member: Representative ROB BISHOP

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: Economic Development Initiatives

Name of requesting entity: Clearfield City, UT

Address of requesting entity: 55 South State Street, Clearfield, Utah 84015

Description of request: \$380,000 for the purchase of blighted lands for use in the development of a private/public project known as West Phase I, a downtown redevelopment project within the city.

Requesting Member: Representative ROB BISHOP

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: National Park Service Statutory or Contractual Aid

Name of requesting entity: Ogden City, Utah Address of requesting entity: 2549 Washington Blvd, Ogden, Utah 84401

Description of request: \$300,000 to implement the Crossroads of the West Historic District.

Requesting Member: Representative ROB BISHOP

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: Environmental Protection Agency STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Name of requesting entity: Washington Terrace, UT

Address of requesting entity: 5249 South Pointe Drive, Washington Terrace, Utah 84405

Description of request: \$1,240,000 for water and sewer infrastructure replacement project

Requesting Member: Representative ROB BISHOP

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: Fund for the Improvement of Education

Name of requesting entity: Open Content Foundation at Utah State University

Address of requesting entity: 1750 North Research parkway, North Logan, UT 84341

Description of request: \$190,000 for curriculum development and textbook materials for Utah's ninth grade core curriculum.