

The Children of Fallen Soldiers is a non-profit organization based out of Round Rock, Texas with a goal to provide each child who has lost a parent in the line of duty, with \$25,000 to assist with college expenses, or to otherwise help them to start out in the world when they turn 18. The Children of Fallen Soldiers organization was born through the vision of the Rotary DISTRICT 5870, in Round Rock, Texas.

Fifteen central Texas children have been identified through the program who have lost a parent in the line of duty. The soldiers who were killed were all from Ft. Hood, Texas.

The Freedom Fest 2009, a 4th of July concert and fireworks presentation to benefit The Children of Fallen Soldiers, was held this year with the hard work of Landy, and other local sponsors.

It is an honor to recognize Landy, as he continues to be a true leader in Texas District 31, and in our country.

CONGRATULATING SUE LOFGREN—
SCI VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sue Lofgren from my home town of Tempe, Arizona. Sue is being recognized as the Sister Cities International Volunteer of the Year at the annual conference. This year's conference takes place in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

The cities of Tempe, Arizona and Timbuktu, Mali, West Africa have enjoyed an eighteen year partnership through Sister Cities International. This relationship has persevered, despite hurdles which would have daunted most people. Lack of modern communication methods in 1991, the language barrier, as well as the physical difficulties of travel to that remote part of the world, were just a few of the hurdles. Sue found a way to overcome all of them.

The number one issue facing Timbuktu was lack of water. Sue arranged for a retired water engineer to travel to Timbuktu—no easy task in itself—to assess the feasibility of drilling water wells. Once water was found 100 feet down, Sue's real work began. She organized a fundraising effort to secure the \$7,000 needed to drill a well, by selling bottled water bearing the label, "Water for You . . . and Timbuktu". The next hurdle was getting the money to Mali as Timbuktu had no bank, no Western Union, no nothing. This was eventually accomplished through a third party. When the first well opened, people literally danced in the streets and named that first effort, The Sue Lofgren Well. She has since raised money for six more wells.

When Sue made her first visit to Timbuktu, she packed her clothes and \$11,000 of donated medical supplies, reading glasses, soccer balls and school supplies. While on her visit, she was home-hosted and saw first hand the great needs of these proud people. She returned home and redoubled her efforts on their behalf.

To date, she has singlehandedly raised at least \$200,000 in aid for Timbuktu. In addition to the wells, money has gone to purchasing

wheelchairs, goats, sheep and camels, sewing machines, gardening supplies, medical and school supplies, as well as toilets and a millet grinder for the Women's Center. In 2008 she also facilitated a relationship with Project C.U.R.E which resulted in the donation of another \$500,000 in badly needed medical equipment.

All of this effort might seem to be enough for most of us, but not Sue. In addition to her efforts on Timbuktu's behalf, she volunteers a lot of her time to other programs of Tempe Sister Cities. She and her husband, Bob, have hosted international guests from Tempe's six other sister cities. She volunteers in the organization's gift shop, works in the kitchen for events and has organized the information booth at the annual Way Out West Oktoberfest. She is tireless in her dedication to Tempe Sister Cities, and especially to Timbuktu.

I am proud to call Sue Lofren a friend, and prouder yet that her efforts are being recognized by this wonderful award. Please join me in congratulating this outstanding person.

THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MR.
JESUS GONZALEZ VILLAGOMEZ

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jesus Gonzalez Villagomez, who celebrated his 100th birthday on May 5, 2009, surrounded by family, friends and loved ones.

Mr. Villagomez was born on May 5, 1909, in Villa Morelos, Michoacan, Mexico, to a ranching and farming family—Telesforo and Antonia Gonzalez Villagomez.

When he turned 18, he migrated to the United States entering at the Port of Brownsville in Brownsville, Texas, and a few years later returned to Mexico where he met and married his lifelong companion and wife, Mariana Aguillon Villagomez. Mr. Villagomez and his wife returned to the United States and settled in Fargo, North Dakota.

He joined the United States Army at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, during World War II and was honorably discharged. Mr. Villagomez would go on to make a name for himself holding positions with the Union Pacific Railroad and the Armour Meat Packing Company in Fargo, North Dakota, where he retired from.

He is fluent in English and Spanish and has a true love and passion for education. He has a son, Jesse Villagomez, Jr., of Ft. Worth, Texas, and a daughter, Maria Antonieta Villagomez, of Corpus Christi, Texas, as well as four grandchildren and three great grandsons.

Mr. Villagomez's hobbies include: gardening, cooking, reading, dancing, and traveling.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 100th birthday of Mr. Jesus Gonzalez Villagomez who has lived a happy life surrounded by family, friends and loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I submit a record of how I would have voted on June 18 and 26, 2009 when I was unavoidably detained.

Had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 383, "yes" on rollcall No. 390, "yes" on rollcall No. 400, "yes" on rollcall No. 406, and "no" on rollcall No. 472.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, consistent with the House Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, to the best of my knowledge the requests I have detailed below are (1) not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; and (2) not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark. As required by earmark standards adopted by the House Republican Conference, I submit the following information on projects I requested and that were included in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (H.R. 2997).

Account: Agriculture Research Service—Salaries and expenses

Project Name: Northwest Center for Small Fruits, Corvallis, OR

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research, 4845 B SW Dresden Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333

Project Location: Corvallis, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 2997 appropriates \$254,000 for the Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research conducted by USDA's Agriculture Research Service (ARS). According to the requesting entity, the appropriated funds for this project will be used by ARS to fund cooperative research, extension, and education activities on peer-reviewed small fruits research project proposals that will enhance profitability and sustainability of the small fruits industry in the Pacific Northwest.

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Project Name: Multi-commodity Research, OR

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-4501

Project Location: Corvallis, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 2997 appropriates \$244,000 for the Multi-commodity Research, OR program to be conducted by Oregon State University. Oregon State University has confirmed in their justification that the appropriated funds for this project will be used to