

Boyes Hot Springs has a lively history, integral to the fabric of the Sonoma Valley. Formerly the center of a great resort area, it hosted thousands of visitors during its heyday. There were dozens of resorts, from small motor courts to the grand Sonoma Mission Inn. The Boyes Bath House boasted the second largest indoor swimming pool in the country. And, for many years, the area was a training ground for professional football and baseball teams such as the Cleveland Browns and the San Francisco Seals.

After the demise of the passenger railroad, the area still thrived with the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge and the rise of the automobile. Boyes Springs real estate man L.E. "Bud" Castner was one of the first directors of the Golden Gate Bridge District.

In the 1960s, as the resorts faded, Boyes Hot Springs faded a bit as well. Community pride, however, never waned. The area became attractive in the 1980s and 1990s to home buyers who were priced out of the Bay Area market. Attracted by its rural charm, they purchased its large stock of charming cottages to rehabilitate. At the same time, the population of Mexican immigrants grew, attracted principally by the grape growing and wine businesses.

To old timers and new residents alike, the post office is the center of the community. Since most of the surrounding streets receive no mail delivery, residents make a daily trip to the post office where they catch up on the latest local news with their friends and neighbors. The immigrant population relies on it for communication with their families back home. The postal workers are personally known to all, a part of the broader community family.

Mr. Speaker, the community is hosting a celebration to honor this anniversary. In the words of one of the organizers, Michael Acker of the Springs Community Alliance, it will "salute the past, show appreciation for service, and look to the future with hope." Please join us in honoring the centennial of the Boyes Hot Springs Post Office.

IN HONOR OF DR. LARRY EUGENE RIVERS, PRESIDENT OF FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great leader in higher education in Georgia—someone who has been committed to improving the lives of young men and women throughout his career. Dr. Larry Rivers recently marked his fifth anniversary as the President of Fort Valley State University (FVSU), and what a remarkable 5 years it has been.

Dr. Rivers was born in the suburbs of Philadelphia and graduated from what was then Fort Valley State College. After earning a master's degree in history from Villanova University, and a Doctor of Arts degree in history from Carnegie-Mellon University, he went on to teach at Florida A&M University for more than 20 years and earned the rank of "distinguished university professor," one of only two on the campus.

He returned to his alma mater in 2006, and in 5 short years, FVSU has experienced a remarkable turnaround under Dr. Rivers' leadership. Student enrollment is at the highest point in the 115-year history of the university. Since 2006, the university invested \$160 million in new construction projects that are transforming the campus with additional buildings to accommodate more students and new research facilities. And FVSU now offers new undergraduate courses and master's degrees in fields such as biotechnology, teaching, and early childhood development that will provide the education and training our future leaders need to compete in a 21st century economy.

Because of FVSU's progress, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools recently reaffirmed the university's accreditation, and the school was ranked 25th on U.S. News and World Report's list of "America's Best Black Colleges."

To meet the demands of FVSU's growth, the City of Fort Valley has modernized its infrastructure through several rural development grants and wastewater reclamation projects. These fundamental improvements will attract new businesses to Southwest Georgia that are looking to take advantage of the talented individuals FVSU is producing each and every year.

Dr. Rivers has earned well-deserved praise for his efforts at FVSU. Georgia Trend magazine recognized him as one of the "100 Most Influential Georgians" and one of Georgia's "Top 25 Leaders" in its 25th Anniversary issue. While the transformation at FVSU is remarkable, I know Dr. Rivers will not rest until FVSU is ranked 1st.

As Thomas Jefferson once said, "Universities are based on the illimitable freedom of the human mind." I am confident that under the leadership of Dr. Larry Rivers, we will continue to expand the minds of our young men and women and educate the leaders of tomorrow.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 23, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chair, I submit the following table on H.R. 2219, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012.