

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE 95TH BIRTHDAY
OF FRANK WEINMAN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, Frank Weinman, on the occasion of his 95th birthday.

Born in 1914 in Vienna, Austria, Frank has overcome great hardships and adversity on life's path, escaping the terror of Hitler's Europe to settle with his family in the United States.

Working in his father's paint factory in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, Frank fell in love with his future wife, Teri, a Hungarian citizen. When the Germans occupied Austria, Frank was left stateless, because, as a Jew, he could not return to Vienna, and was forced to flee to Prague. In Prague, Frank assisted Jews immigrating illegally to Palestine, undoubtedly saving many lives.

On the run from the Nazis, Frank and Teri were secretly married on October 25, 1939 in Prague. Separated often over the next 18 months, Frank received word that his brother Charles, who had emigrated to America, had procured visas for them, and Frank made a daring journey by foot over mountainous terrain to Hungary, where Teri was staying with her family. While waiting for exit visas in Kosice, Hungary, Frank and Teri were arrested and sent to Hungarian concentration camps, before being released due to their American visas.

Forced to leave behind family, Frank and Teri made a harrowing journey across Austria and Germany to Spain, where they found passage across the Atlantic on a small Spanish ship. They arrived to the New World, free from the fear and oppression they had narrowly escaped, on October 12, 1941, Columbus Day.

Frank and Teri lived together until Teri's passing in 1975, having raised a family of two daughters in Illinois. Frank married Frances Alt in 1977, and they moved to the Great State of California in 1988.

Though Frances has since passed away, Frank Weinman celebrates his 95th birthday in Walnut Creek, California today with daughters Francie and Linda, and their husbands, Stuart and Alex, along with four loving grandchildren.

He is also blessed to have a devoted stepdaughter, Judy, and her husband Maynard, and stepson George and his wife Maureen. Thanks to them, Frank has three more adoring grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Frank's story is an inspiration to us all, and we are reminded of the importance of family, perseverance, and faith. I encourage all Members of Congress to join me in wishing Frank a happy birthday, and may he celebrate many more.

ENHANCING SMALL BUSINESS RE-
SEARCH AND INNOVATION ACT
OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2965) to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2965, the Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act. This legislation undermines the very reason for the creation of the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program and squanders the opportunity to provide vital resources to our country's small business community.

The Small Business Innovation Research program was created by Congress with the recognition that small businesses could not compete with their larger corporate competitors in the federal grantmaking process. This grant program provides small, innovative businesses across the nation with the necessary resources to significantly contribute to the federal government's research and development efforts. With the enactment of the SBIR program, Congress made clear its commitment to support the ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit of small businesses.

Section 102 of H.R. 2965 would alter the ownership rule provision by providing venture capital firms and venture capital subsidiaries of large corporations the space to increase their ownership in small businesses applying for SBIR grants. Relaxing the venture capital standards for SBIR and STTR grant eligibility undermines the ability of the SBIR program to ensure that small business can address the disproportionate competitive advantages that large business have.

In a time of economic crisis, maintaining the integrity of the SBIR program could not be of more importance. We must recognize the significant contributions that small business makes to our economy and preserve the programs that drive their success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on July 8, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for rollcall No. 495–496.

Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 495—“yes”—Supporting National Men's Health Week; rollcall No. 496—“no”—On Motion to Adjourn.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican Standards on Congressional appropriations initiatives, I am submitting the following information regarding a project that was included at my request in Fiscal Year 2010 Military Construction—Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill (H.R. 3082).

CONSOLIDATE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY

Account: Military Construction, U.S. Air Force

Legal name and address of requesting entity: MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida.

Description of request: \$21,000,000 for a Consolidated Communication Facility (Project Number NVZR033702). MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida does not have an adequate Consolidated Communication Facility for the Joint Components of USSOCOM and USCENCOM forces. This Consolidated Communication Facility would provide for all communication circuits (both digital and analog) entering and exiting MacDill AFB. The Department of Defense Unified Facilities Criteria Anti-Terrorism and Force Protection guidance requires that essential communication equipment be located in a secure environment. Base Network Control Center functions currently located in Bldg 260 will be relocated to the new secure facility.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure information regarding project funding I had requested and which was included within the legislation H.R. 3082, as reported. To the best of my knowledge, funding for this project: (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is 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; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds. I further certify that neither my spouse, nor I, have any personal financial interests in this request.

Project Title: PCC Apron NW End Taxiway A

Amount: \$5.1 million

Requesting Member: ROB BISHOP (UT)

Bill Number: H.R. 3082

Account: Air Force Military Construction

Address of Requesting Entity: Hill Air Force Base, Utah

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Location: 75th Air Base Wing, 7285 4th Street, Hill AFB, UT 84056.

Matching Funds: Not Applicable

Detailed Spending Plan: Not Applicable.

Description and Justification: Project funding is needed to construct additional taxiway space for the flight preparation of fighter aircraft using the Utah Test and Training Range, to increase flight efficiency and safety by accommodating additional aircraft at the same time on the ramp which will also reduce jet fuel costs.

CONGRATULATING GEORGE GASCON ON BEING SELECTED AS SAN FRANCISCO'S NEW CHIEF OF POLICE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate George Gascon, who will soon take over as the Chief of Police in San Francisco after three years of extraordinary service as the City of Mesa's Police Chief. The city of Mesa has seen tremendous growth and innovation in its public safety programs under Chief Gascon, and he has earned him the respect and admiration of that community during his tenure.

Chief Gascon's distinguished service began long before he joined the Mesa Police Department. He honorably served for nearly 29 years in the Los Angeles Police Department, overseeing police operations and working as the Assistant Police Chief for the department.

After taking over the Department in Mesa, Chief Gascon was instrumental in reducing the city's crime rate and fostering a culture of respect for diversity within the department. He was also involved in the implementation of a new police accountability and training program, COMPSTAT, which has raised the standard of excellence for the department's management accountability system.

The fortunate citizens of San Francisco will learn that Chief Gascon is just as dedicated to the community in his private life as he is while wearing a badge. He has volunteered his time and talents to the MARC Center of Mesa, the East Valley Crime and Gang Information Fusion Center, the M.E.S.A. Program, among many others.

I would like to wish Chief Gascon all the best as he embarks on a new chapter in his life. I am confident that the city of San Francisco will come to see the same benefits from his knowledge, leadership and dedication to the community that Mesa has experienced.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. LATOURETTE. 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. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service/CSREES

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Ohio State University, College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Studies

Address of Requesting Entity: 100 N. Agricultural Administration Building, 2120 Fyfe Road, Columbus, OH 43210

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$105,000 for the Center for Farmland Policy Innovation in carrying out its work with local communities to develop locally-driven farmland protection policy demonstrations. This project will continue to develop policies and initiatives throughout the State of Ohio, including the valuable nursery and farmland areas in Lake, Geauga and Ashtabula counties.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOE WILSON.

Bill Number: H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: Military Construction, Air National Guard.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: South Carolina Air National Guard, McEntire JNGB.

Address of Requesting Entity: McEntire JNGB, 1325 South Carolina Rd., Eastover, SC 29044.

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,300,000 for the Joint Use Headquarters Building at McEntire Joint National Guard Base. This is the SC Air National Guard portion of the construction money for the SCNG Joint Use Headquarters Building currently funded as part of the fiscal year 2010 FYDP. Number One on the Chief of the National Guard Bureau's "Essential 10" capabilities list, the Joint Forces Headquarters is the most critical transformation the National Guard has undergone since 2001. What used to be the State Area Command (STARCOM) and Air Guard State Headquarters, administrative organizations for peacetime control of units, has developed into a sophisticated headquarters and communications node capable of assuming command and control of units from all services and components when responding to a domestic emergency. Tested and proven during multiple National Security Events in 2004, these headquarters were further validated by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. However, the ANG and ARNG State headquarters functions and the TAG Joint Staff are inefficiently dispersed currently. Consolidation in one location will optimize operations and ensure critical Operational and Communications Security. Matching funds are not applicable. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ARTHUR "LU" CAMPBELL

HON. RALPH M. HALL

TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of a true American hero, Arthur "Lu" Campbell of Rockwall, Texas, who passed away earlier this year on February 18, 2009 at the age of 89.

Born August 21, 1919 in Rigby, Idaho, Mr. Campbell was the son of Herbert and Effie Campbell. He proudly served his country in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II and was a prisoner of war. His unit was captured in April of 1942. Mr. Campbell was a POW first in the Philippines before being moved to Manchuria where the Japanese subjected him to extreme torture for medical experiments. When he was rescued by the Soviets who liberated the POW camp three and a half years later, Mr. Campbell weighed just 94 pounds.

Following his military service, Mr. Campbell worked in El Centro, California before retiring to Rockwall, TX in 1975. He was a member of the Church of Christ of Latter-Day Saints, but also attended the Presbyterian Church of Rockwall with his wife, Frances, who preceded him in death in 2005. He was involved in the Kiwanis Club, the Elk Club, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and was a member of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor.

Mr. Campbell is a true patriot who demonstrated bravery and strength of will in the most difficult of circumstances. He received the Presidential Citation for Valor, the Purple Heart on three separate occasions, a Bronze Star, and a Silver Star.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and service of this American hero, Mr. Arthur Campbell.

REVEREND RICHARDSON ARMSTRONG LIBBY

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Reverend Richardson Armstrong Libby, a community leader in Annapolis, MD, that is highly regarded for his dedication toward historic preservation—a natural pastime in our State's capital. He has become rather famous locally because of an important discovery he recently made concerning the history of the United States Flag.

A navigator and intercept controller for the U.S. Air Force during the Korean war, Rev. Libby has spent the past 40 years in service to the Episcopal Church. Throughout this time, he has maintained a strong interest in U.S. History, especially in the flags of the Revolutionary War.

Following his retirement from the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut, Rev. Libby and his wife Kathryn moved to Annapolis in 1999, where he reconnected with his passion for historic preservation. He is a member of the Maryland Historical Society, the Historic Annapolis Foundation, and Board of Trustees for

the Hammond-Harwood House. While following that passion, he managed to correct the history of one of Annapolis's proudest moments.

In 1783, Maryland's governor commissioned the "Shaw Flag," designed by a local cabinet maker named John Shaw, to fly over the State House when it served as the home to the U.S. Congress. This flag flew over the building when General George Washington resigned his commission as commander of the Continental Army—an unprecedented act of selfless leadership and enduring symbol of democratic government. It was also atop the State House during the signing of the Treaty of Paris. After the Revolutionary War ended and the Congress moved to Trenton, the Shaw Flag was lowered and virtually lost to the history books with no replicas available.

In 1983, a reproduction of the Shaw Flag was designed to celebrate the bicentennial of Annapolis' time as our Nation's capital. The flag had 13 red and white stripes and 13 stars in a blue field in the upper left corner of the flag. Later, Rev. Libby was enjoying a watercolor painting by Cotton Millbourne from 1794 that hangs in the Hammond-Harwood House in Annapolis when he made a surprising discovery. The painting depicted the State House during the same era but the flag in the painting contained a blue field running vertically the entire length of the flag. This discovery prompted Rev. Libby to conduct more thorough research on the Shaw Flag and ultimately resulted in a correction of the reproduction. It was this corrected flag that hung in our State's capitol this Flag Day, June 14.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent Rev. Libby in the U.S. House of Representatives. I appreciate his service to our Nation and the State of Maryland, as well as his keen interest in historic preservation and our national symbols.

HONORING ADMIRAL JAMES G.
STAVRIDIS OF THE UNITED
STATES NAVY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and commend ADM James G. Stavridis of the United States Navy for his leadership of U.S. Southern Command. It has been a privilege to work so closely with Admiral Stavridis over these past few years and I know that many of my colleagues join me in congratulating him on a job well done and in wishing him well as he moves on to his new position as the Commander of U.S. European Command, USEUCOM, and NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe, SACEUR.

Admiral Stavridis served as the Commander of SOUTHCOM from October 19, 2006, until June 25, 2009, with distinction. His efforts in SOUTHCOM's area of focus have paid rich dividends in how the United States is viewed by nations in that area, it has greatly enhanced our relationships with military partners in the nations of that region and in how we intertwine our diplomatic, humanitarian, economic and military means to achieve our strategic goals.

As his official biography states, Admiral Stavridis is a 1976 distinguished graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and a native of south Florida. A Surface Warfare Officer, Admiral Stavridis commanded the Destroyer *USS Barry* DDG-52 from 1993-1995, completing deployments to Haiti, Bosnia, and the Persian Gulf. Barry won the Battenberg Cup as the top ship in the Atlantic Fleet under his command. In 1998, he commanded Destroyer Squadron 21 and deployed to the Persian Gulf, winning the Navy League's John Paul Jones Award for Inspirational Leadership. From 2002-2004, Admiral Stavridis commanded Enterprise Carrier Strike Group, conducting combat operations in the Persian Gulf in support of both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Ashore, Admiral Stavridis has served as a strategic and long-range planner on the staffs of the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. At the start of the Global War on Terror, he was selected as the director of the Navy Operations Group, Deep Blue. He has also served as the executive assistant to the Secretary of the Navy and the senior military assistant to the Secretary of Defense. Admiral Stavridis earned a doctorate and a masters degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in International Relations in 1984, where he won the Gullion Prize as outstanding student. He is also a distinguished graduate of both the National and Naval War Colleges.

His background is tailor made for the challenges we currently face and his long record of admirable service and his distinguished command of U.S. Southern Command augur well on the success he will have in his new billet. I believe that at this sensitive juncture in our Nation's history, Admiral Stavridis is just the sort of individual that we should have in place at EUCOM and heading NATO. He is a firm believer in the juxtaposition of military power, economic power and diplomacy that will help implement a more intelligent future and application of 'smart power.'

On a personal note, I have enjoyed tremendously working with Admiral Stavridis especially on our trips to Haiti together, drug interdiction in the Caribbean and also for the efforts he put forth to assisting hurricane victims in Florida. Despite the monumental task of pursuing the strategic goals of the Command, he continually made himself accessible to me and my staff by whatever means were available to him. I am thankful for the support he has offered to me and my staff on these and so many other occasions and I wish him and his family fair winds and following seas as he leaves south Florida.

ENHANCING SMALL BUSINESS RE-
SEARCH AND INNOVATION ACT
OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. HARRY TEAGUE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2965) to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the Small Business Innovation Research Pro-

gram and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes:

Mr. TEAGUE. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express serious concerns with H.R. 2965, the Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act of 2009. H.R. 2965 is a reauthorization of the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. SBIR provides \$26 million in research and development funding for companies in my home state of New Mexico every year. Over the past six years, that amounts to over \$160 million in funding, creating jobs and wealth across the state.

Rather than extending a successful program and changing it to fit the shifting needs of American small businesses, however, I worry that the reauthorization proposed in this bill will open the program to businesses that aren't actually so small or actually in need of capital. I hesitate to change a law that is meant to provide an opportunity for small businesses to grow and prosper in such a way that would allow big venture capital firms access to our precious tax dollars. Small businesses are the foundation of our economy, and we should not jeopardize their access to this valuable program.

When this bill was being considered by the Rules Committee, an amendment was offered that would have ensured that the focus of the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program remained on assisting small businesses. The amendment struck a sensible balance between the need to modernize eligibility guidelines for the program and protecting the participation of small businesses. The amendment, however, was not made in order.

Without setting these limits on the participation of venture capital in the SBIR program, small businesses without significant or any venture capital participation could potentially be crowded out of the program. We need to keep the "small business" in SBIR.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOM-
PLISHMENTS OF ALONZO JOHN
WEMPLE

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Alonzo John Wemple, who enjoyed a long and memorable career as a railroad engineer and fireman, much of which was spent in Bonham, Texas.

Alonzo J. Wemple was born in Schenectady, New York on October 1, 1833. He spent his entire professional life as a railroad man, which allowed him to witness some of the most important events of his time. He got his first taste of the railroad at the age of 17, and later became known as one of the "oldest locomotive engineers in America."

One of the most significant events Mr. Wemple witnessed was the funeral procession of President Abraham Lincoln. He was one of the engineers who transported Lincoln's body from Washington D.C., through Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Indiana, Chicago, and then on to its final resting place in Springfield, Illinois. In addition, he was working as a switch engineer in Chicago when the great fire broke out on October 8, 1871, and

while working for the Central Railroad, he transported captured Confederate soldiers to Union Prison Camps during the Civil War.

After the Civil War, Mr. Wemple moved to Bonham, Texas, where he worked for the Texas and Pacific Railroad as a switch engineer in the Bonham Railroad yards until he retired in 1927. After he retired, he went to live with his son Judie Newton Wemple in Fort Worth, Texas. Mr. Wemple died on January 21, 1929, at the age of 95.

Alonzo J. Wemple's first wife was Charlotte Pennington and their children included Frances, Minnie, Frederick, Mary, Charles, and Charlotte. After Charlotte passed away in 1892, Alonzo Wemple married Pearly Williams, and they had one son, Judie.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Alonzo John Wemple and his role in the history of our nation. A perfect way to sum up the life of Alonzo John Wemple is a statement made in the resolution passed by the Texas State Legislature last month: "History is made not only by the deeds of the famous but also by the accumulated experience of countless individuals, and although Alonzo Wemple played only a small part, he was a witness to some of the most important events of his time."

COMMEMORATING THE GREAT LAKES SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY SYSTEM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 50th anniversary of one of the world's great waterways, built and operated by the United States and Canada: the Great Lakes Saint Lawrence Seaway System. On June 26, 1959 in Montreal, President Dwight E. Eisenhower and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II officially opened the Seaway, followed the next day by the dedication on U.S. soil in Massena, New York, of the two U.S. locks, Snell and Eisenhower. At that ceremony in Northern New York, Vice President Richard M. Nixon and Queen Elizabeth presided to celebrate the completion of these last two of the seven Montreal-Lake Ontario locks.

This historic anniversary year provides a perfect opportunity to celebrate the beneficial impacts the Seaway System, and its many users, have had on the Great Lakes region. The Seaway links the many cities of North America's heartland to the Atlantic Ocean and to ports across the world, providing a vital trade corridor for business and industry. It directly serves an eight-state, two-province region that accounts for 29 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP), 60 percent of Canada's GDP, 55 percent of North America's manufacturing and services industries, and is home to one-quarter of the continent's population. At age 50, the Seaway has facilitated the movement of over 2.5 billion metric tons of cargo, valued in excess of \$375 billion. Maritime commerce on the Great Lakes Seaway System impacts 150,000 U.S. jobs, \$12 million per day in wages, \$9 million per day in business revenues, and provides approximately

\$3.6 billion in annual transportation cost savings compared to the next least costly mode of transportation.

At its height, the massive Seaway construction project employed 22,000 workers on both sides of the St. Lawrence River. The undertaking required 210 million cubic yards of excavation, 6.1 million cubic yards of concrete, 45 miles of dikes, 69 miles of channels, the relocation of 9,000 people, the rerouting of 47 miles of highway and 40 miles of double-track railroad. The engineering challenges and magnitude of the work was staggering, not only for its time, but by today's standards as well. The St. Lawrence Seaway/Power project was subsequently recognized as one of the top ten public works projects of the century by the American Public Works Association.

The Seaway has been a shining example of how two nations, the U.S. and Canada, can work together cooperatively to achieve a common goal. The U.S. Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation coordinates its activities with its Canadian counterpart, the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, particularly with respect to rules and regulations, overall day-to-day operations, traffic management, navigation aids, safety, environmental issues, and trade development programs. The unique binational nature of the Seaway System requires 24-hour, year-round coordination and the two Seaway agencies work hand-in-hand to provide seamless operation and management of this vital U.S. and Canadian asset.

While a lot has changed in 50 years, the Great Lakes Saint Lawrence Seaway System remains the safest, most efficient, environmentally-friendly mode of transportation available for moving cargo in and out of North America's heartland. It has been a model of performance and dependability, achieving a 99 percent reliability rate over its history. It is truly a cornerstone of the region's economy and culture.

This year's 50th anniversary opening ceremony will be held at the Eisenhower Lock Visitors' Center in Massena, New York on Friday, July 10. A number of U.S. and Canadian dignitaries will be speaking at the event, including U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood; Canadian Consul General Georges Rioux; Congressman JAMES OBERSTAR (D-MN); Congresswoman MARCY KAPTUR (D-OH); U.S. Seaway Administrator Collister Johnson, Jr.; Canadian Seaway President Dick Corfe; Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of President Dwight D. Eisenhower and President of the Eisenhower Group; Richard Kessel, President of the New York Power Authority; Karl Weissenbach, Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum Director; and John B. Adams, former U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Seaway construction project engineer.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Seaway on this milestone anniversary and wishing them a memorable celebration weekend and an enduring future.

HONORING MAYOR ED BABBITT

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great public servant—Belle-

vue, Nebraska Mayor Ed Babbitt. Ed passed away suddenly this week.

Ed was born on a farm near Elliot, Iowa and earned a degree in business administration from what is now the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He received a master's in business administration from Creighton University.

He has four wonderful children and has been married to his devoted wife Barbara since 1962. Robyn and I have Barbara and the family in our thoughts and prayers.

Ed was elected to the Bellevue City Council in 1974; he served for eight years and then returned to the council in 1992. He was elected Mayor in 2006 by defeating a two-term incumbent in one of the year's biggest upsets.

As mayor of Nebraska's third largest city his love for his family, community and the people around him was always evident. He was a dedicated public servant who had big dreams for Bellevue's future.

Over the years he worked hard to make the city of Bellevue what it is today—a city of growth, suburb quality of life and pro business. His work will not be forgotten and his memory shall live on forever. Ed, thanks for your tireless work, Bellevue and all your friends will miss you.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3082, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act FY2010.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

Bill Number: H.R. 3082

Account: Air Force

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington

Address of Requesting Entity: Spokane, WA

Description of Request: The addition of \$4,150,000 for the Refueling Vehicle Maintenance Facility will provide more space, closer proximity, and indoor maintenance for those who service and repair the refueling vehicle fleet in support of the flying mission. Right now, the Fuels Management Flight of 100 personnel rely heavily on 15 maintenance people who service and repair the refueling vehicle fleet in support of the flying mission. These people work in undersized, substandard, environmentally deficient facilities separated from each other. This new facility is a multi-bay, 5,005 square foot building that will accommodate Associate 92d & 141st Air Refueling Wings under Total Force Integration (TFI).

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on

earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the FY2010 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act.

Requesting Member: Congressman ED WHITFIELD

Bill Number: H.R. 3082, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2010

Account: Army

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ft. Campbell, KY

Address of Requesting Entity: Fort Campbell, 39 Normandy Ave, Ft. Campbell, KY 42223

Description of Request: The money (\$900,000) will be used to construct a standard design Medium Physical Fitness Complex. The Physical Fitness Facility is composed of multipurpose physical training and equipment center. Sustainable Design and Development (SDD) and Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPA05) features will be provided. An upgrade to an existing transformer station is required. Measures in accordance with the Department of Defense (DoD) Minimum Antiterrorism for Buildings standards will be provided. Access for individuals with disabilities will be available. Comprehensive building and furnishings related interior design services are required.

Requesting Member: Congressman ED WHITFIELD

Bill Number: H.R. 3082, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2010

Account: Army

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ft. Campbell, KY

Address of Requesting Entity: Fort Campbell, 39 Normandy Ave, Ft. Campbell, KY 42223

Description of Request: The money (\$14,400,000) will be used to construct a 1,200-seat (32,900 SF) chapel/family life multipurpose facility which includes a worship center, activity/fellowship center, chaplain family life and pastoral care center, resource center, multimedia center, multi-purpose education classrooms, kitchen, storage areas, restrooms, and circulation area.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LLOYD FRANKLIN PITTS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished and productive life of independent oilman Lloyd Franklin Pitts, a dear friend who passed away in March at the age of 98.

Born on October 7, 1910 to Addie Mae Sandifer and John Loyd Pitts in Wesson, Mississippi, Frank graduated from Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson, Mississippi in 1930, and attended Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. In 1935, he married Mary Martha McCann of Brookhaven, Mississippi. Married for 58 years, she was Frank's companion, confidante and "sweetheart." She died in 1993.

Recognized by his peers and the major trade organizations in the oil and gas industry

for his leadership over 68 years, Frank began his business career in Chicago with Nu-Enamel Paint Company. He lived in Europe from 1934-37, where he opened paint stores throughout the Continent. His close observation of the rise of fascism in Italy and Germany engendered an intense patriotism and appreciation for the American democratic way of life. At the age of 29, he was elected President of the International Company. Involved in politics from an early age, he was Chairman of Young Democrats for Roosevelt in 1932, and campaigned in seven states on his behalf for President. He maintained a keen interest in current affairs throughout his life.

Frank appreciated his business associates at Pitts Oil Company, where he was actively involved until recently. An independent oil and natural gas producer for almost seven decades, Frank participated in the drilling of more than 3,000 wells in exploration for oil and natural gas. For 12 years, he was Chief Executive Officer of an international geophysical company. Frank was actively involved in a wide range of industry associations and political action groups. He served two terms as President of Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO). He was a member of the National Petroleum Council, an advisory group to the Secretary of the Department of Energy, and served under every Secretary since the inception of the Department in 1977. He served on the Natural Gas Committee of the Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA). He was the 1978-1979 Chairman of the Industry Forum of the American Petroleum Institute. In 1984, Texas Governor Mark White appointed Frank to the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, an organization headed by the governors of 29 oil and gas producing states, and continuously served under appointment of all the subsequent Texas Governors. In 1988, he became one of the first independent oilmen to serve on the Board of Directors of Gas Research Institute in Chicago, where he served for 10 years. He served as a Trustee of the Southwest Research Institute from 1989 to 2003, and was a founding Trustee of the American Gas Foundation. In 1991, Frank was selected to become a member of All-American Wildcatters.

The many honors awarded him by industry associates include the Chief Roughneck Award presented at the IPAA Annual Meeting in 1979; the 2001 Pioneer of the Year Award presented by the Texas Railroad Commission; the 1993 IPAA Karney Cochran Award to honor a lifetime of distinguished service to community, industry, and country; the 1989 Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners' highest honor, the Mr. TIPRO Award; the 1998 Texas Oil & Gas Association's Distinguished Service Award; American Association of Petroleum Landmen's Distinguished Service Award and Special Award for Industry Leadership; and the 1996 Southwestern Legal Foundation's John Rogers Award. In 2006, the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission presented him with the Warwick Downing Award, and on April 25th, Frank was honored with the 2009 Hero of Industry Award presented by the National Stripper Well Association. As a dynamic spokesman for the energy industry in the United States, he was a frequent expert witness and conferee in Washington with members of the Senate, the House of Representatives, and Executive leadership

concerned with oil and natural gas policy. Frank was also active with state government leaders in Austin. In 2003, the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers named Frank as a Legend Award recipient and he was recognized by Governor Rick Perry.

While he was an activist in his industry, Frank also made time for involvement in a significant number of community organizations. He helped found the Dallas Council on World Affairs (now the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth) and served as Chairman of the Board and Chairman Emeritus. In 1994 he received the Council's H. Neil Mallon Award for Distinguished Civic Service. He also helped in the formation of the Dallas Opera, serving on various committees and remained a Trustee. He worked with the Baylor University Medical Foundation, serving as Chairman of the Board and a member of the Executive Committee. Frank was a member and past President of Park Cities Rotary Club, a member of Dallas Citizens Council and a lifetime Deacon of Park Cities Baptist Church, where he was a member for 60 years. Copiah-Lincoln Community College honored him as Alumnus of the Year in 1973, and again in 2003, with the Distinguished Alumni Leadership Award. At SMU, where he was a member of the Board of Advisors of the Maguire Energy Institute, he established four endowed Presidential Scholarships, a Scholars Fund and an endowed lecture series in oil and gas.

Known as "Papa" by his family, his wisdom, discipline, perseverance and judgment have been a source of inspiration and guidance in each of their lives. Lloyd is survived by his daughter, Linda, and her husband, William A. Custard, three grandchildren: W. Allen Custard III and his wife, Mason, Martha E. Custard, Laura Custard Hurt and her husband, G. Ellison Hurt III, and four great-grandchildren, all of Dallas; a brother, Troy N. Pitts of Wesson, Mississippi, a sister-in-law, Ida M. Olson of Alexandria, Virginia, a cousin, Dr. Charles L. Lloyd, Jr. and his wife, Sandy, of Dallas and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Mary Martha, young son, Lloyd Franklin Pitts, Jr., his great-grandson, Elijah Christian Noel Hurt, and his brother, Shelby D. Pitts, of Dallas.

I count it an honor to have been friends with this great public servant and his wonderful family. What our world needs today are a few more Lloyd Franklin Pitts. Please join me as we honor his memory and celebrate his 98 years of life.

ENHANCING SMALL BUSINESS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2965) to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 2965, the Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act of 2009.

Since 1982 the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs have assisted thousands of innovative, cutting-edge small businesses in successfully getting their products to the marketplace.

The SBIR and STTR programs provide small businesses the ability to compete for federal funding, thus ensuring the best companies are getting their products to the market. Firms across all fields, from alternative energy and biotechnology to national defense, have benefited from the ability to get seed money from the government to fully develop and market their products and technology. The modest investments the government makes in these firms have provided tremendous rewards, allowing 1500 new companies each year to get off the ground. In my home state of Michigan, the SBIR/STTR programs have invested \$534 million, \$215 million of which Michigan has received since 2003. Overall, 450 Michigan companies have benefited from SBIR/STTR, including two thriving firms in Michigan's 15th Congressional District, Adaptive Materials and AI23Systems.

Not only does H.R. 2965 reauthorize the SBIR/STTR programs which are set to expire on July 31, 2009, it also modernizes them, placing an emphasis on commercialization, expanding access for minority-owned and rural business, and creating a more efficient and streamlined process for participating companies.

The SBIR program is designed so that technology-driven firms have the chance to advance their ideas, develop them, and ultimately commercialize their products. This legislation is critically important for companies in Michigan, and across the country, as it gives them the ability to continue to get their products to the market, especially at a time when the economy is so badly hurting. I urge all my colleagues to vote for this important legislation.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards, I am submitting the following information regarding member requests I received as part of H.R. 3082, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: Representative DOUG LAMBORN, CO-05

Bill Number: H.R. 3082

Account: MCAF

Legal Name of the Requesting Entity: Peterson Air Force Base

Legal Address of the Requesting Entity: Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, CO 80914

Description of the Request: Requesting \$7.2 million funding for the East Gate realignment at Peterson Air Force Base. This project demolishes the existing gate house and road system at the East Gate of Peterson AFB and constructs a new, realigned entry road, gate house, check stations, vehicle inspection buildings and anti-terrorism/force protection measures.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. 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. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY MORAN

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency/Account: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 110 Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506

Description of Project: I have secured \$259,000 for The National Agricultural Biosecurity Center (NABC) at Kansas State University. NABC was established to help protect the U.S. agricultural infrastructure and economy from endemic and emerging biological threats. Funding will be used for Phase III efforts for the development, enhancement, and delivery of a targeted National Animal Health Laboratories Network (NAHLN) technical training support program. The funding is required to: (1) build and populate a lessons learned/best practices from NAHLN lab exercises and events; (2) expand animal health diagnostic screening capabilities regionally, including endemic and emerging pathogens (viruses, bacteria, and parasites) as well as prions such as BSE; (3) increase the testing capability and capacity of the Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (KSVDL) in support of the NAHLN mission by conducting research on new methodologies and standardized operating procedures for enhancing and improving the efficiency of NAHLN equipment and laboratories; and (4) develop a training strategy framework for NAHLN laboratories. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY MORAN

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency/Account: National Institute for Food and Agriculture/SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 110 Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS, 66506

Description of Project: I have secured \$515,000 Great Plains Sorghum Improvement and Utilization Center. Kansas State University, along with Texas Tech University and Texas A&M University, initiated the GPSIUC in 2006. The focus of the center is on genetic improvement; production systems to enhance water and nutrient use; innovative strategies to provide improved weed control; utilization of sorghum in human food products, animal feed, and as a bioenergy and industrial feedstock; plus marketing and policy analysis in support of the U.S. sorghum industry. Sorghum seed companies are rapidly integrating new technology released by the GPSIUC into their seed offerings, with the first commercial hybrids expected to be available in 2011. Fund-

ing will be used for GPSIUC to expand existing research and educational programs, particularly in genetic improvement and sorghum utilization. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY MORAN

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency/Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture/SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 110 Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS, 66506

Description of Project: I have secured \$142,000 for Preharvest Food Safety and Security program. Kansas State University has an ongoing USDA special project on the ecology of E. coli O157:H7 in beef cattle and the environment. This bacterial organism is a major cause of food-borne illnesses in humans. Funding will be used to expand its investigations into (1) the ecology of Salmonella in beef cattle, (2) antimicrobial resistance in cattle, and (3) agroinformatics and animal health diagnostics. These four areas of research have great overlap and synergy and will allow Kansas State University to better identify emerging threats of food-borne and zoonotic diseases associated with food-producing animals. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY MORAN

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency/Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture/SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 110 Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS, 66506

Description of Project: I have secured \$69,000 to study water conservation in the Ogallala Region of Kansas. This effort is critical to the economic viability of western Kansas. In many parts of western Kansas, freshwater from both surface and groundwater is increasingly in short supply. Drought, aquifer and surface water depletion, and population shifts have stretched community and regional water supplies to their limits. As groundwater supplies decline or become cost prohibitive, better management of water through conservation, recycling, and treatment of poor quality water for use becomes even more important. Funding for this project will be used to help: (1) agricultural producers, both crop and livestock; (2) rural communities in water-short areas; and (3) state agencies to implement economical technologies and policies that will result in water conservation and prolonged life of the Ogallala aquifer in the face of increasing competition for declining aquifers and over-allocated surface waters. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY MORAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Agency/Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service/SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kansas State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 110 Anderson Hall, Manhattan, KS, 66506

Description of Project: I have secured \$240,000 for Wheat Genetic Research. Wheat

is the world's most important grain for human nutrition, but genomics and biotechnology research have lagged behind. The WGGRC is leading an international effort to map and sequence the wheat genome. The WGGRC gene bank currently maintains 12,000 lines and these collections are continuously expanding as the Center acquires, develops, and distributes new genetic and genomic resources to facilitate wheat genetics, genomics, and breeding research. Kansas State University and Kansas wheat producers have already made an investment of almost \$1.0 million towards the purchase of a DNA sequencer and a robot for arraying and printing of DNA filters. Funding will be used collect, conserve, and distribute wheat genetic and genomic resources; develop improved germ plasm; develop genetic stocks; develop genomic resources; and support training and outreach. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY
ALICE TERRY SKAGGS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and accomplishments of a woman who dedicated more than fifty years of her life to educate and help others, Mary Alice Terry Skaggs of Plano Texas, who passed away this past March.

Mrs. Mary Skaggs was born in Celina, Texas on April 22, 1908. She attended high school at Gunter Bible College and Kidd-Key College in Sherman. Mary received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Austin College in Sherman, leading her later become the first Independent School District teacher to hold a master's degree.

Mary Skaggs taught English, economics, and journalism in Plano where her expertise in educating others did not go unnoticed. The Texas Federation of Women's Clubs acknowledged Mary as Teacher of the Year in 1958, and the Plano Business and Professional Women's Club honored her with the Career Achievement Award in 1968.

Mary's legacy to better educate, mentor, and improve young lives in the community at large are immortalized in a 2006 No Child Left Behind Ribbon School, the Mary Alice Skaggs Elementary, established by the Plano school district. In recognition of her 30 years as a Plano teacher, the school has been a source of exemplary education since its opening in 1996.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband James Harold Skaggs. She will be missed by her two sisters Addie Lee Cox and Benny Cox, and her niece, and the countless lives that were touched and influenced by her years as an outstanding educator.

Madam Speaker, I commend Mary Alice Terry Skaggs for her lifelong devotion to education and her community.

COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL
FOOD PROGRAM

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, last Thursday I attended an event back home in Michigan where a coalition of community organizations came together and committed to delivering 575,000 meals to those in need this summer in southeast Michigan. The Ford Foundation and two Ford dealerships provided new mobile pantries. Gleaners Community Food Bank, Forgotten Harvest, and the United Way are partnering to ensure that the pantries will be fully stocked and sent to the areas which need it the most.

The need for assistance in our country is staggering. In southeast Michigan 600,000 people are at risk of hunger. Food banks and pantries nationwide are seeing a 30 percent increase in demand for emergency food assistance, with some food banks reporting as high as a 65 percent increase in need, according to Feeding America. An astonishing 72 percent of food banks report that they are not able to adequately meet the needs of their communities without adjusting the amount of food distributed due to rising unemployment and food prices.

The federal government has a vital role to play in providing emergency food assistance. We provided some relief in the Recovery Act earlier this year. The Agriculture Appropriation bill before the House continues this investment by providing a 10 percent increase to the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) food aid program as well as a \$19.6 million increase for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program.

I want to highlight the Commodity Supplemental Food Program because it reaches out to low-income seniors—a group of people who too often fall through the cracks of our food safety net. The program, which has 41,000 monthly participants in southeast Michigan, comes from a partnership between the government and local community organizations. Ninety-three percent of CSFP participants are seniors and many who receive delivery of their food packages are unable to leave their homes. The food packages, as well as the visit from the volunteer, are important in assisting them to maintain their independence and a healthier lifestyle.

Under this bill, the CSFP will be able to increase the number of eligible individuals who participate for the first time since 2003. The program, which currently operates in only 32 states, will expand to six new states, some of which have programs and seniors that have been waiting for six years. The program will grow in Michigan and overall expand from 475,000 participants to 622,000.

Much more must be done. I will introduce legislation soon that will provide an additional incentive for farmers, ranchers, small businesses, and restaurateurs to donate wholesome food to food banks and pantries to replenish the shelves for hungry Americans.

According to a report released by USDA last November, 36.2 million Americans, including 12.4 million children, are food insecure. The report paints a stark picture of the pervasiveness of hunger in our nation, a picture that

has only grown worse as the recession has deepened since the report data was collected in 2007. Hunger puts our children's health, learning, and development at risk; hunger causes unnecessary pain and suffering on already stressed working poor families, and hunger causes our elderly to make difficult choices between buying food or medicine. I applaud the work of the community organizations who work tirelessly to alleviate hunger, and the Appropriations Committee for providing them with more resources. Hunger poses a real threat to our children, seniors, and everyone in our communities. Our progress is important, but we cannot stop here.

ASSESSING THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, a May 5 Washington Post article opened with these words: "The Obama administration has backed away from overt expressions of support for human rights and democracy in favor of a more subtle approach, worrying advocates who say that the issues are being given short shrift as President Obama seeks to rebuild relations with allies and reach out to adversaries."

I join the ranks of those who are deeply troubled by the trajectory of this administration on human rights.

In a February visit to Asia, Secretary of State Clinton plainly indicated that human rights would not be a priority in her engagement with China. She said, "We pretty much know what they [the Chinese government] are going to say" on human rights issues.

With that logic, the administration will rarely find it advisable to raise human rights concerns with any country, particularly the worst offenders.

Clinton went on, "We have to continue to press them. But our pressing on those issues can't interfere with the global economic crisis, the global climate change crisis, and the security crisis."

Human rights organizations were dismayed. How had impassioned advocacy for the dignity of every person been relegated to a position of mere interference? And this in spite of Obama campaign promises to "be frank with the Chinese" and "press them to respect human rights."

Following Secretary Clinton's Asia comments and subsequent remarks during a visit to the Middle East where she indicated that Egypt's abuses would not negatively affect our bilateral relations, the Washington Post editorialized on March 11, "Ms. Clinton is doing a disservice to her own department—and sending the wrong message to rulers around the world that their abuses won't be taken seriously by this U.S. administration."

Against this backdrop, President Obama in April moved to lift restrictions on travel and remittances for Cuban Americans absent any commitment by the Castro brothers to release even one of the hundreds of political prisoners who languish in jails.

Frank Calzon of the Center for a Free Cuba cautioned, "Lifting the travel ban means the

most hostile elements of the Cuban government will get an injection of our currency . . . The tourist industry is controlled and staffed by the Cuban government. If Washington wants to transfer dollars to the Cuban military, that's one way of doing it."

Cuba is still characterized by our own State Department as a "totalitarian state." This year's National Endowment for Democracy's (NED) annual Democracy Award recently went to five courageous leaders of Cuba's pro-democracy movement. The Washington Post editorial page on June 25 pointed out that in both the Bush and Clinton administrations, NED awardees were given either an audience with the president or a statement of support. Not so this year.

According to the Post, the White House issued a "hastily drafted statement" only after the paper inquired about the president's silence. These brave Cuban democracy activists are, in the words of the Post's editorial page, "hoping that the American president will focus his policy on supporting them. Yet for now, Mr. Obama's diplomacy is clearly centered on their oppressors."

Or consider Sudan. During the campaign, when asked about Darfur, Barack Obama said, "We can't say 'never again' and then allow it to happen again. And, as President of the United States, I don't intend to . . . turn a blind eye to slaughter." He also spoke of "ratcheting up sanctions."

Now, almost six months into the administration, the State Department is still conducting a much vaunted "comprehensive review" of U.S.-Sudan policy. Nothing concrete has emerged. The little that has leaked out in press reports is disturbing.

The administration appears divided at the highest levels over whether genocide is even still taking place in Darfur. Furthermore, they are making overtures to Khartoum which are, at best, naive.

As recently as June 18, The Post reported that Special Envoy Gration "has advocated easing some American sanctions and upgrading U.S. diplomatic relations with Sudan's government to induce cooperation."

And more recently on the Iranian elections, while the president's tone has toughened a bit in the face of increased pressure and bloodshed, his initial response was painfully muted. Asked about whether there was "any red line" his administration wouldn't cross where the "offer [to talk to Iran's leaders] will be shut off," the president simply replied, "We're waiting to see how it plays itself out."

A July 6 National Review Online posting on the plight of seven imprisoned Baha'i leaders set to go on trial later this week, pointed out that a "restrained approach" to human rights advocacy "may not work for the seven imprisoned Baha'i in Iran, who face trial on July 11. The Iranian regime needs to understand that such blatant religious persecution has consequences. Silence may convince the Iranian leadership that they can get away with murder."

The Baha'is are not the only minority faith in the region under duress. In the president's much anticipated Cairo speech, he only made fleeting reference to Egypt's Coptic Christians, saying that "religious diversity must be upheld." But far more than diversity is at stake.

A June 26 press release by the bipartisan U.S. Commission on International Religious

Freedom following recent reported attacks on Egyptian Copts describes the pattern of persecution endured by this community. The commission indicated that "initial reports say that state security services did little to prevent the violence from occurring. This repeats the established pattern that security services do not adequately protect Christian citizens in many localities. For all Christians in Egypt, government permission is required to build a new church or repair an existing one, and the approval process for church construction is time-consuming and inflexible. Even some permits that have been approved cannot be acted upon because of interference by the state security services at both the local and national levels."

A May 7 Washington Post editorial described the Obama administration as rushing to "embrace Egypt's 81-year-old strongman," in reference to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The editorial went on to say that the administration is retreating from raising human rights abuses and that "the pullback is not only rhetorical." Funding for democracy promotion in Egypt, reportedly at the request of the U.S. ambassador to Egypt, was initially cut from \$50 million to \$20 million this year. That number has since been bumped by \$5 million as the funding bill has moved through the committee process—but even with that increase, the funding amounts to half of the previous year's figure. Given that millions of dollars in unconditioned foreign aid has gone to the Egyptian government in the years following the Camp David accords, this slash in civil society funding is an embarrassment.

One of the darkest places on the globe is North Korea. More than 200,000 North Koreans—including children—are being held in political prison camps. It is estimated that between 400,000 and one million people have died in these camps, having been worked to death or starved to death.

A June 16 op-ed in the Wall Street Journal featured a quote from a North Korean refugee woman who said, "If I had a chance to meet with President Obama, I would first like to tell him how North Korean women are being sold like livestock in China and, second, to know that North Korean labor camps are hell on earth."

Even in the face of North Korea's nuclear ambitions it is inexcusable for their abhorrent human rights record to not just be relegated to the back burner, but seemingly removed from the agenda altogether. Unlike past administrations, this administration had nothing to say, no public statement, acknowledging North Korea Human Rights Week this April, and Secretary Clinton, who was in town, could not find time in her schedule to meet with any of the 30 brave North Korean defectors in the nation's capital to mark the occasion.

Or consider Vietnam. In its 2009 annual report, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom found that, "Individuals continue to be imprisoned or detained for reasons related to their religious activity or religious freedom advocacy; police and government officials are not held fully accountable for abuses; independent religious activity remains illegal; and legal protections for government-approved religious organizations are both vague and subject to arbitrary or discriminatory interpretations based on political factors." The commission recommended that Vietnam be placed back on the State Department's

Countries of Particular Concern (CPC) list, a list reserved for the world's worst offenders of religious freedom.

But a June 25 Washington Times article reported that "U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Michael W. Michalak recently rejected calls by the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) to put Vietnam back on the CPC watch list. He cited that there was not enough evidence of religious persecution."

This is the same ambassador who recently gave a 4th of July speech in which he cited the timeless words of our own Declaration of Independence, but then had nothing to say about the oppression and lack of freedom in Vietnam. It is worth noting that Ambassador Michalak is a career foreign service officer who has been in his current position since the last years of the Bush administration. He is well acquainted with my concerns regarding his apparent disregard for human rights in Vietnam and his failure to make the U.S. embassy an island of freedom.

I was quick to criticize the Bush administration when it seemed that they were missing opportunities to be a voice for the voiceless. Too often in the previous administration the public rhetoric failed to match action. But in this new, young administration, even the rhetoric is absent.

Reports of the President's trip to Russia quote a top National Security Council adviser as saying the Obama administration "came to the conclusion that us waving our fingers around the world is a strategy that hasn't worked very well in the past." This same adviser later conceded to Politico that human rights were never raised in Obama's meeting with Russian President Putin.

It seems this administration could learn a lesson from history . . . from another Russian in fact.

The year was 1975. Famed Soviet dissident Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn was set to visit Washington. The city's foreign policy establishment, among them Henry Kissinger, sought to obstruct him at every turn. He was refused a meeting with President Ford, who declined to meet with him fearing it would sour an upcoming meeting with Soviet leader Brezhnev. When Solzhenitsyn delivered a major speech at the AFL-CIO, State Department employees were forbidden from attending.

Ronald Reagan, former governor of California, was angered at the snub and wrote a column which appeared in papers across the country exposing the White House's motives for refusing an audience with this renowned dissident, author of Gulag Archipelago. Reagan wrote, "the real reason for the snub surfaced: a visit with Solzhenitsyn would violate the 'spirit of détente.'"

Fast forward eight years. Now president, Mr. Reagan delivers an electrifying speech where he refers to the Soviet Union as the "evil empire."

Another Soviet dissident, Natan Sharansky, wrote in his book of how word of that speech penetrated the gulag. "Tapping on walls and talking through toilets, word of Reagan's 'provocation' quickly spread through the prison. The dissidents were ecstatic. Finally the leader of the free world had spoken the truth—a truth that burned inside the heart of each and every one of us."

Nearly 30 years later, much has changed, but much remains the same. Speaking truth to power will always place America on the right

side of history. Speaking out for those who have no voice will always be a source of hope for people in the darkest corners of the globe.

This President and this Secretary of State need to remember that the surest way to accomplish their stated goal of bolstering America's standing in the world is to find common cause not with oppressors, but with those they repress.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF PAUL
M. WEYRICH

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with deep respect that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding American, a great champion of conservative values, and my good friend, Paul M. Weyrich, who passed away last December 18, 2008. His contributions to American conservative politics over the past 35 years have been tremendous. Paul co-founded the Heritage Foundation in 1973, and in 1974 organized the Committee for the Survival of Free Congress, which later reorganized into the Free Congress Foundation on which he served as Chairman and CEO. By 1977, both the Heritage Foundation and Free Congress Foundation were ranked in the top 5 most influential and best funded conservative think tanks. Paul also held the highest honorary position in the Council for National Policy.

Born in Racine, Washington to Ignatius and Virginia Weyrich, Paul began his interest in politics while attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison. At the age of 19, he joined the Racine County Young Republicans where he was active for the next three years until 1964, when he chose to take part in Barry Goldwater's presidential campaign. In 1966 he became the press secretary to Republican U.S. Senator Gordon L. Allott of Colorado. While there he became acquainted with Jack Wilson, an aide to Joseph Coors of the Coors Brewing family. This contact spurred a series of events, which resulted in the formation of the Heritage Foundation.

The Free Congress Foundation, established shortly after the formation of the Heritage Foundation, and where Mr. Weyrich served as President from 1977 until 2002, is yet another milestone in his long list of achievements. The FCF served as a format to train and mobilize conservative activists, recruit conservative candidates, as well as raise funds for conservative causes. To raise funds, the FCF became one of the first organizations to utilize evangelical churches for recruiting support for conservative politics.

A titan in the world of conservative politics, Mr. Weyrich worked ceaselessly. His contributions include co-founding the Christian Voice with Robert Grant in 1977; co-founding the Moral Majority with Jerry Falwell in 1979; founding the American Legislative Exchange Council; founding the Council for National Policy; co-publishing the magazine *Conservative Digest*; serving as the National Chairman of Coalitions for America; founding the Washington, D.C. based satellite television station "National Empowerment Television (NET)", which later re-launched as "America's Voice";

serving as President of the Kriebel Institute from 1989 to 1996, a unit of FCF which trained activists to support democracy movements and establish small businesses in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Mr. Weyrich was also an ardent supporter of rail mass transit; his expertise in this area was utilized while he served as an AMTRAK Director and a National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commissioner. In and after 1989, Mr. Weyrich traveled to the former Communist Soviet Union where he organized training courses for the promotion of democracy and individual rights. In 2005 Mr. Weyrich won the Heritage Foundation's prestigious Clare Booth Luce Award.

These accomplishments are a testament to his unwavering commitment and passion for conservatism. A leader in his faith, as well as in the political realm, Paul was ordained in 1990 as a deacon in the Melkite Greek Eparchy, a conservative Catholic Church.

A few years ago he was diagnosed with a spinal injury, arachnoiditis, and as his illness progressed over the years, he was confined to a wheelchair. Despite these limitations, Paul persisted in his pursuit to better the nation and world through conservatism. He continued to play key roles as a political advisor and speaker, even finding time to organize summit meetings on the future of conservatism, and write opinion pieces for his own foundation and for news organizations.

On December 18, 2008, Paul passed away in Fairfax, Virginia, and our country lost one of its strongest champions for conservatism. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Joyce, their five children and thirteen grandchildren.

Revered Louis P. Sheldon commented on the life of his friend, stating "Paul Weyrich was a pioneer of the conservative movement and a staunch defender of traditional values. He was a brilliant strategist, an aggressive defender of the faith, and a determined foe against the failed philosophy of liberalism. Most of all, he was a good friend, confidante and someone who could be relied upon to do the right thing for our nation and for the Christian faith, which he embraced. We will miss him—and the conservative movement has lost a giant whose influence will be felt for years to come."

Though Paul is no longer with us, he leaves a powerful legacy that will be remembered for generations to come. Madam Speaker, I ask those here today to join me in remembering and celebrating the life and achievements of this great American, Mr. Paul M. Weyrich.

AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2997) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal

year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 2997, the Agriculture Appropriations bill. This bill wisely devotes half of the total appropriations in the entire bill to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly called the Food Stamp Program.

The face of hunger takes many forms. This week while driving in my district I saw a homeless woman who suffered from chronic hunger, begging on the street corner. When the most basic need for food goes unmet, the most basic functions of living that so many of us take for granted become difficult, if not impossible. It threatens the economic and social well-being of the affected person, and sometimes the entire family. And while this homeless and hungry soul is an apt example of the face of hunger, the truth is that food insecurity is hurting far more than just the severely disadvantaged. Food insecurity is hurting our middle class, our children and our seniors among others. During difficult economic times like these, hunger's invisibility belies its startling prevalence.

In the United States 1 in 8 or approximately 36 million Americans struggle with hunger, 13 million of which are children. According to the USDA 1 in 6 American children are food insecure. One out of every five children under five years of age is living at risk of hunger in 13 states around our nation.

In my home state of Ohio, 12.7 percent of Ohioans are food insecure; 18.7 percent of Ohio's children are food insecure; and 23.3 percent of children under the age of five are food insecure. Ohio has recently been reported to have the third highest rate of food insecure children under the age of 5 in the nation.

Uncertain times in our country and economy are even more uncertain for these children as their malnutrition will have a long-lasting impact on their future development. Proper nutrition throughout life is important but research tells us that for children three and under it is particularly important as this is the time that children build a foundation for the rest of their life. It is precisely the time when their brains and central nervous systems are growing the fastest. A good foundation is essential to a child's future health, including mental health, educational accomplishment and economic viability.

Recent reports indicate that across our nation, 33.8 million people were enrolled in SNAP in April 2009. This is a new record and an increase of 20 percent over last year. It is expected that SNAP will serve approximately 35 million Americans in Fiscal Year 2010. According to a study from the Center for Community Solutions, portions of my district, including Lakewood, Fairview Park and Parma, have experienced a 74 percent increase in participation in the Food Stamp Program (now called SNAP) between 2002 and 2007. Furthermore, our local food bank, the Cleveland Food Bank, has significantly increased distribution since the start of the current fiscal year. Already they have distributed three million more pounds of food in the current fiscal year than was distributed in the entire prior year. By October 2009 it is expected that this number will increase to four million pounds. In Northeast Ohio local food pantries have experienced a 35 percent increase in clients. Many of these clients are first time users of the food bank.

Policy Matters Ohio released a report in February 2009 that found that over 2.8 million Ohioans—roughly 25 percent—are not earning enough income to meet their basic needs. The latest unemployment statistics for the State of Ohio show that unemployment is still on the rise at 10.8 percent. The national unemployment rate is 9.5 percent. These numbers are expected to increase in the coming weeks and months.

The resources that are allocated to SNAP by this bill are desperately needed. I support this bill and urge its passage.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 127, Recognizing the Significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month. I thank my friend The Gentle lady from California, BARBARA LEE for her hard work on this very important resolution. This resolution ensures that every June, we recognize the many contributions of Caribbean-Americans and highlight the issues facing the Caribbean community.

I have the distinct honor and privilege of representing New York's 11th Congressional District, located in central Brooklyn. And as a child of Jamaican immigrants, I have experienced first hand the impact Caribbean Americans can have on a community, let alone a nation. That is why I have been a staunch advocate for Caribbean issues my entire public life; fighting to ensure that the agenda of Caribbean Americans are visible on the national stage.

From the various Caribbean Associations dedicated to helping Caribbean Americans with myriad issues, to the West-Indian American Day Carnival on Eastern Parkway, the influence and impact of Caribbean descendants is undeniable.

Caribbean Americans have contributed greatly to our nation as a whole. Some prominent Caribbean Americans include: My predecessor and role model, Former U.S. Representative Shirley Chisholm, the first African American female Member of Congress, who was of Caribbean descent; Former Secretary of State Collin Powell, both the first African American to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of State of Jamaica lineage; Jamaica Kincaid, an American novelist; social activists Stokely Carmichael and Malcolm X; and dancer Pearl Primus, to name a few.

In Brooklyn, there have been many who have influenced my advocacy for the Caribbean community. People like my mother Dr. Una Clarke, who was the first Caribbean born woman elected to the New York City's Legislature; Lemuel Stanislaus of Grenada; Dr. Henry Frank of Haiti; and Carlos Rosada of Grenada, chairman of the West-Indian American Day Carnival Association, continue to remind me of the fight for equality, not only for the Caribbean community and their countries of origin, but for all.

While Caribbean Americans have made great strides, there are still lingering issues affecting Caribbean Americans in this country. Caribbean immigrants often have little money or access to practical information when making their transition to the United States, making them the targets of immigration fraud. As a result, earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 1992, the Immigration Fraud Prevention Act of 2009, which makes it a federal crime to willfully misrepresent the immigration process through fraud or false representation.

I also introduced H.R. 2071, which directs the Secretary of Commerce to include Caribbean descent as an option on census questionnaires. This will finally bring recognition to the broad diversity of Caribbean natives that call our country home and ensure an accurate count and proper representation.

Our nation's "third border", shared with the Caribbean community, links the security of the U.S. with our island neighbors. In 2007, a joint-report by the United Nations Office of Drug and Crime and the World Bank linked rising crime rates in Caribbean nations to an increase in drug-trafficking. In the 110th Congress, I introduced H. Res. 1504 which calls for increased cooperation between U.S. and Caribbean officials to combat this problem. Last week, I came to this floor to express my support for provisions within H.R. 2410, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 2009 that added the Caribbean community (CARICOM), to the Merida Initiative. This initiative is a multi-year program that works in partnership with governments in Mexico, the nations of Central America, the Dominican Republic and Haiti to confront criminal organizations whose illicit actions undermine public safety, erode the rule of law, and threaten the national security of the United States.

I also expressed my appreciation for the Shirley A. Chisholm Educational Exchange Program authorized in the bill. These provisions promote security and education within the Caribbean community, fostering social and economic development abroad and keeping us safe at home.

Again it is my honor as a child of the Caribbean and my duty as the Representative of the 11th Congressional District of New York, to urge my colleagues to stand with me in supporting this Resolution. I thank Congresswoman LEE for leading the charge on this and for yielding time.

VOTE CLARIFICATION ON ROLL-CALL NO. 503 THE HENSARLING AMENDMENT NO. 6 TO H.R. 2997, THE AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam speaker, I submit a clarification of my vote on Rollcall No. 503 the Hensarling Amendment No. 6, to H.R. 2997. I mistakenly voted "nay" when I intended to vote "yea". The amendment would have Prohibited funds from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service from being

used for an earmark for the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy project, Kiski Basin, Pennsylvania, and reduces the overall amount of the appropriations in the bill by \$200,000.

I had mistakenly believed that I had voted yea and it was not until after the vote had closed that I realized that I had pressed the wrong button and voted nay. My vote against the Hensarling amendment was purely accidental and I regret my error and appreciate the opportunity for clarification.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MARY SUE ALEXANDER

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mary Sue Alexander, a lifelong resident of Greenville, Texas, who passed away earlier this year at the age of 90.

Born in Greenville, Texas to Ed. B. Williams Sr. and Susie Lee Joiner, Mrs. Alexander found meaning in her family, her community, and her faith. She married her husband of 38 years, Sam Reeves Alexander, on June 5, 1937, and they had two daughters.

In her community, Mrs. Alexander was a member of the Junior Palace Club and the Dirdobbers Garden Club. She enjoyed entertaining, cooking, and participated in two bridge clubs. Mrs. Alexander was a loyal member of Wesley United Methodist Church in Greenville for 79 years.

She is survived by her two daughters, Patricia DeVeny and Sue Ann Harting, former mayor of Greenville; three grandchildren, Dianne DeVeny, David DeVeny, and Alexandra Alexander; one great-granddaughter, Shannon Nicole DeVeny; one sister, Rosabel Warren; and many nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Alexander was beloved by her family and many friends, and I join them today in paying our last respects to this wonderful woman, Mrs. Mary Sue Alexander.

CELEBRATING 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. HENRY E. BAUER

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a World War II veteran from Minneapolis, Minnesota, Mr. Henry E. Bauer, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on July 15, 2009. Every American who served in the military during World War II has a unique story, and Mr. Bauer is no exception.

He joined the Army Air Corps on June 5, 1942, at the age of 33. The desire of our country's youth to serve in the war was unprecedented and like so many others, Mr. Bauer answered the call of service to protect our nation at a time of great need. Henry landed at Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944, little more than a month away from his 35th birthday. He was discharged as a Staff Sergeant after the war and returned to his family and friends on November 21, 1945.

At the age of 100 years, his life is a testament to the fact that we can all accomplish amazing feats regardless of age or station.

On behalf of myself and the residents of Minnesota's Fifth Congressional District, I want to offer Mr. Henry E. Bauer the thanks of a grateful country and community and the best wishes for a very happy 100th birthday.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
THE WEST PARK UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the West Park United Church of Christ, as they celebrate one hundred and fifty years of faith, hope and community service throughout the neighborhoods of Kamm's Corners on Cleveland's west side.

West Park United Church of Christ was founded in 1859 by nine individuals, including Charter members and community leaders Benjamin Mastick and Lavinia Trisket. The Church was established to serve as a haven of faith and a center for community outreach, through which diversity is embraced and social programs and community groups expand and thrive. The Church quickly became and continues to serve as an anchor of strength for the Kamm's Corner community.

Since 1859, the members of the West Park United Church of Christ have strengthened the community by encouraging diversity and reaching out as messengers of hope, peace and comfort. Since its founding, the church has witnessed major renovations and expansion over the years and today, the church has 320 members, all of whom are active community volunteers. Members have volunteered as aides at Fairview Hospital, tutors at local schools, and workers at homeless shelters, emergency food pantries, and the Meals on Wheels program.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the West Park United Church of Christ of Cleveland and their members as they celebrate 150 years of faith, community and public service throughout Cleveland's Kamm's Corners neighborhood.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, due to being unavoidably delayed, I missed the vote on final passage on H.R. 2647 (Roll No. 460). I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2647, had I been present to record my vote. I was present for votes on the previous question, the rule, and amendments; each of which reflect my strong support for this bill.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. LOBIONDO. Madam Speaker, as per the requirements of the Republican Conference Rules on earmarks, I secured the following earmarks in H.R. 2997:

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK LOBIONDO (NJ-02)

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Rutgers University Marucci Center for Blueberry and Cranberry Research and Extension

Address of Requesting Entity: 125A Oswego Road, Chatsworth, NJ 08019.

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$451,000 for the Cranberry/Blueberry Disease Project for research on breeding and pest management will provide continued support for the \$50 million a year industry. Past research has found bacterial anti-adherence mechanisms helping to fight urinary tract infection and dental caries, and other antioxidant properties. A major effort within the breeding program aims to enhance these health beneficial properties.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK LOBIONDO (NJ-02)

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of New Jersey, Department of Agriculture

Address of Requesting Entity: 369 S. Warren Street, P.O. Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 for the New Jersey Gypsy Moth Pest Management Program to support and enhance gypsy moth control on affected communities and public lands. Funds will be used to cost share aerial treatments borne by local municipalities; for outreach in developing a Web-based interactive online map showing the distribution of gypsy moth in New Jersey and proposed treatment areas; and for technical support for salaries for field scouts and vehicle operation.

CONGRATULATING JEFF OLSEN

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and record my strong and enthusiastic support for Jeff Olsen, a constituent of mine who is being recognized by the American Legion for his patriotism.

Olsen, a resident of South Elgin and local sanitation worker, collected discarded American flags along his route to properly dispose of them. He would fold and carefully package each flag before giving them to the local American Legion to destroy them in the traditional ceremony.

To date, Olsen has saved and donated over 250 American flags to the American Legion. Many of his colleagues at the Elgin Waste Management office also work to ensure that

American flags which are improperly disposed of are treated with the utmost respect; however, the number of flags discovered by Olsen is nothing short of remarkable.

Olsen was honored by both the local American Legion and Elks Lodge with an Americanism Award in recognition of his actions on June 14, 2009, Flag Day. His actions should be recognized as not only a caring act of patriotism, but also as an effort to raise awareness to the general public on how to properly dispose of an American flag. As a lasting symbol of freedom and democracy, the American flag should be treated with nothing less than great care and respect.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Olsen on his award, and extend my deepest gratitude for his efforts. I can only hope that his story will inspire others to take similar action.

HONORING THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF QUOGUE, NEW YORK

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, in these fast-moving times, it is a comfort to know that some wonderful places are in no hurry to change. I rise today to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the community of Quogue, a picturesque village on the South Shore of Long Island.

European settlement in Quogue began in 1649 when Englishman John Ogden purchased a large tract on Shinnecock Bay from Chief Wiandance Sachem to establish farming and grazing lands. By the 1800s, residents of New York City had begun to discover Eastern Long Island's rustic natural beauty and pleasant climate, establishing summer communities and boarding houses.

While Quogue prospered with the arrival of seasonal visitors, it retained a quaint charm and family atmosphere that is still recognizable today. In fact, Quogue is known as the "Quiet Hampton" to distinguish it from its more famous—and hectic—neighbors to the east.

Madam Speaker, small towns like Quogue represent the best of the American community spirit. I am happy to offer its citizens my best wishes for a successful anniversary celebration and for a long future as a true American original.

IN HONOR OF THE THOMAS F. MCCAFFERTY HEALTH CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Thomas F. McCafferty Health Center and in recognition of the staff and volunteer's commitment to providing quality health care services continues to serve the needs of the residents of Cleveland's west side for nearly four decades.

The McCafferty Health Center opened in 1971 and was named for well-known physician, Dr. Thomas F. McCafferty. The Center continues the mission of Dr. McCafferty in tailoring medical services to meet the needs of

those in the surrounding communities who may not otherwise have access to quality health care services.

The McCafferty Center, a bilingual clinic, provides health care in the areas of family practice, pulmonary, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, and cardiology, as well as social work and nutrition services. Within these areas are clinics for women's health, veterans, TB testing, testing and counseling for STD and HIV/AIDS and free vaccinations for infants, children, and teens.

The Center serves over 32,000 patients a year, over half of whom are Hispanic. Evident in their programs and clinics, the Center has a legacy of embracing the community's vibrant diversity, including a concerted effort in outreach and service to Cleveland's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered community. Additionally, the Center's Community Advocacy Program works to remove legal barriers that may exist to improve the health outcomes of their patients.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor of the staff and volunteers of the Thomas F. McCafferty Health Center, whose collective and individual commitment to providing quality health care continues to uplift the lives of countless individuals and families throughout Cleveland's west side community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.
BRUCE PHILLIPS DAVIS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Bruce Phillips Davis, a devoted husband, father, and Veteran; and to mourn him upon his passing at age 44.

Bruce was born on March 18, 1965. He attended Lincoln Elementary School, Frost Junior High, Bentley High School and Cleary University, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Business. He became a consultant with DTE Energy, a position in which Bruce excelled for twenty years. Following in his father's and brother's courageous footsteps, Bruce heeded a higher call of service and joined our United States military; and nobly served us and defended human freedom during Operation Desert Storm. A lover of life whose company brought joy to all he knew, Bruce enjoyed numerous outdoor activities and giving back to his community through his memberships in the Fraternal Order of Eagles and American Legion.

On July 6, 2009, Bruce succumbed in his ongoing struggle with pulmonary hypertension. He will be remembered as a father devoted to his family, especially his wife, Penny, and daughter, and to his many nieces and nephews. Bruce was a wonderful man, kind to all he encountered; and he will be truly, and sorrowfully missed.

Madam Speaker, during his lifetime, Bruce Phillips Davis enriched the lives of everyone around him. As we bid farewell to this wonderful individual, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his years of loyal service to our community and country.

Goodbye and God Bless, "Tiger!"

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding the earmark I received as part of H.R. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

Rodale Institute, Kutztown PA—\$349,000 for crop-rotation research to improve air, soil and water quality.

EARMARK DECLARATION

REP. DENNY REHBERG

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. REHBERG. 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. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG
Bill Number: H.R. 3082

Account: Army NG

Name and Address: Montana Army National Guard, 1956 Mt Majo Street, Fort Harrison, Helena, MT 59636-4789

Description: An increased number of Periodic Health Assessments has led to serious overcrowding of waiting areas, exam rooms, treatment facilities and administrative areas at the Fort Harrison Troop Medical Facility in Helena, Montana. This overcrowding presents both a risk to patient safety and patient privacy as required by HIPAA. The \$1.75 million in funding will be used to expand and renovate the current facility to handle the increased patient load and improve both safety and patient privacy.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

City of Kingsland, Kingsland, GA

Requesting Member: Congressman JACK KINGSTON

Bill Number: H.R. 2996, FY2010 Interior and Environment Appropriations

Account: EPA-STAG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Kingsland, GA

Address of Requesting Entity: 107 South Lee Street P.O. Box 250 Kingsland, GA 31548

Description of Request: expand water and sewer infrastructure for the purposes of a new affordable housing development. Project would spur economic development in an underserved area.

Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, Atlanta, GA

Requesting Member: Congressman JACK KINGSTON

Bill Number: H.R. 2996, FY2010 Interior and Environment Appropriations Account: EPA-STAG

Proposed Recipient: Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District

Address of Recipient: 40 Courtland Street, NE Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Description of Request: funding received would be used to help local governments meet water resource plan requirements and be used for various stages of design and construction for several water projects including watershed management, wastewater treatment and water conservation.

COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF
REAR ADMIRAL GARY T. BLORE
AS ASSISTANT COMMANDANT OF
THE UNITED STATES COAST
GUARD

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, I rise to recognize Rear Admiral Gary T. Blore for his distinguished service as the Assistant Commandant for Acquisition and Chief Acquisition Officer for the United States Coast Guard. Having completed his tour at Coast Guard Headquarters, he has now assumed command of the Coast Guard's 13th District, located in the Pacific Northwest.

Admiral Blore took the helm of Coast Guard acquisition programs at a time when these programs were facing significant challenges. Early procurements in the Deepwater program—a multi-billion dollar program intended to repair or replace the Coast Guard's air and surface assets—had failed.

Additionally, the decision made years earlier to manage the Deepwater procurements outside the service's existing acquisition management structure had created serious oversight and even morale challenges.

The Coast Guard needed to completely revamp its acquisition management systems to create a structure equal to the size of its acquisition initiatives and capable of effectively overseeing its contractors and obtaining best value for the expenditure of taxpayer resources.

Admiral Blore has ably led that change and, working closely with the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, has modernized the Coast Guard's acquisition management systems.

His leadership guided the reorganization of several stalled projects that have now produced an unprecedented number of urgently needed capital assets for the Coast Guard, including modern helicopters, airplanes, boats, large cutters, and sophisticated shore, air and sea-based command and control systems.

Responding to the extensive criticisms of the early Deepwater effort and the Rescue-21 program, Admiral Blore led the organization of a new Acquisition Directorate. He issued and updated a Blueprint for Acquisition Reform, which continues to guide the creation of acquisition management systems within the new Directorate. Further, he oversaw the successful

extraction of the Deepwater procurements from the Integrated Coast Guard System team and brought the Lead Systems Integration functions back in-house.

Additionally, Admiral Blore updated the Coast Guard's Major Systems Acquisition Manual, published an Acquisition Human Capital Strategic Plan, and developed 30-year air and surface asset recapitalization plans that will guide the service's ongoing effort to effectively plan future capital needs.

I believe that under the leadership of Commandant Thad Allen and Admiral Blore, the Coast Guard has positioned itself to more effectively manage its acquisition efforts and to produce assets that will significantly enhance the Coast Guard's mission readiness.

To ensure that these and other needed acquisition management reforms are solidly established, I introduced legislation during this Congress—the Coast Guard Acquisition Reform Act of 2009, H.R. 1665—which builds on and institutionalizes the many reforms that Admiral Blore has introduced.

This measure will strengthen the Coast Guard's ability to manage complex acquisition projects and I look forward to its full consideration and passage by the House.

Admiral Blore has had a long and distinguished career in service to our Nation. He is an accomplished Coast Guard aviator; this fall, he will relieve Vice Admiral Vivien Crea as the Coast Guard's Ancient Albatross—the service's longest-serving active duty aviator.

I know Admiral Blore to be a man of unyielding integrity who has forthrightly presented to me and to the Congress the full extent of the problems he has confronted. I also know him to be an effective and deliberate manager who has diligently addressed the problems he faced and who leaves a modern acquisition organization that reflects his dedication to excellence.

I am honored to pay tribute to Admiral Blore in the United States Congress and on behalf of the Representatives and staff who have been fortunate enough to work with him. I wish him, his wife Vera, his son David, and his daughter Anna the very best.

RECOGNIZING THE CONGREGATION
OF THE ST. JOHN MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH FOR ITS DEDI-
CATION TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the St. John Missionary Baptist Church congregation on the recent dedication of its rebuilt church, restored following a fire that tragically destroyed the building shortly after the church's 100th anniversary celebration in January of 2006.

At the beginning of the 20th century a group of men and women, former slaves and sons and daughters of slaves, began to congregate and conduct church services in Haywood County, Tennessee, which I am honored to represent in this chamber. The first church building of St. John Missionary Baptist Church was a small log building erected on land given to the congregation by Deacon Charlie Wilkerson and was known as simply St. John's "across the river."

On November 16, 1904, papers were drawn up to purchase 33 acres of land from W.H. Ford approximately one and a half miles from Dancyville, Tennessee. The deed was filed on January 20, 1906, with the church paying \$425 for the land. Marion Sweet and William Graves served as master carpenters for the new structure, and they, along with the tireless effort of countless others, laid the foundation and built a frame structure that served as a place of worship for numerous years.

Throughout the 20th century, the congregation continued to grow in number as well as in presence within West Tennessee and became known throughout the area for its leadership, dedication to God and love of fellow man. The congregation continued to improve the structure of St. John Missionary Baptist Church with expanding facilities to aid in worship and assist with the growing number of congregants. The frame church was bricked in the late 1950's with additions and renovations through the latter portion of the 20th century.

Tragedy struck on September 20, 2006, when the building was destroyed by fire. Undeterred, the congregation held meetings at Raul's Funeral Home in Brownsville and soon began the process of rebuilding their historic church.

The congregation's ability to rebuild the church is both a testament to their dedication to worship as well as their commitment to what the church has represented to our community for more than 100 years. From their humble beginnings in a small log church building near the corner of Highway 76 South and the Qualls Road intersection to the beautiful church they have just restored, St. John Missionary Baptist Church has served as a symbol of hope, faith and devotion. We know that tradition will continue under the leadership of my friend and an outstanding public servant, Reverend Johnny W. Shaw.

Madam Speaker, we hope you and our colleagues will join me as we congratulate the St. John Missionary Baptist Church on the dedication of its new church, and thank members of the congregation for all they do to help West Tennessee.

CONGRATULATING SERGEANT
FIRST CLASS BLAKE SIMMS AND
SERGEANT FIRST CLASS CHAD
STACKPOLE

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sergeant First Class Blake Simms and Sergeant First Class Chad Stackpole, winners of the 2009 Best Ranger Competition, a rigorous contest at Fort Benning, Ga., between elite two-man teams.

Simms and Stackpole won a home-court victory, as they hail from Benning's 4th Ranger Training Battalion.

The Best Ranger Competition started out as a contest between the best two-man teams at Fort Benning in the early 1980s but quickly expanded Army-wide. It easily rates as one of the toughest, most physically demanding competitions in the world. Contestants endure extreme demands of their physical, mental and technical abilities as Rangers, and they must

deliver at levels that far exceed the expectations of average soldiers.

Today, the competition pits the best of the best against each other. It's an honor to simply win a spot in the contest, making Simms and Stackpole's accomplishment all the more extraordinary. The event lasts three days and teams face elimination unless they complete all events, which include marksmanship, climbing a 60-foot rope and long, wet hikes. It's easy to see why of the 49 teams that entered only 24 finished all courses.

Both Sergeant First Class Blake Simms and Sergeant First Class Chad Stackpole have been awarded many medals, including the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Valorous Unit Award and many others.

Simms, from Columbus, GA, joined the service after high school in 1999. He has served one tour in Iraq and also participated in the humanitarian aid to New Orleans following the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Simms had competed in the Best Ranger Competition twice before. He is married with two children.

Stackpole, from Bowling Green, KY, has served since 1998 and has deployed to Iraq twice. He and his wife Andrea have two children. Stackpole has competed in the competition twice with a 5th place finish last year.

Sergeant First Class Blake Simms and Sergeant First Class Chad Stackpole have dedicated their lives to the service of this nation and have dedicated years of their lives to fighting on the front lines of the war on terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq. With a combination of hard work, dedication and talent, they have proven on the field of battle and on the field of competition that they rank amongst the best soldiers in the U.S. Army—the greatest fighting force in the history of the world.

Madam Speaker, I call on the U.S. House of Representatives to join me and the people of Georgia's 3rd Congressional District in honoring the service and applauding the stellar achievements of Sergeant First Class Blake Simms and Sergeant First Class Chad Stackpole. They are a tribute to Fort Benning, the U.S. Army Rangers, and the United States.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the FY 2010 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Requesting Member: Congressman GARY G. MILLER

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Municipal Water District of Orange County

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, California 92728
Funding Secured: \$134,000

Description of Request: In the arid climate of Southern California, it is critically important to provide a coordinated effort to conserve water resources by controlling water usage. In particular, Orange County's growing population requires extensive conservation measures to adequately provide sufficient water resources for its residents. Funding for the Irrigation Controller Installation Program would allow for the installation of a smart irrigation controller system that uses innovative technology to regulate the amount of water that is delivered based on weather conditions, soil, slope, and type of landscape. Supported by local government entities and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, this computerized landscape sprinkler system will save the residents of Orange County 30,000 acre-feet of water every year, directly benefiting more than two million Orange County residents. This program has direct national significance by relieving pressure from imported water sources such as the Colorado River Aqueduct and the San Francisco Bay Delta. In addition, its implementation will help reduce urban runoff, preventing pollutants from reaching natural waterways and the ocean.

CONGRATULATING ARJUN
KANDASWAMY

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to Arjun Kandaswamy for his accomplishments in the Oregon State Geography Bee and in the National Geographic 21st Annual Geography Bee.

Arjun is an exceptional middle school student who participates in Oregon's Summa Program for gifted students. After winning the State of Oregon Geography Bee, Arjun represented Oregon in the National Geographic Bee, one of the most difficult in the nation. At the age of fourteen, Arjun topped 53 students from across the nation and earned second place and an accompanying college scholarship.

I, therefore, again gladly extend my congratulations to Arjun and wish him a bright academic future and continued success in all his endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE CLARKSON
UNIVERSITY RACQUETBALL
TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2009
NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE
RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Clarkson University Golden Knights upon winning the 2009 NCAA Division II Racquetball National Championship, their second national championship since 2005. I am proud to represent Clarkson University and the community of Potsdam.

In April, Clarkson University won the Division II National Championship in Tempe, Ari-

zona, which involved 330 players representing more than 50 colleges and universities. The Golden Knights did so by having the highest combined total of the men's and women's team points, which were attained by defeating competing players in individual matches.

The Clarkson men's team included Marco B. Fontana, Joseph V. Kapas, Justin A. Konopaske, Brian C. Robertshaw, Brian T. Straub, and Joseph E. Tabor of Nicholville, New York, which is located in New York's 23rd Congressional District. The women's team was comprised of Michelle E. Turk and Rachel D. Weiss, captain of the combined teams. Professor Norbert Ackermann has served as the team's advisor for more than a decade.

Madam Speaker, it takes a tremendous amount of dedication, hard work, perseverance, and teamwork to win a national collegiate championship. Thus, I am pleased to extend my congratulations to these young men and women, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the entire Clarkson University Golden Knights racquetball team for this very significant accomplishment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, July 8, 2009, I missed the following votes: rollcall Nos. 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, and 488. If I had been able to make these votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 481 and 488. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 480, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I unfortunately missed two recorded votes on the House floor on Wednesday, July 8, 2009.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 480 (On agreeing to H. Res. 610) and "aye" on rollcall vote No. 481 (on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1275).

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2997) making ap-

propriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2997, the FY2010 Agriculture Appropriations bill, which makes important investments in agricultural research; conservation, rural development, and nutrition programs; as well as a number of other programs that support agriculture and rural communities in our nation.

I am very grateful to the Committee, and especially to Chair ROSA DELAURO, for support of many of my high-priority requests and for recognizing the special challenges faced by Hawaii farmers.

Yesterday as we were getting ready to begin debate, I was surprised to learn that another member had filed an amendment to eliminate funding for one of my Hawaii requests included in the final bill. The amendment would have eliminated a \$153,000 earmark, titled Agricultural Diversification in Hawaii, to assist Hawaii farmers succeed in growing and marketing new crops to replace sugarcane and pineapple. It was a bit disappointing because the amendment was drafted by a member from Texas, a state that enjoys far more substantial federal support for its farmers in the form of direct payments and other agricultural services than Hawaii.

Ultimately, the member from Texas decided not to offer his amendment. If he had, I would have offered the following defense for this important program.

Hawaii is the most geographically isolated state.

Hawaii imports 85 percent of the food consumed by residents and visitors and is estimated to have a 4–7 day food supply in the event of a shipping disruption of any kind.

Our major agricultural industries of sugar and pineapple production have declined precipitously in the last 15 years. Of our last two sugar companies, one announced it was going out of business last year. Our longstanding leaders in pineapple production have moved their fruit production operations out of the state. As a result, Hawaii has been making a difficult transition from plantation to diversified agriculture.

Increased food production for local and export markets is a key component to addressing food security in Hawaii.

Most of the research done in mainland university and research institutions does not have much relevance in Hawaii. We grow different crops and have a year-round growing season, which means year-round pest and disease issues.

There are no large national agricultural organizations to lobby for the interests of papaya, pineapple, banana, or coffee farmers. Rice and cotton growers in Texas can find support from growers in other states who will make sure that their needs are understood and met.

The Hawaii Agricultural Diversification program has evolved over time from identifying alternative crops to replace sugarcane and pineapple, to assessments on aquaculture crops, to the current emphasis on tropical fruits.

The overall tropical fruit industry in Hawaii comprises nearly 1300 farmers who produce crops for tropical fruit markets with an annual farm gate value of more than \$30 million.

Included in this agricultural industry are banana, guava, papaya, avocados, and wide range of tropical specialty fruits such as rambutan, lychee, and longan.

While the total acreage and the total number of farms increased in 2007, these growers are small farmers, averaging less than 5 acres per farm in production. These farmers have limited resources and do not have the means to conduct the R & D to support their industry. This funding provides means for stakeholder-driven research and development in support of the industry.

The main problems faced by Hawaii tropical fruit growers include pest management strategies, phytosanitary export protocols, and refined market information to guide production.

For example, two major Hawaii Tropical Specialty Fruits, rambutan and longan, are grown for export to the U.S. mainland but face stiff competition with foreign countries, such as from Thailand, where labor and other input costs are much lower. Research funds have been devoted to finding best management practices for post-harvest handling of rambutan and longan to identify the fungal diseases that damage fruit and accelerate spoilage during shipment. Research, done collaboratively with USDA Agricultural Research Service, has identified methods to extend rambutan and longan shelf-life and to maintain higher quality fruit during shipment, giving Hawaii growers a competitive advantage over cheap foreign competition.

Hawaii has an image of being a paradise. Hawaii is beautiful, but at the same time we are also very vulnerable to any downturn in the U.S. or international economies. Our biggest industry, tourism, has been hit hard by the recession. Our geographic isolation means that everything is more expensive, including inputs for agriculture.

My district, which includes all of Hawaii (7 inhabited islands) except for the city of Honolulu, is largely rural and most of our residents would like it to stay that way. We have a long agricultural tradition and history and are struggling to adjust to changing markets without the safety net that most states that grow program crops (like cotton, rice, and corn) enjoy. Despite the fact that Hawaii farmers are not able to take advantage of many of the programs that benefit mainland farmers, I have consistently supported farmers throughout the country and simply ask that my fellow members also support Hawaii's hard-working farmers.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010.

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2997) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chair, I rise tonight in reluctant support of this legislation. While H.R.

2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010 provides critical funding for the United States Department of Agriculture, including important initiatives that I helped put in the 2008 Farm Bill, it falls short for some rural Americans.

USDA funding is critical to our nation, and H.R. 2997 ensures USDA can continue its good work. This bill provides more than \$2.8 billion for rural development, 4 percent more than in 2009, for investments such as rural housing, water projects, community facilities and economic development efforts. These rural initiatives not only sustain our rural communities, but also create new opportunities for growth and development in our nation's small towns. At a time when our rural economies are suffering, this funding provides a desperately needed hand up, and a way to spur continued growth and maintenance for existing infrastructure.

To protect American agriculture, the safety of our nation's food supply, and to spur the continued research that makes our land grant universities the pinnacle of the world's agriculture research centers, the bill provides nearly \$1.2 billion for the Agricultural Research Service \$1.3 billion for important agricultural research at the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, and \$881 million to fund programs that protect American agriculture against animal and plant diseases. As the representative of the district that contains the main campus of North Carolina State University, one of our nation's finest land grant and agricultural research institutions, I am proud that the research funds within the bill will continue to allow these students and researchers to do their good work for American agriculture and the consumers who eat the healthy food American farmers produce, here at home and across the globe.

Conservation efforts were sadly diminished under the last Administration, but this bill provides \$980 million for conservation programs at USDA, 8 percent above the President's request and 1 percent above 2009. Funding provided in H.R. 2997 for the Natural Resources Conservation Service will improve service in the field, and deliver conservation to protect the environment. The bill rejects \$267 million in proposed cuts to farm bill conservation priorities, including the Wetlands Reserve Program, Farmland Protection Program, and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program. These initiatives ensure that our children inherit the legacy of a clean environment and a healthy rural America. They deserve no less than what we enjoyed growing up.

To help the most needy in our society, H.R. 2997 provides more than \$7.5 billion to provide proper nutrition to mothers and their children, supporting healthy food for up to an additional 700,000 women, infants, and children. The funds provided in this bill will help bring needed WIC assistance to more than ten million people. It also sets aside \$125 million for the upcoming WIC reauthorization, including a number of program improvements such as increasing fruit and vegetable vouchers, implementing the electronic benefit transfer system, and expanding the breast feeding peer counseling program.

There are many good things in this bill. But while the bill provides basic support for our nation's farmers, it leaves out some of the farmers most in need and may harm many of our livestock and poultry producers.

Mr. Chair, the people who live in my district are suffering. With double digit unemployment in every county in my district, we are experiencing some of the worst economic conditions in the nation. My farmers are suffering as well. I have poultry growers and livestock producers who are on the verge of losing their homes. This bill should include Section 32 funding, that I requested, for economic disaster assistance for these producers, producers who work hard to raise thousands of birds for our family tables but are not eligible for any traditional assistance at USDA. This provision would have helped nearly a thousand poultry producers in a dozen states who have lost their contracts. These folks have nowhere else to turn for a bridge that will allow them to keep their farms. When we are giving bailouts to Wall Street and the auto industry, we owe it to rural America to lend a hand to those who reside on Main Street. But, unfortunately, the committee did not include this provision.

I am also concerned about a provision put into this bill that extends a ban on imports of processed poultry meat from China. This is already threatening to hurt not only U.S. poultry producers, but also pork and beef producers who depend on the Chinese market. While I share Chairwoman DELAURO's desire to make sure that our food is safe, arbitrary restrictions do not forward our goals. Congress should rely on the food safety efforts of USDA and FDA, and insist on continued oversight of these agencies. We must work to improve Chinese food safety in a manner that protects U.S. consumers, but that is also consistent with our international obligations on fair trade. Singling out our largest trading partner may lead to retaliation that would threaten an already suffering industry. It is my hope that this provision will be removed from the bill during conference.

Mr. Chair, I will vote for H.R. 2997, and I urge my colleagues to do the same. But I also urge those in Leadership, and the Chair of this committee, to think of North Carolina's poultry farmers, and livestock producers across the country, as this bill goes to conference. I hope to work together in the future to ensure that future legislation is more inclusive of all of our farmers and people in need.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 478 and 479 and on Wednesday, July 8, 2009, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, and 488. I missed these rollcall votes due to having the flu.

Had I been present for rollcall 478, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 135, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 479, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1129, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 480, on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 610 providing for consideration of H.R. 2965, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 481, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 1278, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 482, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1945, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 483, on agreeing to the Kosmas Amendment to H.R. 2965, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 484, on agreeing to the Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to H.R. 2965, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 488, on motion to adjourn, I would have voted "no."

INTRODUCTION OF THE
FOREWARN ACT (H.R. 3042)

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today regarding the Forewarn Act (H.R. 3042), which was introduced on June 25, 2009, in an effort to help American workers by updating and improving the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act (P.L. 100-379). I am pleased to have had the opportunity to work with the Gentleman from California, Mr. MILLER, the Chairman of the House Committee on Education and Labor, to craft this important legislation.

Congress enacted the WARN Act over two decades ago in August 1988 in an effort to help American workers better prepare for, and overcome the difficulties resulting from the loss of a job due to a mass layoff or plant closure. Specifically, through the WARN Act, Congress required that employers give workers 60 days advance notice of mass-layoffs to facilitate their efforts to find a new job, obtain retraining, or otherwise prepare for the significant consequences of lost employment. Simultaneously, to maximize the assistance provided to workers under such difficult circumstances, Congress also required the same 60-day notice be provided to state dislocated worker entities and the chief elected official of the pertinent local government.

Last Congress, I was prompted to closely review the WARN Act and its requirements in the wake of a decision by the General Motors (GM) Corporation to phase out 500 jobs and close its Powertrain facility in Massena, New York, which I represent. As a result of this examination, on September 25, 2007, I introduced the Forewarn Act of 2007 (H.R. 3662) to strengthen the WARN Act by expanding its scope and increasing its notice requirements to 90 days. Additionally, H.R. 3662 sought to enhance compliance by increasing the back pay penalty, clarifying that the notice period should be determined by the use of "calendar" rather than "business" days, and giving the Secretary of Labor or appropriate state attorney general the ability to enforce the law. I was later pleased to vote for similar provisions when the House considered the Trade and Globalization Assistance Act of 2007 (H.R. 3920) authored by Mr. MILLER to reauthorize the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act. Unfortunately, H.R. 3920 did not become law before the conclusion of the 110th Congress.

Since that time, economic circumstances have reinforced the need to modernize and expand the WARN Act. From December 2007 through May 2009, seven million Americans

have become unemployed and in the 11 counties encompassed by New York's 23rd Congressional District, over 34,000 people are without work. Moreover, during that timeframe, there have been 37,059 mass layoffs across the nation involving over 3.8 million workers. In the face of such circumstances, it is incumbent upon Congress to ensure that American workers have as much notice as practicable and that the law providing such notice and associated rights is understandable and enforceable.

Thus, as the Gentleman from California and I reviewed the WARN Act, one of our goals was to clarify provisions that had caused confusion and resulted in litigation. For example, the question of whether the notice period required under the Act was to be determined by counting "calendar" days or "business" days has long been litigated. In our recently introduced bill (H.R. 3042), we seek to clarify that "calendar" days are indeed to be used when calculating the notice period. Likewise, there has been confusion as to whether or not an employer's "good faith" could be used as a complete defense to liability under the Act. When Congress enacted the WARN Act, it clearly intended that an employer's good faith should only be used by a court to reduce the damages owed—not to entirely eliminate liability—and we have sought to reinforce Congress' original intent through Section 2(c)(3) of this proposal.

As in the legislation (H.R. 3920) passed by the House in the 110th Congress, the current Forewarn Act (H.R. 3042) would require employers to give 90 days, rather than 60 days, notice of mass-layoffs and plant closures to employees. However, H.R. 3042 would expand the bill's reach to those employers who have 75 or more employees, including those who are new or part-time, and lower the threshold number of affected employees from 50 to 25 employees. In addition, our measure would require employers to give notice to the Governor of the pertinent state, as well as to the U.S. Secretary of Labor, who in turn would be required to give notice to the appropriate Senators and Members of the House of Representatives.

To better ensure compliance, as H.R. 3662 and H.R. 3920 would have done last Congress, the current Forewarn Act (H.R. 3042) would increase the remedies available to employees in instances where proper notice was not given. For example, employees could receive damages in the amount of double back pay for each calendar day they were not provided with the requisite notice and the Secretary of Labor could initiate an enforcement action on their behalf. The bill (H.R. 3042) would make clear that the appropriate statute of limitations is two years and provide further protections to workers by precluding waivers of their rights under the law unless they were made by the Secretary of Labor, an attorney general, or with the assistance of counsel. We have also clarified that parent companies are ultimately responsible for the actions or inactions of their subsidiaries.

Finally, to increase assistance to workers, our bill (H.R. 3042) requires employers to post notices regarding worker rights under the WARN Act and to permit on-site access to rapid response teams. Likewise, it requires the Secretary of Labor to prepare a guide of benefits and services that may be available to unemployed workers.

Madam Speaker, as Congress continues its efforts to address our nation's current economic circumstances, it should favorably consider the Forewarn Act.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE IMPRISONMENT OF THE SEVEN-MEMBER NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE IRANIAN BAHÁ'IS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, May 14 marked the one-year anniversary of the imprisonment of the seven-member national committee of the Iranian Baha'is. They have been unjustly held for over a year without formal charges or access to their attorneys.

According to The New York Times, the seven Baha'is are scheduled to face trial this Saturday, July 11.

They will reportedly be charged with "espionage for Israel," a crime which is punishable by death.

The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom recently released their 2009 report which recommends that the State Department designate Iran a country of particular concern due to its gross violations of religious freedom.

Such violations include the execution of over 200 Baha'i leaders since 1979, the desecration of Baha'i cemeteries and places of worship and the violent arrest and harassment of members of the Baha'i faith.

As the administration seeks diplomatic engagement with Iran, I urge them to make human rights and religious freedom, including the persecuted Baha'is, an integral part of the dialogue.

Human dignity and freedom must not be relegated to the sidelines.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR
KELLY HOLMES' SERVICE TO
WEST TENNESSEE

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kelly Holmes, a long-time public servant who retired June 30 after many years as Madison County Fire Chief alongside his wife Willadene. Under Chief Homes' leadership, the Madison County Fire Department grew from a volunteer force with Army surplus equipment to 16 stations with 162 firefighters.

Kelly Holmes is a native of Bemis, Tennessee, and was raised in Madison County, which I am honored to represent in this chamber. After serving in the United States Army during the Korean War, Kelly returned home in 1955 to work at Consolidated Aluminum Corporation, where he worked for more than 20 years.

During that time, in 1958, Kelly helped organize the all-volunteer Madison County Fire Department to help protect our community. The following year, he was promoted to the rank of Captain, and in 1963 assumed the role of Fire

Chief. He served in that position as a volunteer for 13 years; in 1976, the needs of Madison County had grown so much that the position of Fire Chief became a full-time, paid position.

In his more than 50 years with the Madison County Fire Department, Chief Holmes has served on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association and served from 1978 to 1980 as President of that association. He has received many awards, including the Good Conduct Medal, the Army's National Defense Service Medal, the Jackson Exchange Club's "Man of the Year" Award in 1975, and the First American Red Cross Humanitarian Service Award in 2005. In 1965, he appeared in "Outstanding Young Men of America." Chief Holmes has also held various leadership roles at the Bemis United Methodist Church, to which he and his family belong.

Fire protection service to our community is important to the entire Holmes family. Kelly says "his number one assistant" is his wife, Willadene, who has also served the Madison County Fire Department for 50 years as a dispatcher and secretary. For 30 years, his son Ralph served the Jackson Fire Department, from which he retired as Battalion Chief, and spent his off days as Head of Maintenance and Captain of the Madison County Fire Department. Chief Holmes' grandson Joe has served 4 years with the Madison County Fire Department as a firefighter.

Among Chief Holmes' greatest moments of service was his leadership in responding to a 1978 train derailment and propane explosion in Waverly, Tennessee, that had killed several, including the local police and fire chiefs, and destroyed several city blocks. Chief Holmes and the firefighters serving with him put their lives on the line in a very precarious situation, knowing that a second propane car at the center of the fire could have exploded at any time. Tennesseans were grateful for the courage and dedication displayed by Chief Holmes and other responders.

Madam Speaker, I have long been proud to call Chief Kelly Holmes my friend. I thank you and our colleagues for joining me in expressing gratitude for his service protecting West Tennessee families and congratulating him on his retirement, which will allow him to spend time with his family and—in his words—"enjoy the country life." We wish him all the best.

THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB'S
FIGHT AGAINST CHILD ABUSE

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the National Exchange Club and the Jacksonville and Jacksonville Beaches Exchange clubs on their continuing commitment to fight child abuse and to recognize those in our communities who fight against it on a daily basis. Members remind me that "These are America's children and this is America's responsibility."

From July 14–18, 2009, local and national leaders and concerned citizens will gather at Metropolitan Park for a Healing Field flag memorial. At that time, 1530 American flags will be flying. Each flag will be in honor of a child

abuse victim. 146 of the flags represent children of Florida. The display will be a colorful reminder that child abuse is a national problem, and we all must work to prevent it.

During this weeklong event, flags will also fly to honor Jacksonville's fallen military in the current conflict, and fallen police and fire officers.

Also at this time, the 91st annual convention of the National Exchange Club will be hosted in Jacksonville. Club members will erect the display and maintain this awe-inspiring memorial during the convention. This patriotic display was established by the Healing Field Foundation to shine light on an ugly subject—child abuse in America.

Recently, at one of my local Exchange Clubs, I congratulated those who work in the field to prevent child abuse on their commitment to children from families who often are in fragile situations. Talk about unsung heroes! For every child who finds a sanctuary, hundreds are living day-to-day in often precarious situations. The flags represent those who paid a terrible price for something they did not do. These children depend on you and me to become aware and help extend them a lifeline.

My wife Kitty and I are concerned about the growing problem of child abuse not only in America but across the globe. As the economic situation worsens, it is our fear that more children will become victims. I hope that families in Jacksonville will go to Metropolitan Park with their children and experience this moving and patriotic display. None of us can do this alone but there is tremendous strength in our combined actions. It is too late for those memorialized in the Healing Field but for more of our children life is a risky business.

The National Exchange Club and its local clubs are willing to step forward to illuminate a growing problem in our nation. I hope that the Healing Field will move us to action. I thank the Speaker for the time to address the House on this important issue.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN FLEMING

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. FLEMING. 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. 3082, the "Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010."

I have requested funding for the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range project in Fiscal Year 2010. The entity to receive the funding for this project is the United States Army, located at Fort Polk/Joint Readiness Training Center, Louisiana. FY10 funds would provide for the construction of a standard design Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range, required to train and test soldiers on the skills necessary to detect, identify, engage and defeat targets in a tactical environment. Fort Polk does not currently have a suitable training area that meets the requirements needed for machine gunnery. Without this facility, the soldiers of Fort Polk, Reserve, and National Guard units will not be able to maintain efficiency for live fire training for machine gun engagements.

Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, this request: (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress, (2) is 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, and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable. I also hereby certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding an earmark I received as part of H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

Bill Number: H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2010

Account: Military Construction—Army
Legal Name of Requesting Entity:
SOUTHCOM Headquarters, Incr 3

Address of Requesting Entity: United States Southern Command, Doral, FL 33122

Description of Request: I have secured \$55,400,000 to complete construction of a new headquarters for the United States Southern Command in Doral, Florida adjacent to the existing facility. Currently, the Department of Defense is leasing the land on which SOUTHCOM is now located from a private individual. The land for this facility is leased from the State of Florida. SOUTHCOM received \$100 million in the FY08 Military Construction Appropriations bill and \$81.6 million in the FY09 Military Construction Appropriations bill as the first two installments of \$237 million, authorized by section 2101(a) of the Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (division B of Public Law 110–181; 122 Stat. 504).

HONORING RETIRING
MURFREESBORO CITY MANAGER
ROGER HALEY

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Murfreesboro City Manager Roger Haley. After serving the citizens of Murfreesboro for the last 20 years, Roger will retire on August 1. Before becoming city manager in 1989, Roger was a Murfreesboro City Councilman for nine years.

In the last 20 years, Murfreesboro's population has increased from 44,000 to over 100,000. It is currently the sixth largest city in Tennessee and the largest city with a city

council/manager style of governance. Despite the growth in population and the expanded services that come with such growth, the city has not had an increase in its property taxes in the past 14 years. This is probably one of many reasons why Roger was named the 2009 City Manager of the Year by the Tennessee City Manager Association.

As city manager, Roger has overseen the expansion of businesses, schools, and recreational opportunities that have given the residents of Murfreesboro a greater quality of life. The recent addition of the shops at the Avenue and the hospital and business and medical offices at the 400-acre Gateway are examples of such developments. Roger has worked on numerous recreation projects that residents of Murfreesboro enjoy, such as the Murfreesboro Greenway system, SportsCom, the Patterson Park Community Center, the wetlands at Murphree Springs, Murfreesboro Bark Park, and the Siegel Park and Soccer Complex.

As a life-long resident of Rutherford County, Roger has always been an active member of the community. He owned and operated several local businesses, including Murfreesboro Supply Company and Mr. Tool Rent-All. Roger was one of the organizers of First City Bank of Murfreesboro. He attended Middle Tennessee State University and served in the U.S. Army for two years in the Judge Advocate General Corps.

Roger leaves both his position and the City of Murfreesboro in top-notch shape. I've enjoyed working with him on many projects over the years. I hope Roger will enjoy the fruits of his labor, as he starts his retirement, and new time shared with friends and family.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. MCHUGH. 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. 3082, the Fiscal Year 2010 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill.

Requesting Member: JOHN M. MCHUGH

Bill Number: H. R. 3082

Account: Military Construction, Army

Name of Military Installation: Fort Drum

Address of Requesting Entity: Fort Drum, New York 13601

Description: Provide an earmark of \$8,200,000 in MCA to build an All Weather Marksmanship Facility at Fort Drum, New York. Currently, Fort Drum has only one operational All Weather Marksmanship Facility. The project is required to provide year round live fire training to more efficiently support soldiers in meeting weapons proficiency and qualification standards, and minimize the amount of time required to complete training. The Light Infantry Doctrine and the missions of the 10th Mountain Division require higher than normal levels of marksmanship proficiency and fire discipline.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID H. DELL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize David H. Dell of Dale City, Virginia. Mr. Dell is a retired 20-year veteran of the United States Army and an active Dale City resident.

Mr. Dell's military service began in 1959 at the age of 17. His age required that he gain parental consent to join the Army, and his father proudly granted him approval hoping it would provide his son with new opportunities. Mr. Dell worked to make the most of those opportunities. He served a long and distinguished career in the Army, receiving the Joint Service Commendation in 1973 for his service in Korea. In 1976, he received a diploma from the U.S. Army Transportation School shortly before exiting the Army with an Honorable Discharge in 1979.

Mr. Dell has long been devoted to the quality of life and sense of community in Dale City. As a member of the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department he has spent countless nights on duty, sacrificing his time and safety for the protection of his neighbors and friends. Mr. Dell is a Life Member of both the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1503 and the Dale City Civic Association. He also serves as the Staging Director of the Dale City Independence Day Parade. This year, more than 100 organizations and thousands of participants marched in the parade. Thousands of spectators watched the procession make its way through the heart of Dale City and terminate at the Fourth of July Family Fun Day. Mr. Dell's participation in civic life contributes to a robust and vibrant sense of community in Dale City.

Mr. Dell's loyalty and passion for service extend into his professional life. On May 1, 2009, Mr. Dell commemorated 20 years of service with First Transit Incorporated, contractor for the Prince William County COMMUTERIDE bus system. This is a remarkable milestone, and Mr. Dell's years in the bus system have benefited Prince William County commuters and residents.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding David H. Dell's accomplishments. His service to his country and community represents the ideals we hope to instill in future generations, and by commending his accomplishments may we inspire them to follow his example.

CELEBRATING THE BRYAN-BENNETT LIBRARY CENTENNIAL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the Centennial Celebration of the Bryan-Bennett Library in Salem, Illinois.

The Bryan-Bennett Library was established by Salem native William Jennings Bryan and his friend, Philo Bennett. In a letter to the mayor of Salem in 1905, Bryan stated that "the library (was) established because of my

attachment to the city of my birth and to the friends of my childhood."

William Jennings Bryan was born in 1860 in Salem, Illinois. He had a distinguished career serving as a lawyer, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and as Secretary of State during the Wilson Administration.

Through the tribulations and successes of his professional life, William Jennings Bryan gained an appreciation for education. His desire to share that passion with his community inspired Bryan to bring a new library to Salem. With assistance from Philo Bennett, he spearheaded the construction of the Bryan-Bennett library. On June 9, 1909, William Jennings Bryan gave his "Price of a Soul" speech to dedicate the opening of the library.

The original location of the library was on South Broadway Street, the site of Bryan's childhood home. It has since been moved with the generous contributions by Joe and Anna Hale of Salem and the support of the Illinois State Library's Live and Learn Grant.

On August 15, the Bryan-Bennett Library will formally celebrate its Centennial and dedicate its new site to Joe and Anna Hale.

I would like to congratulate the citizens of Salem, Illinois and the men and women who serve at the Bryan-Bennett Library to preserve the living legacy of William Jennings Bryan.

HONORING JEFFREY C. PACK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeffrey C. Pack, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1692, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeffrey has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jeffrey has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeffrey C. Pack for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2997) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Chair, I would like to call up my amendment, made in order under the rule, to shift \$50,000 from Office of the Chief Economist at USDA to the Economic Research Service (ERS).

The goal of this amendment is to have the Office of the Chief Economist work jointly with the Economic Research Service and the Foreign Agriculture Service to conduct a study on the potential growth in U.S. agriculture exports that would result from implementation of the pending trade promotion agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea within 90 days of this legislation becoming law.

Additionally, USDA would also report on the potential impact on U.S. agriculture exports if these agreements are not implemented.

In each case, USDA would analyze the impacts of changes in exports on agriculture sector employment, wages, farm income, and commodity prices.

As I am sure you know, each of these countries has signed or is negotiating trade agreements with several countries that are major competitors for U.S. farmers and ranchers. I know we are all concerned about the potential loss of competitiveness the families and workers in our agriculture sector would face if the pending trade agreements are not implemented.

Previous studies by the International Trade Commission show the benefits of these agreements. Taken together, they could increase all U.S. exports by over \$12 billion. This new study would give us an opportunity to update this information and focus specifically on the U.S. agriculture sector.

In these difficult economic times, Congress, now more than ever, must pursue policies to enhance the competitiveness of America's farmers and ranchers. Since 95 percent of all consumers are outside of the United States, increasing exports are a vital component of that effort.

The analysis conducted as a result of my amendment would help Members of Congress understand the importance of leveling the playing field for America's farmers and ranchers by implementing the pending trade agreements.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HENRY
ARISTIDE "RED" BOUCHER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Henry Aristide "Red" Boucher, 88, who died June 19, 2009. Mr. Boucher was a civic and political institution in his adopted home state of Alaska. He also was a dedicated family man with 12 children, 27 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. I became aware of Mr. Boucher through a family friendship with his daughter, Jennifer McNelly, and her family, who live in my district.

Mr. Boucher moved to Fairbanks, Alaska in 1958, after serving the United States Navy for 20 years. The New Hampshire native's move to Alaska was strongly influenced by a suggestion from a young Senator by the name of John F. Kennedy, for whom Mr. Boucher had campaigned. The future President told Mr.

Boucher, "There is great potential in the northern territory."

Just eight years after he arrived in Fairbanks, Mr. Boucher was elected mayor and held the position for four years. During his term, he guided the city through one of its greatest natural disasters, the flood of 1967. After his term as mayor, Mr. Boucher served as Alaska's lieutenant governor from 1970 to 1974 under Gov. Bill Egan. He also served as a representative in Alaska's state house from 1985 to 1990.

While his passion for politics will never be questioned, his legacy is likely to be the baseball team he founded in 1959, the Alaska Goldpanners of the Alaska Baseball League. The Goldpanners are well-known for carrying more than 200 future major league players on its rosters through the years.

Mr. Boucher also was a staunch supporter of telecommunications and led a campaign to increase Internet access in remote villages.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of this great American and extending our sympathies to his family and the people of Alaska.

HONORING THE METRO-EAST LUTHERAN
KNIGHTS BASEBALL
TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the top high school baseball teams in Illinois.

The Metro-East Lutheran Knights of Edwardsville, Illinois, competed in the Illinois High School Association Class AA baseball state finals, and came away with a second place trophy. This year's appearance was the first visit to the state finals for the Knights in baseball, making our region proud. In the semifinals, the Knights beat a strong Morrison club, before falling in the championship to the defending state champions from Olympia.

As a former baseball coach for the Knights, I want to congratulate this year's head coach Scott Downing and assistant coaches Tom Hitt, Brian Brynildsen, Joel Rempfer and Brian Hipkiss on their great achievement. I especially want to congratulate the members of the 2009 Metro-East Lutheran Knights state runner-up squad: Brian Berry, Matt Brynildsen, TC Collins, Trevor Engelke, Nick Hoff, Chris Hoffman, Simon Hoffman, Conor Judge, Taylor Judge, Andrew Langendorf, Joe McCall, Alex Robinson, Josh Schelp, Andrew Scheumann, Isaac Schoeber, Dusty Shimkus and Jon Trampe.

These outstanding student-athletes have put together a season to be proud of, and I want to join with the other members of this House in congratulating them and wishing them well in all their endeavors, both on and off the field.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. LUJÁN. Madam Speaker, due to scheduling conflicts, I was unable to be present for

rollcall Vote No. 488. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE KOREAN
WAR

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as we recognize the fifty-ninth anniversary of the Korean War, it is fitting that we have a renewed appreciation for the courage of the American military. This was a conflict initiated by a surprise attack from North Korea mercilessly against the people of South Korea. Throughout the war, American servicemembers resisted North Korean attacks and provided security for the people of South Korea. This has enabled that nation to become one of the world's most successful economies with a dynamic democratic form of government. They are a model for our allies in Iraq and Afghanistan which shows that from the ashes of war a thriving civil society can emerge.

Poet Albert Carey Caswell, an appreciated Capitol tour guide, has authored the following poetic tribute to America's military:

THE KOREAN WAR

The Korean War . . .
Was but the one for sure . . .
One hell of a fight, all the more!
Where, brave hearts of America so for sure
. . .
Would so bring their light to insure . . .
That Communism could not endure . . .
A time when the world, would test that
dream . . .
Of the United Nation, as now it all so clearly
seems!
From all across America's shores . . .
As came such fine brave hearts, who would
somehow endure . . .
But, the very face of hell . . . whose fine
hearts so chose to swell . . .
All for our freedom to insure!
From The Frozen Chosen, to Pork Chop hill
. . .
Such brave hearts, of iron wills!
MacArthur's Men of Might, who but bore
that fight . . .
Who so heroically upon those deadly hills
burned bright!
As just when things looked far gone,
But came that surprising landing at Inchon!
For America had Seoul . . .
The kind that we must so teach our children,
in hearts to so hold!
All in hearts of honor which soar . . .
All in America's quest, to freedom to so in-
sure . . .
As all throughout the centuries,
Have such magnificents, so bought our
peace!
The one's who have so lived and died . . .
Whose loved ones were left behind to cry!
Who fought in one of the most bloodiest wars
. . .
Fine patriots, who so heroically headed
north!
With Communist on the march, as cried
these boys . . .
Men of honor, "not on my watch" were heard
their voices . . .
Cold is Cold, for there could be no colder
days in hell of course . . .
All in what this war would spell . . .
And 'Oh what heartache and misery . . .
For all of these finest of all souls, would be
. . .

And all those in that air war,
Sent them running back across those Yalu
shores . . .
For they too were the men of the hour,
For the air support gave us such power!
And all those on the high seas . . . dropping
b's . . .
Softening up those commies . . .
And all of those MIA's,
Whose loved ones their fine hearts still muse
this very day . . .
About where there loved ones now so lie . . .
For only now, their precious souls are seen
all in our lord's eyes!
And all of those who returned home, without
arms and legs . . .
Teaching us all what the word hero so con-
veys!
And eyes, who now so live without this day
. . .
For some call it the Forgotten War!
But not so in our Lord's eyes, for sure!
For of these, were the finest of all Men . . .
Who Live on this day . . .
All in America's greatest of all heroic lores!
As was, The Korean War . . .

ENHANCING SMALL BUSINESS RE-
SEARCH AND INNOVATION ACT
OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2965) to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes:

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of the underlying legislation, H.R. 2965, the Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act.

This bill will ensure that small businesses have access to federal research and development money so they can continue to be the engines of economic growth and innovation that our economy so desperately needs.

This bill also contains a number of important developments—including a focus on the commercialization of products developed with SBIR funding.

A focus on commercialization is also a focus on jobs as technologies and innovations created by this funding enter the marketplace.

I am also pleased that a number of provisions that I championed have been included in the manager's amendment and the underlying bill.

One of these provisions requires agencies that administer SBIR programs to give special consideration to vital transportation and infrastructure research activities when reviewing grant applications.

Investing in our nation's transportation and infrastructure through small business is essential to our long term success and growth.

I also worked to include a preference for veterans who have so honorably served this country.

This is the least we can do for the 26 million brave men and women who sacrificed years of their lives to protect our country—many who are small business owners.

This bill will also increase outreach to service-disabled veterans and other underrepresented groups.

As I have said before and I will say again, it is not enough to simply pay tribute to our veterans with our words; we must show our appreciation through our actions.

I also strongly support the provision of this bill that I worked on with Representative BOSWELL to require that priority be given to grant applicants from areas of the country that have lost a major source of employment.

Communities across this country, from Ohio to Iowa, are suffering as employers shut their doors. In Ohio, 83 of the 88 counties have experienced a mass layoff or plant closing since 2001.

Focusing funds in areas that have suffered the most and have endured major job losses will ensure that this money is helping people in the communities that need it most.

I urge a yes vote on the rule and the underlying bill.

IN HONOR OF THE BIG SUR
HEALTH CENTER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 30th anniversary of the Big Sur Health Center, an independent, state-licensed, not-for-profit, community clinic, nestled in the heart of the beautiful Big Sur Valley. The Center is the only source of out-patient care for the 1,500 residents of the over 100 miles of remote and mountainous Big Sur coast. The Center also serves nearly 3,000,000 tourists who visit the Big Sur coast each year. It is crucial to the welfare of the Big Sur Community. As a Big Sur resident myself, I applaud the work of the health center staff and volunteers who do so much for their neighbors and visitors alike.

The Center grew out of a local, grass-roots effort in the late 1970s, to meet the needs of this rural community to provide quality comprehensive medical care to all in Big Sur regardless of a patient's ability to pay. At that time, I represented Big Sur as a Monterey County Supervisor. I had the great pleasure of working with Ray Sanborn, Dr. Saul Kunitz and other community leaders.

The Center finally opened its doors in September 1979. By 1985, it had become a 501(c)(3) corporation with a volunteer Board of Directors. That same year BSHC relocated from the Big Sur Grange Hall to its current location on the grounds of the All Saints Episcopal Church. In 2004, following a community-wide fundraising effort, the Center moved out of its old trailers into a new building at that site. Over the years the Center has developed into a busy family practice with over 2,600 patient visits annually. In the last few years the Center has also embarked on several important outreach initiatives. These included an oral health program emphasizing childhood dental care, a program to work with families and school districts to reverse growing rates of childhood obesity, and a multi year effort to reach out to the Big Sur coast's substantial Spanish speaking population.

This spirit of service and professionalism was apparent during the summer and fall of 2008 when the second largest wildfire in California's history besieged the Big Sur commu-

nity for the better part of two months. The Center staff worked hand in hand with the fire response authorities to help treat injured fire fighters so that they could return to their crews to continue their important work.

Looking to the future, the Center has fully embraced the move to electronic medical records championed by the Congress and President Obama. The Big Sur Health Center has developed and implemented an information technology system that provides practice management, electronic medical records and electronic health information exchange, and assures the protection of critical patient data in the event of a disaster that threatens or destroys the facility. In addition, this system allows for remote access to documents and facilitates patient management in the event of after-hours emergency room visits, or during a community disaster that closes the center. Retrieval of information for disease management in key populations, quality measures reporting, tracking of data and State-mandated annual clinic reporting is no longer the cumbersome and time consuming project of past times. Electronic retrieval and reactivation of patient health records is now done rapidly and accurately. The result is great savings to the Center and faster, better, more attentive care to the patient.

Madam Speaker, the Big Sur Health Center is a national treasure. It exemplifies a kind of dedicated grass-roots based health service that will be a key ingredient in a reformed American healthcare system—first rate medical care, cutting edge technology, in a community based setting. I know I speak for the whole House in extending our congratulations to the Center for a successful thirty years and our wishes for many more to come.

CONGRATULATING RALPH F.
KORTE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ralph F. Korte for his 2008 induction in the Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville Alumni Association Hall of Fame.

Ralph Korte is the founder and chairman emeritus of the board of Korte Company. The company was established by Mr. Korte in 1958 after he returned from Korea, serving in the U.S. Army. He was asked to build a milking parlor by his neighbor and a few weeks later he created an innovative, state-of-the-art business structure that is still used today.

In 1959 Korte decided to go to college and utilized the financial aid of the G.I. Bill. He took two night classes a week for 5 years until his G.I. benefits ran out. Korte realized his business courses were helping him manage his company, so he stayed in college. After 4 more years of schooling, he graduated from SIUE School of Business. Korte attributes his success in business to the quality of education he received at SIUE.

By 2005 the Korte Company was operating in 37 states and by 2008 it celebrated its 50th anniversary. The company is a nationally recognized industry leader with more than 1,800 jobs completed across the country. "I'm proud to say that more than 80 percent of our business comes from returning customers," Korte

said. "We work smart, and we know how to get things done."

In addition to his work with the Korte Company, Ralph Korte has been involved with the creation and implementation of several initiatives on the SIUE campus. These initiatives include: the addition of the Construction Program in the fall of 1979; the construction of the Ralph Korte Stadium in 1993; the donation of the Ralph and Donna Korte Classroom, the creation of the Ralph and Donna Korte Fund for Leadership and Innovation in Business Education in 1999; and the launch of the SIUE Construction Leadership Institute in 2004.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Korte for his achievements in business and receiving this honor from Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, as a leader on earmark reform, I am committed to protecting taxpayers' money and providing greater transparency and a fully accountable process H.R. 3082, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for 2010 contains the following funding that I requested:

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Bill Number: H.R. 3082

Account: Army

Legal Name Requesting Entity: Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Address: 39 Normandy Avenue, Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Description of Request: There is inadequate chapel space at Ft. Campbell. The current facilities are scattered across the entire installation in several substandard World War II buildings that are in disrepair. The construction of a chapel complex will provide every Fort Campbell soldier, their family members and retirees a quality facility in which to worship and practice their religious faith. As overseas deployments remain high, an increasing number of soldiers and families will rely on the chapel to support their spiritual needs. The local Clarksville Chamber of Commerce has strongly advocated for a new chapel on Ft. Campbell.

Distribution of funding:

Chapel—72 percent

Antiterrorism/Force Protection Measures—1 percent

Infrastructure (electric, water)—11 percent

Supervision, Inspection and Overhead—16 percent

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding a request for funding I made of the House Appropriations Committee for inclusion in H.R. 3082 the Military Construction—Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2010.

Specifically, the project will be included in Title 1, Military Construction—Army.

H.R. 3082 includes \$10.2 million for Phase 2 of the Ballistic Evaluation Facility in the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act. The entity to receive the funding for this project is the United States Army, specifically the Armament Research Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC) located at Picatinny Arsenal, Picatinny, New Jersey, 07806-5000.

The actual design and construction will be executed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The funding will be used for planning, design and construction of a state-of-the-art Ballistic Experimentation Facility (BEF) for Large Caliber Armaments at Picatinny Arsenal. This process will produce a one-of-kind research and testing facility which will reduce Army's operational overhead and maintenance costs and improve safety for Army employees. The use of U.S. taxpayer funding is justified because this construction will provide near-term and long-range benefits to the joint warfighter—Army, Marines, Navy and Air Force.

HONORING SOUTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL PIASA BIRDS SOFTBALL PROGRAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the achievements of one of the top softball programs in Illinois.

Last month, the Piasa Birds of Southwestern High School took second place in the Illinois High School Association's state finals. It was the third time in four years that Southwestern reached the finals, and it tied for the best finish in school history. The Piasa Birds finished the year with 28 wins and four losses. They won an extra-inning thriller against West Carroll in the semifinals before falling to Olympia in the state championship.

I want to congratulate head coach Erin McAfee and assistant coach Michelle Woelfel on their achievement. Most of all, I want to congratulate the members of the 2009 Southwestern Piasa Birds state runner-up softball team: Amanda Hany, Niki Davis, Lizzy McAfee, Rebecca Wolff, Amanda Roberts, Samantha Boucher, Sydney Shelton, Ashley Jenkins, Ellie Thomas, Shauni Hernandez, Amanda Mitchell, Megan Smith, Samatha Davis, Katie Trombetta and Leslie Davis.

They have represented themselves, their school and the community very well, and I join with the other members of this House in wishing them continued success both on and off the field.

CONGRATULATING SYCAMORE SCHOALS STATE HISTORIC AREA

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sycamore Shoals

State Historic Area on their play "Liberty!" being recognized by the Tennessee General Assembly as the official outdoor drama of the State of Tennessee.

"Liberty!" has been performed annually during the month of July for 31 consecutive years. "Liberty!" tells the story of Tennessee's frontier beginnings by portraying the relationships between the American settlers and the native Cherokee Indians.

Hundreds of gifted local volunteers come together at the location where these historic events actually occurred and celebrate the lives of the people and depict important episodes that helped shape the heritage of this great state and country.

I want to congratulate and sincerely thank all of the volunteers that contribute their time and efforts to "Liberty!" for honoring our great state of Tennessee.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union has under consideration the bill (H.R. 2997) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the Flake amendment to cut potato research.

Potatoes are an important part of our national diet and potato farming is an important part of our national economy.

The \$1 million included in this bill for Potato Research goes directly to developing potato varieties that provide profitable, sustainable production for the grower, and a healthy, inexpensive food supply for American consumers.

In Skagit County in my district, over 13,000 acres are devoted to potatoes.

However, late blight disease is a constant threat to my local farmers, and growers use the research provided them by this program to minimize their losses.

Washington state is second only behind Idaho in potato production in the country producing over 9 billion pounds of potatoes every year.

The economic value of the potato industry to Washington is approximately \$3.5 billion supporting nearly 20,000 farming jobs. These jobs can be found across our state, and it is critical that we protect them.

The potato breeding program in the Pacific Northwest, the target of this amendment, is a partnership among the USDA Agricultural Research Service, the University of Idaho, Oregon State University, Washington State University, and the potato commissions of the three states.

For every dollar invested in the Northwest Tri-State Potato breeding program, a value of

\$39 results in improved quality and increased production.

Mr. Speaker, this funding is important to my district, my state, and our country—and I urge a “no” vote on this amendment.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER M. PACK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher M. Pack, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1692, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christopher has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher M. Pack for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CHATHAM GLENWOOD
HIGH SCHOOL TITANS BASEBALL
PROGRAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of talented student-athletes from Chatham, Illinois.

The Chatham Glenwood High School Titans defeated the LaSalle-Peru Cavaliers in a 2–1 game to advance to the Illinois High School Association Class 3A state baseball championship. The Titans finished runners-up after a hard fought championship game.

My congratulations go to Head Coach Pat Moomey and assistant coaches John Hyde and Kyle Moomey for their work with this outstanding group of student-athletes. But most of all, I want to congratulate the members of the 2009 Chatham Glenwood High School Titans state champion runners-up baseball team: Nino Mattera, Derek Piper, Jake Ingold, Derek Crouch, Ryan Williams, Jacob Reese, Connor Bryant, Ben Parks, Tim Sullivan, Michael Fiaush, Max Xanders, Phillip Maton, Jake Fulks, Matt Green, Jared Turner, Tristan Molumby, Aaron Hearn, Bryce Sablotny, Jake Lance, Zack Joos, Patrick Woerner, Chris Sekardi and Dallas Henderson..

They have represented themselves, their school and the community in an exemplary fashion, and I want to join with the other members of this House in wishing them the best of luck in their future endeavors, both on and off the field.

HAYLEY AND DERRIC SMITH
AGGIES FOREVER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate Hayley and Derric Smith on their marriage on Saturday, May 23, 2009.

Hayley is from Bridgeport, Texas and Derric is from Hobbs, New Mexico. The two met in college while attending Texas A&M. Hayley graduated with a Communications degree in 2008 and Derric earned an Agriculture Leadership and Development Degree in 2007. After graduation they both moved to Washington, D.C. where Derric proposed to Hayley in Statuary Hall located in our nations Capitol.

Derric has been accepted to law school at Southern Methodist University in the fall of 2009 and Hayley and Derric will be moving to Dallas, Texas. While I know Hayley and Derric will go on to achieve great things, I will miss Hayley's spirit, work ethic, and Texas pride that comes from an Aggie graduate.

Hayley has truly been an asset to my office over the last year. I know that she looks forward to getting back to the great state of Texas and hoping the Aggies can pull off an upset over the Texas Longhorns at some point.

The commitment that Hayley and Derric have to each other will only get stronger as they begin a new chapter in their lives together. I would like to congratulate them again on their marriage and wish them the very best in all of their future endeavors.

And that's just the way it is.

EARMARK DECLARATIONS

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit documentation consistent with the Republican Earmark Standards.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW

Bill Number: H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Navy
Legal Name of Receiving Entity: MCSF Blount Island, FL

Address of Receiving Entity: Channel View Boulevard Jacksonville, FL 32226

Description of Request: I have secured \$3,760,000 in funding in H.R. 3082 in the Navy Account for the Port Operations Facility at MCSF Blount Island, FL.

The purpose of this funding is to construct a new multi-story waterfront operations support facility to include a container operations office, harbor security office and a multiple user waterfront operations building.

This is a valuable use of taxpayer funding because it would support the MCSF Blount Island, FL facility which is responsible for the United States Marine Corps' Maritime Prepositioning Ships (MPS) Maintenance Cycle operations and oversight of the Marine

Corps Prepositioning Program-Norway (MCPPN).

There are no matching funds required or allowed for this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW

Bill Number: H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Navy
Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Naval Air Station Jacksonville

Address of Receiving Entity: Roosevelt Blvd Jacksonville, FL 32212

Description of Request: I have secured \$5,917,000 in funding in H.R. 3082 in the Navy Account for the P-8A Multi-Mission Maritime Aircraft (MMA) Facilities Modification at NAS Jacksonville, FL.

The purpose of this funding is to upgrade the existing airfield facilities to support the operation and maintenance of the new P-8A Multi-Mission Maritime Aircraft (MMA).

The MMA is programmed for a phased replacement of the P-3C aircraft between 2011 and 2018. NAS Jacksonville has been identified as a main operating base for this phased replacement. Modification of existing facilities is required to support this new mission.

There are no matching funds required or allowed for this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW

Bill Number: H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Navy
Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Naval Station Mayport

Address of Receiving Entity: Mayport Road Jacksonville, FL 32228

Description of Request: I have secured \$29,682,000 in funding in H.R. 3082 in the Navy Account for Wharf Charlie Repair at Naval Station Mayport.

The purpose of this funding is to recapitalize Charlie One (C-1) Wharf by reconstructing the 608 foot general purpose berthing wharf with a new second deck wharf.

This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because failure to recapitalize C-1 Wharf will result in increasing steel deterioration of the bulkhead, formation of holes and loss of backfill material. Loss of material will cause voids, failure of wharf deck paving, potential utility outages from broken piping. Resultant live load restrictions would eliminate crane and truck operations on the wharf.

Wharf C-1 could no longer be effectively used as an ordnance handling berth which would severely restrict weapons on load/off-load within the Mayport basin, require increased ships movements within the basin and could possibly delay ships operational schedules.

There are no matching funds required or allowed for this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW

Bill Number: H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Navy
Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Naval Station Mayport

Address of Receiving Entity: Mayport Road Jacksonville, FL 32228

Description of Request: I have secured \$46,303,000 in funding in H.R. 3082 in the

Navy Account for Channel Dredging at Naval Station Mayport.

The purpose of this funding is to remove an estimated 5.2 million cubic yards of sediment from the turning basin, inner entrance channel and Jacksonville Harbor Bar Cut (outer channel) to the prescribed project depths (approximately 50 feet) and deposit the dredged material in the permitted open ocean disposal areas.

As most of you are aware, the Department of Defense has decided to further review the Navy's earlier decision to establish a second nuclear aircraft carrier homeport at Naval Station Mayport, Florida within the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR).

HOWEVER, the current leadership in the Department of Defense, Secretary Gates and Deputy Secretary Lynn, have declared that at the very least there MUST be alternate location to dock our nuclear carriers in case of a natural or man-made emergency at Naval Station Norfolk.

There are no matching funds required or allowed for this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW.

Bill Number: H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Navy

Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Naval Station Mayport

Address of Receiving Entity: Mayport Road Jacksonville, FL 32228

Description of Request: I have secured \$26,360,000 in funding in H.R. 3082 in the Navy Account for a Fitness Center at Naval Station Mayport.

The purpose of this funding is to construct a new fitness center at Mayport to replace a 35 year old out dated and non-compliant structure.

This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will upgrade readiness, training and the quality of life of sailors at and their families at Naval Station Mayport.

There are no matching funds required or allowed for this project.

HONORING GLENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER PROGRAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the top high school soccer programs in Illinois.

The Titans from Glenwood High School in Chatham, Illinois, took third place at the Illinois High School Association Class 2A state finals last month. It was the school's third trip to state in six years, and it capped off an 18–4–1 season.

This year's squad avenged last year's loss to Belleville Althoff in the super-sectional by winning the rematch and advancing to the state finals. Once there, they fell to Lemont 1–0, but bounced back to take a 2–1 victory over Sycamore in the third place game.

I want to congratulate head coach Jay Lipe and assistant coaches Greg Lipe, Pam Hogan and Bethany Rollet on their success with this group of student-athletes. I especially want to

congratulate the members of the 2009 Glenwood Titans' state third place soccer team: Cara Moody, Erin Egoft, Sydney Alstott, Ashley Kulavic, Lindsey Koch, Dani Torry, Eryn Sullivan, Rylie Sullivan, Ali Traina, Bree Gardner, Annie Kwedar, Jenny Mosley, Emily Stockton, Elena Pappas, Abby Vorreyer, Colleen Quick, Rachel Kobayashi, Alise Wisniewski, Kaylee Walsh and Abby Juhlin.

These students have represented themselves, their school and the community very well, and I want to join with the other members of this House in congratulating them, and wishing them all the best in their future endeavors, both on and off the field.

TRIBUTE TO DELORES "SUGAR" POINDEXTER

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Delores "Sugar" Poindexter for her phenomenal career in the gospel music industry and as a spiritual healer.

Sugar's stunning soprano voice is and will always remain legendary within the gospel music industry. She sang with many of the great pioneers of gospel music such as the Roberta Martin Singers and the Beatrice Brown Singers. In addition to singing, she was the Chairperson of the Back Stage Committee for the Gospel Music Workshop of America Inc. Sugar served as the Vice Chairperson of the Gospel Announcers Guild of the Gospel Music Workshop of America Inc., and as a co-host on Black Entertainment Television's Bobby Jones Gospel show.

Sugar is a remarkable woman who has achieved many firsts in her lifetime. She is a giant in the Indianapolis community whose vision of service has touched the lives of many less fortunate individuals. In the span of over three decades, Sugar was the first African American woman to host her own gospel program on the airwaves of WTLC, which was formerly known as 104.5 FM. She was the first African American licensed disc jockey on WTLC and again the first to host her show from the Marion County Jail on Thanksgiving Day, a tradition she continued for 20 years.

Despite her many achievements, Sugar's greatest legacy is that of a healer. She ran her own prison ministry providing hope and spiritual fulfillment to the women at the Indiana State Prison.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Delores "Sugar" Poindexter, a woman who shared the gospel and its message of compassion, humanity and peace through music. Sugar firmly believed in the saying that, "to whom much is given much is expected."

GULFPORT, FLORIDA MOURNS THE PASSING OF ROBERT W. CALDWELL, JR.

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with a deep sadness that I share with my

colleagues the passing of my good friend and constituent Robert W. Caldwell, Jr. of Gulfport, Florida.

There was no more patriotic American than R. W. Caldwell, Jr. who died this past Fourth of July at the age of 88. He moved to Gulfport as a young boy during the 1920's and never left. During those more than 80 years, he fell in love with this small Florida city and throughout his lifetime he always strived to make it a better place to live. He built and sold homes in Gulfport, throughout Pinellas County and the state of Florida.

Bob also understood the value of preserving the history of our area and as such led community efforts to support the Gulfport Historical Society and restore some of its landmark sites including Scout Hall.

It was most appropriate that this past April, the City of Gulfport honored R. W. Caldwell, Jr. by naming a park in his honor. The City will turn out Saturday at this park to pay their respects to the life of this special man and to thank him for his lifelong contributions to making Gulfport such a special place in which to live, to learn, to work and to play.

Following my remarks, I will include for the benefit of my colleagues an article and obituary from The St. Petersburg Times about Bob's life.

Madam Speaker, my special thoughts go out to Bob's wife of 63 years Adele, his daughters April and Elise, his son Bill, and three grandchildren. In addition to his wife and family, one of R. W. Caldwell Jr.'s other loves of his life was fishing the beautiful waters of Florida and the Gulf of Mexico. It is my hope that his family always remembers this giant of our community when they pass by one of our waterways, see a fisherman casting out a line, and watch one of Florida's trademark sunsets over the Gulf of Mexico. May R. W. Caldwell, Jr. rest in peace.

[From the St. Petersburg Times, July 8, 2009]

LONGTIME BUILDER 'SKETCHED OUT GULFPORT'

(By Andrew Meacham)

GULFPORT—R.W. Caldwell didn't just develop Gulfport, he lived there, putting down roots in its sandy soil. He lived for the outdoors and fishing—priorities that never changed even as his company became one of the Tampa Bay area's most recognizable names in real estate.

He added construction to a company that specialized in real estate and insurance. The expansion resulted in hundreds of new homes in Pinellas, Pasco and Charlotte counties, including some of the area's largest subdivisions and an influx of high-end homes to Gulfport.

Mr. Caldwell died of a stroke Saturday. He was 88.

"He was a remarkable pioneer," said Gulfport Mayor Michael Yakes. "He really sketched out Gulfport in his own right."

While franchises of huge companies like Coldwell Banker and Keller Williams dominate coast to coast, Mr. Caldwell's name has endured locally.

"The whole real estate industry was started by fellows like R.W. Caldwell," said Victor Adamo, chairman of the Pinellas Realtor Organization.

After getting a degree at M.I.T. and working as an aeronautical engineer in

California, Mr. Caldwell moved back home to rejoin his father's business in 1951.

He had foresight, buying properties dense in trees, then endeavoring to save as many as possible in subdivisions. He predicted the coming of multifamily homes as cities built to their boundaries.

"What has happened in Gulfport will, in many cases, happen elsewhere in Pinellas," he wrote in a guest column for the Times in 1960.

He trusted his know-how, maintaining his 1994 Chevrolet station wagon himself. The car still runs with 200,000 miles on it. He built a single-engine boat he later took to the Bahamas for a fishing trip.

Mr. Caldwell also trusted his instincts with people, quietly helping those he believed were doing all they could for themselves. At least twice, he shipped \$12,000 worth of beans to Haiti.

When his housekeeper couldn't qualify for a mortgage, Mr. Caldwell took one out himself, then collected monthly payments. When the housekeeper's family finished the payments years later, he handed over the deed.

He enjoyed a daily martini with his wife, Adele, and eating smoked mullet with childhood friends, including the mayor and other city officials.

After selling Jordan-Caldwell, the construction arm, to U.S. Homes in 1972, Mr. Caldwell stayed with U.S. Homes until the late 1970s. He remained with the family company as an adviser.

"There are a lot of developers who have taken their piece of the pie and not made a better place to live," said Tina Douglass, wife of former St. Pete Beach Mayor Bob Douglass. "Wherever R. W. was, he always made it a better place. He left a good mark."

OBITUARY

CALDWELL, Robert W. Jr. 88, of Gulfport and Boca Grande, was born on Aug. 20, 1920 in Meadville, PA to Gail Jarrell Caldwell and Robert W. Caldwell Sr. He died in Bayfront Medical Center in St. Petersburg this past Saturday, July 4, 2009. His maternal grandparents, George and Abigail Jarrell first brought him to Gulfport in the 1920s. Because of the two week quarantine of new Florida students to avoid bringing in infectious diseases, he fished with his grandparents daily, in lieu of school. After the quarantine, he first attended Roser Park and then the brand new Gulfport Elementary School. He fished at the Gulfport Pier nearly everyday. Back then, Gulfport was open to the Gulf; there was no Bayway, and the waters were turquoise and teeming with fish. When his grandparents opened the Gulfport Market, he helped them out along with his mom and his Aunts Isabel, Anne and Helen. He attended Disston Junior High and St. Petersburg High School. He continued to fish at every chance and took advantage of every opportunity to assist local boat captains. He was an excellent boatsman and fisherman. Known as Bo in the 1920s and '30s, Bob was always an excellent student, too. He graduated St. Pete High in 1938, and, after attending St. Petersburg Junior College for a year, enrolled in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While at MIT, Bob captained the lightweight crew. He had excellent skills with tools that he had learned from his grandfather Jarrell and returned to Gulfport summers during college and built homes for his father and Ed Markham. He graduated MIT during World War II in January, 1943 with a degree in aeronautical engineering. From many job offers, he chose Convair in San Diego, which later became part of General Dynamics. He built B-24s and other air-

craft. He married Adele Allport in 1945. All three of their children were born in La Jolla, CA. Bob arrived back in Gulfport with his family on July 4, 1951. His plan was to work with his Dad and open the building division of R.W. Caldwell, Inc., a real estate and insurance business originally started by his father in 1937. In late 1952, Bob found himself running the entire company after his father's untimely death. He was a successful investor and land developer and was elected in 1954 President of the Contractors and Builders Association of Pinellas County. Bob was the first President of the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce and was President of the Friends of the Gulfport Library when the new library was built at 28th and Beach Boulevard. He was an over 50 year member of the St. Petersburg Yacht Club. Some of the subdivisions he developed in his career included Pelican Creek and Catalina Gardens plus he built hundreds of individual homes throughout Pinellas County. He was an organizing director and built the First Bank of Gulfport, was chairman of the Pinellas County branches of Royal Trust Bank and was an organizing director of First Gulf Bank. He was President of Jordan-Caldwell, Inc. that developed San Clemente East in Pasco County. When bought by U.S. Home Corp., Bob became, among other projects, the original developer of Timber Oaks in Pasco County and then became vice president of U.S. Home Corp. in charge of construction for the Central Florida Division. Bob's largest Gulfport business venture was when he became the Managing Partner of the Pasadena Partnership that bought the land known as Skimmer Point and later Pelican Bay and arranged the annexation of this part of Pasadena Yacht and Country Club into Gulfport. Further, he was currently President of Palm Island investment Corp. in Charlotte County and Chairman of R.W. Caldwell, Inc. in Gulfport. Bob lived a very modest life style. He maintained both his boat and auto engines himself. He even built his own 26 foot single engine boat from scratch in his front driveway in the late 1950s and took it on a five week adventure to the Bahamas with his wife and his wife's sister and brother-in-law. He enjoyed along with his wife in taking their children on car trips in the family station wagon to visit many of America's national parks, frequently camping out along the way, and, a generation later, repeating those car trips with their grandchildren. Growing up in the fifties and sixties, Caldwell family weekends were for water recreation and fishing trips. Those were idyllic happy times. Bob was active and smart with a good sense of humor to his last days and enjoyed driving all about town in his 1994 Chevy station wagon. He loved fishing till his end and really enjoyed a fishing trip he took this past Father's Day weekend with his son when they went over 55 nautical miles out into the Gulf of Mexico, and Bob showed that he was still an expert at catching 'em. Bob quietly and without fanfare helped many area people in need, but he had a special feeling for people suffering in Haiti. He personally donated, in the last few years at least four entire containers full of more than 150,000 pounds of beans through For HAITI, With Love to help feed the hungry Haitian people. Bob is survived by his loving and devoted wife of over 63 years, Adele A. Caldwell; three children; a daughter, April Caldwell Hornsleth (Poul); a daughter, Elise 'Desi' Caldwell McCarthy (Vaughn); a son, R.W. 'Bill' Caldwell, III (Katie), and three grandchildren, Poul Hornsleth, Ill. Jody Hornsleth Sepúlveda (Rob) and Kyle McCarthy. There will be a memorial gathering this Saturday, July 11th

at 10 am in R.W. Caldwell Park at 64th Street and Gulfport Boulevard. Parking will be available, and a reception will follow. R.W. Caldwell Park was dedicated just this past April 18th, less than three months ago. The entire Caldwell family is very grateful and appreciative to the City and citizenry of Gulfport that their patriarch, R.W. 'Bob' Caldwell Jr., who first came to Gulfport more than 80 years ago, was able to receive and appreciate this wonderful honor before he died. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to either For HAITI, With Love, the Gulfport Historical Society or the Friends of the Gulfport Library. Arrangements by R. Lee Williams & Son Funeral Home 5730 15th Avenue South Gulfport 33707 727-345-7797 www.rlwilliams.com

HONORING CHATHAM GLENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL TITANS SOFTBALL PROGRAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of talented student-athletes from Chatham, Illinois.

The Chatham Glenwood High School Titans defeated the Glenbard South Raiders in a 4-2 victory to advance to the Illinois High School Association Class 3A state softball championship. The Titans finished runners-up after a hard fought championship game.

My congratulations go to Head Coach Vondel Edgar and assistant coaches Terry McDevitt, Brittany Koester and Paul Gray for their work with this outstanding group of student-athletes. But most of all, I want to congratulate the members of the 2009 Chatham Glenwood High School Titans state champion runners-up softball team: Sami Estill, Erin Fleischacker, Alyssa Esperum, Mariah Cole, Cassandra Harvill, Kaitlyn England, Kim Franke, Lauren Galloway, Abbie Xanders, Jessica Meyer, Kasey Oliver, Ashley Backus, Sarah Garrison, Liz Rupel, Shelbi Tudor, Brittany Osborn, Brittany Hembrough and Beka Ferguson.

They have represented themselves, their school and the community in an exemplary fashion, and I want to join with the other members of this House in wishing them the best of luck in their future endeavors, both on and off the field.

HONORING BRANDON SCOTT UNDERWOOD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brandon Scott Underwood, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the

Boy Scouts of America, Troop 218, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brandon has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brandon has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brandon Scott Underwood for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING PORTLAND,
TENNESSEE'S 150TH YEAR

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Portland, Tennessee on its 150th year anniversary.

Portland is located in Sumner County near Interstate 65, just five miles south of Kentucky and 35 miles north of Nashville. The area was first settled in 1792 by the James Gwin family.

On October 31, 1859, the Louisville and Nashville train made its first stop at the Richland Station depot. The Richland Station depot was built on land belonging to Thomas Buntin, who later became Richland's first postmaster.

During its first year, the City of Richland expanded with the opening of James Goostree's general store. The City of Portland was originally named Richland, but changed its name in 1888 to avoid being confused with another town in Tennessee of the same name. In April 1904, the Tennessee State Legislature enacted legislation incorporating the City of Portland.

In the 1920s, strawberries became a booming business for the area, and in 1941, the city held the first Middle Tennessee Strawberry Festival to celebrate the importance of the crop to both Portland and the state. The Middle Tennessee Strawberry Festival became an annual event that is still celebrated every May.

Portland boasts a thriving economy, with employment numbers that exceed its population. The city is home to excellent parks and recreation system, a full-service public library, local radio station WQKR and hometown newspaper, the Portland Leader. With a population of just 10,000, Portland is still a close-knit and rural community.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2647) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2010, and for other purpose:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2010. This important piece of legislation authorizes \$680 billion for training, equipment, healthcare, and for important quality of life improvements for our troops and their families.

The rising cost of goods and services and rising unemployment is taking an especially serious toll on our men and women in uniform and their families. As military commanders demand more time in theater for active duty personnel and rely more on the contribution of reservists, many of whom leave higher-paying jobs to be activated, demands on the limited financial resources of military families increase. The National Defense Authorization Act of 2010 was crafted with the concerns and urgent needs of these dedicated public servants and their families in mind.

The legislation authorizes \$135 billion for personnel needs and \$27 billion for healthcare. It raises the basic pay of our service members at a time when a pay-raise is dearly needed and the bill helps fund re-enlistment bonuses for active-duty members and reservists. To enable service members to spend more time with their families between tours, the bill increases the maximum leave days that a service member can accumulate and carry over from one year to the next. And, to ensure that our service members have a safe and secure home to return to, the bill contains \$2 billion for the construction and renovation of new and existing family military housing.

I am pleased to report to my constituents who have concerns about traffic congestion as the region prepares for the move of Walter Reed Hospital to Bethesda, that the bill instructs the Department of Defense to use all available resources to implement the Defense Access Road Program near the National Naval Medical Center.

The provisions and funds authorized by this act will help our men and women in uniform serving in the field, and help give them more peace of mind that their families back home are being cared for in their absence. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill.

Today, there was also a vote on an amendment to this legislation offered by my colleague Massachusetts Representative JAMES MCGOVERN, which would require the Department of Defense to report an exit strategy for military forces in Afghanistan by no later than December 31st of this year. While I do not oppose the intent of my colleague's amendment, I did oppose the amendment on the grounds that President Obama has already laid out his strategy for Afghanistan in a speech delivered in March 2009. Like President Obama, I want to bring our troops home as soon as possible consistent with our national security needs.

As the President emphasized in his speech, Afghanistan is where the plot to attack the United States on September 11th, 2001 was developed and put into motion. It is of vital importance to U.S. national security that we do what is necessary to eliminate the threat posed to the American people from al Qaeda.

Madam speaker, I urge that we support the National Defense Act of 2010.

HONORING LINCOLNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL LANCERS BASEBALL TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a state championship baseball team from Raymond, Illinois.

The Lincolnwood High School Lancers knocked off Marissa 3-1 to capture their first state championship in baseball. The championship game win at Silver Cross Stadium in Joliet capped off an amazing season in which the Lancers won their first 27 games and ended up with 34 wins against just two losses.

My congratulations go to Head Coach Chris Paproth and assistant coaches Josh Stone and Lance Glick for their work with this outstanding group of student-athletes. But most of all, I want to congratulate the members of the 2009 Lincolnwood High School Lancers state champion baseball team: Aaron Pope, Luke Leonard, Chase Jaeger, Trevor Riggs, Clayton Clarke, Tyler Walch, Josh Glick, Adam Lemon, Nick Arter, Sam Elmore, Shane Herschelman, Lucas Stieren, Ethan Eliason, Randall Brockmeyer, Michael Stephenson, Kendall Wagaoff, Kyle Snyder, Jake Leonard, Kendall Crawford, Landon Weitekamp and Shane Burbridge.

They have represented themselves, their school and the community in a first-rate fashion, and I want to join with the other members of this House in wishing them the best of luck in their future endeavors, both on and off the field.