

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 position 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 Villagomes, 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 and surrounded by family, friends and loved ones.

HONORING JAMES C. KERNAN, JR.

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor James C. Kernan Jr. for his contribution to both our government and local community. Through his commitment to serving others, Mr. Kernan has affected the lives of many, both nationally and locally. For these reasons and many others, I believe he is worthy of recognition.

As a dedicated member of United States Army, James received numerous accolades commemorating his outstanding bravery. Among his many distinctions, James was awarded the Kuwait Liberation Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with two bronze stars, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal with a bronze star. After leaving the Army, Mr. Kernan continued to serve his country by enlisting in the Army Reserves. For years, James would travel from his home on Long Island to Utica, NY to train at the Elihu Root Army Reserve Center. Once again, James excelled, earning five separate Army Reserve Component Achievement Medals. I am proud to honor James for his 26 years of service in our Armed Forces.

Mr. Kernan's exemplary dedication does not end with his military record. Prior to his retirement in January, James spent thirty-five years as an employee of the Internal Revenue Service. Throughout his tenure, he was promoted through the organization, and received thirteen distinct awards for his accomplishments.

Apart from his lifetime of public service, Mr. Kernan is an invaluable asset to his community. While raising his two sons on Long Island, James, and his wife Ruth, organized countless fundraisers and community events. They dedicated themselves to parent associations, the Our Lady of Victory Elementary School, and the Notre Dame Convent, and accepted the presidency of the Trinity Parents' Club at Holy Trinity Diocesan High School. Mr. Kernan's life's work is a testament to his com-

mitment to developing a strong and healthy community for his children and others, James even acted as a volunteer referee for local little league games. Our children represent our future, and James has touched the lives of generations to follow.

The work of Mr. Kernan is inspiring, and I am grateful to him for all that he has accomplished. It is through the efforts of individuals such as James Kernan that our nation remains strong and prosperous. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing the gratitude of the U.S. Congress for his contributions to society.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MUHLENDORF

HON. PARKER GRIFFITH

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. David Muhendorf, President and CEO of Paper and Chemical Supply, on his recent appointment to the U.S. Chamber Board of Directors.

Throughout the years, David's dedication and commitment to the success of north Alabama have directly contributed to my district's economic success. Small business has always served to be the backbone of our nation, and Mr. Muhendorf's presence on the national economic stage will prove to be a great benefit to our country.

Earlier this year, David was named the 2008–2009 Shoals Citizen of the Year for his development work with the Chamber of Commerce of Northwest Alabama. He has also worked tirelessly for the area's education system with the Northwest Shoals Community College Board of Directors, for our local charities with the Shoals United Way, and for my State's economic development with the Business Council of Alabama.

Madam Speaker, I wish to congratulate Mr. David Muhendorf for his new appointment and thank him for his diligent and determined work for the Tennessee Valley, the State of Alabama and our country.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding authorizations I requested and were included as part of H.R. 2647, National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2010.

A request for the Marksmanship Skills Trainer. The funding would be used for procuring a portable self contained system that allows for multiple scenarios from training to combat skills. This is a multiple user system allowing for high output during times of training constraints. The trainers will be stationed at the various Texas Army National Guard facilities allowing for maximum use for the soldiers. The system allows for ongoing marksmanship training in a simulated environment without the expenditure of ammunition or need to travel to

a weapons range. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas National Guard, 2200 West 35th Street, Austin, TX 78763.

A request for the Mobile Firing Range. The mobile firing range is a self contained range that allows for the firing of pistol and rifle systems for the Texas National Guard. Currently there is no opportunity to fire weapons for training or qualification without traveling to a certified range on a military installation. The Texas Army National Guard currently does not have access to any indoor ranges that can be used to fire the M16/M4 which is the current armament for 90% of the soldiers within the Texas Army National Guard. The Mobile Firing Range will allow soldiers to train with their assigned weapons at home station. This system is a training and force multiplier due to the negation of travel and lodging, and staging needed when conducting this training on a military facility. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas National Guard, 2200 West 35th Street, Austin, TX 78763.

A request for the Visual Door Gunner Trainer (VDGT). The funding would be used for procuring a VDG T device that provides door gunnery and crew coordination training for UH–60 Blackhawk crewmembers. The VDG T also incorporates precision gunnery training to improve target engagement skills. This system is mobile and can be moved between Texas Army National Guard aviation facilities that have UH–60s. The system enables crews to train without leaving home station or flying additional hours. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas National Guard, 2200 West 35th Street, Austin, TX 78763.

A request for the Field Deployable Hologram Production System. The funding would be used for completing development of a compact production unit that produces 3D holographic imagery for mission planning and intelligence purposes for U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. The U.S. Army requests a self-contained, field-deployable EHI production system to accelerate imagery delivery to combat forces. The goal is a more efficient, cost effective production system that provides the deployed war fighter needed planning and intelligence capabilities on a much faster basis. The entity to receive funding for this project is Zebra Imaging, Inc, 9801 Metric Blvd, Austin, TX 78758.

A request for the Compact Pulsed Power Initiative. The funding would be used for the development of explosive- or battery-operated, compact, high-power radiation sources and associated antenna systems capable of destroying electronics used for radars, communications, computer, or remote detonation devices, and others that can disable car engines. The information gained from this research will be significant in furthering our nation's defense capabilities especially in the area of disabling and destroying IEDs. The research for this project will be conducted by Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway (mail stop 3121), TX 79409.

A request for the Modular Shoot House. The funding would be used for procuring a self contained combat scenario system for team training in a safe 360 degree ballistic, combat simulated environment. The Modular Shoot House (MSH) will be placed on Texas Army National Guard training facilities as determined by training needs of the geographic regions in the state. New combat training tasks will be

exercised using the MSH by multiple units who have building clearing as part of their mission essential tasks. There is currently no Texas Army National Guard controlled MSH. The addition of this system will greatly enhance training and readiness prior to unit deployment. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas National Guard, 2200 West 35th Street, Austin, TX 78763.

Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2997—Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

A request to Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSRESS), Special Research Grants Account, to the Animal Fiber Research Program. This funding would assist in the ongoing Wool Research Program. This program is a partnership between the Texas Agriculture Experiment Station in San Angelo, TX, New Mexico State University and Montana State University. This program helps enhance the quality and quantity of wool and mohair produced in this country. In addition, significant efforts are being made to work with small ruminants as a means to control invasive brush which is a major issue in many parts of Texas degrading rangelands and taking precious water. The project is located at 7887, U.S. Highway 87N, San Angelo, Texas, 76901.

A request to Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSRESS), Special Research Grants Account to continue partial funding of the state of the art multidisciplinary research approach at the International Cotton Center at Texas Tech University. The International Cotton Center conducts cotton research programs for cotton production systems and provides market and policy analysis for natural fibers (cotton, wool, and mohair) in an effort to increase profitability and maintain viability of all segments of the U.S. cotton industry in an increasingly competitive and volatile international market. The project research would be centrally located at Texas Tech University, located at 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

A request to Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSRESS), Special Research Grants Account, to continue partial funding for the Center for Food Industry Excellence at Texas Tech University. The Center for Food Industry Excellence is a federal and state supported program that conducts systematic development and evaluations of production, processing and preparation methods of food products to achieve a safer and more nutritious food supply. The project research would be centrally located at Texas Tech University, located at 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
(BCC))

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the opportunities Bronx Com-

munity College (BCC) has afforded its students for over half a century. This week, the New York Carib News acknowledged the most recent graduation at the school with a story in its June 23, 2009 edition entitled the "Spirited Commencement on Historic Field." For the graduation, thousands gathered on Ohio Field to watch BCC's graduating class of 2009 receive their degrees. Dedicated to serving its students through academics, leadership, and a commitment to service, BCC has done a remarkable job of producing talented individuals from all backgrounds. Approximately fifty-five percent of graduates are first generation college students and twenty-five percent balance school with work and family lives. Even more significant is the forty-four percent of students who come from households with an income of less than \$15,000 per year. Bronx Community College is doing extraordinary things for a culturally diverse population of students, and deserves to be recognized for its years of commitment to this initiative.

This year, BCC graduated approximately 1,000 students who were prepared to enter the work force to begin careers in areas from medical office technicians to students who will receive full scholarships to complete their studies at four-year undergraduate institutions. Not only does such success among its students provide BCC with a strong alumni base, it also sets an incredibly strong example for both youth and adults in the surrounding area who have ever had doubts about their abilities to advance their education. The beauty of this institution is that it cultivates the dreams of those who want better careers and lives for themselves and their families. The Bronx Community College welcomes untraditional paths to education, and provides its students with the resources, motivation, and encouragement to succeed.

The continued pursuit of education and personal advancement even in such challenging economic times speaks volumes to the commitment of the Bronx Community College. This school confirms the validity of such public institutions and deserves to be recognized as a force of motivation in the Bronx community and a source of inspiration for anyone who dreams of succeeding.

TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR EUGENE
M. BOLAND

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Monsignor Eugene M. Boland, who was recognized on Sunday, June 28, 2009, on the occasion of his retirement.

It is only fitting that he be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for he has been a true public servant and someone whose spiritual commitment has enhanced countless lives.

Eugene M. Boland was born on May 12, 1939, in the Village of Eyrecout, County Galway, Ireland, one of three sons of John and Nora (Potter) Boland. One of his brothers, Monsignor John V. Boland, is the pastor of St. Francis de Sales Church in Vernon Township,

NJ. The other, Eamon, and his wife Mai and their four children reside in Castlecomer, County Kilkenny, Ireland. Young Eugene attended the local convent school until second grade, and then continued on at the local boys school until he was thirteen. He began his secondary education (high school) at St. Joseph's College, Ballinasloe, in 1952, and then went on to St. Patrick's Seminary in Carlow in the fall of 1957. He was ordained to the priesthood at the Cathedral in Carlow on June 8, 1963.

Father Boland came to this country on August 16, 1963, and was temporarily assigned to St. Vincent the Martyr Parish in Madison. On October 8th of that year, he was given a permanent assignment as associate pastor at St. George's Church in Paterson, where he would serve with Monsignor Joseph Brestle and Father Julian Varettoni. On June 29, 1971, he was assigned, with Monsignor Michael F. Hart as Pastor, to St. James of the Marches Church in Totowa, NJ, where he has remained ever since. He has served with many parochial vicars including Father Francis J. Duffy, Father Dennis O'Brien, Weekend Associate Father James Dolan, S.J., Father Paul Iovino, Father Joseph E. Murphy, Father Marc Mancini, Father James P. Bono, Father Damian Breen, O.S.B. Father Nicholas Gregoris and Father James Cerbone, S.D.B.

Monsignor Hart was called from this life on June 18, 1990, and soon after Father Boland was appointed as Pastor of St. James. On October 10, 1993, he was honored with the title of Monsignor.

During his time at St. James alone, Monsignor Boland baptized 1,364 infants, witnessed 470 marriages, administered First Eucharist to 2,864 children, attended 37 confirmations, and grieved with 1,249 families. He has made innumerable sick calls and communion visits. Over the 37 years he has served there, he has been involved in many activities of the Parish and of the greater Totowa community as well. He has attended not only graduations, Religious Education Classes and Rosary Altar Society meetings and events, but walked 37 May Crownings, attended 37 swearing in ceremonies for the Totowa Borough Council, and countless Boy and Girl Scout and Knights of Columbus events. He is the Chaplain of the Totowa Fire Department and was Dean of the Mid-Passaic Deanery for ten years beginning in February 1995.

Throughout his years of service, Monsignor Boland has helped to deepen the faith of many, and teach them more about their religion. His dedication to learning and expanding his own knowledge is exemplary.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the efforts of individuals like Monsignor Boland.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Monsignor Boland's family and friends and parishoners, all those who have been guided by him, and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service of Monsignor Richard A. Boland.