

Dahlke, 29, who died August 29, 2009, while serving our Nation in Afghanistan on his sixth deployment in support of the War on Terror. Staff Sergeant Dahlke was a distinguished soldier serving with Company A, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment.

SSG Jason Dahlke was born on November 8, 1979, in Tampa and was raised in Jacksonville with his brother and three sisters. Prior to joining the Army, he attended the University of Central Florida where he graduated with a degree in Criminal Justice and married his grade school sweetheart Niki Marie Norvell Dahlke. Mrs. Dahlke recalls her husband as her "best friend" and "hero."

We should all remember SSG Dahlke's courage and his ultimate sacrifice for our nation. The freedom and liberty we enjoy and the peace in the world for others for which he fought are part of the great legacy that SSG Dahlke leaves behind. He was laid to rest at the new Jacksonville National Veterans Cemetery on September 5, 2009. SSG Jason Dahlke is the first American killed in combat to be interred at Florida's newest veterans cemetery.

SSG Dahlke will be remembered as a dedicated servant of the country he loved. During his time in the Army, SSG Dahlke received a Purple Heart and two Army Commendation Medals that he never mentioned to his parents. They only learned of their son's achievements by way of the internet. In one of his last conversations with his parents, SSG Dahlke told his family that he loved his job and that he would continue to do it as long as he could serve. Col. Michael E. Kurilla, 75th Ranger Regiment commander stated that SSG Dahlke "embodied the Ranger Creed and all that is good, noble and honored in our Rangers."

With the passing of SSG Dahlke, America has lost an outstanding citizen and a shining example of service to our Nation. He will be remembered as a patriotic American, a pillar of our community and a compassionate husband and a loving son.

To his wife Niki, his mother Deborah, his father Roger and his loving family and friends, we offer our deepest sympathy.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize SSG Jason Dahlke's contributions and to ask that all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives join me in recognizing his heroic service in our Nation's Armed Forces.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. JOHN "TOMMY" STEPHENSON

#### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 8, 2009*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Tommy Stephenson upon his retirement from the United States Postal Service.

Mr. Stephenson has serviced the same route for over 30 years, becoming an important part of the community in Southern Madison County, Northern Hardeman County, and Western Chester County, Tennessee. Over three generations of West Tennessee families have come to know and love Mr. Tommy. The humble spirit and cheerful whistle he brought to work each and every day has touched these families in many ways.

Most inspiring to me is the fact that Mr. Stephenson has endured a physical disability that limits the use of his right hand, yet he has always been able to adapt to the many changes these past thirty years. The type of dependability and dedication he has brought to his work is rare, indeed, and we honor him for it.

Please join me in celebrating Mr. Stephenson's achievement, and wishing him well upon his retirement.

#### CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SUCCESS FOR AAHOA

#### HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 8, 2009*

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the success of the Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA). Founded in 1989, the AAHOA has grown to nearly 10,000 members who own more than 22,000 hotels valued at \$60 billion. These small business owners have created or supported more than one million jobs. It is my understanding that their business acumen and dedication to the hospitality industry has made AAHOA a strong leader in the tourism sector of our economy.

It was my honor to attend AAHOA's national convention earlier this year, where its members celebrated 20 years of excellence and service to their respective communities. Many AAHOA members belong to their local chambers of commerce and network with pro-business associations. I share many of the concerns of AAHOA's membership, including card check, our spiraling deficit, excessive litigation, and the proposed expansion of government into the health care arena. This is not what our country needs. We need to allow private sector businesses, like AAHOA members, to do what they do best: grow the economy, create new jobs, and provide safe, reliable, and affordable hospitality for millions of travelers.

I want to recognize the officers and leadership of AAHOA for their service to the organization: Chairman Tarun S. Patel; Vice Chairman ChandraKant I. (C.K.) Patel; Treasurer Hemant D. (Henry) Patel; Secretary Alkesh R. (Al) Patel; past Chairman Ashwin (Ash) Patel; President Fred Schwartz; Washington District Regional Director and Co-Chairman of the Legislation Committee Paul (Prashant) Patel; Southwest Regional Director and Co-Chairman of the Legislation Committee Hitesh L. Patel; and Vice President for Fair Franchising and Government Affairs and General Counsel Laura Lee Blake.

I understand that the AAHOA donated more than \$100,000 for the victims of Hurricane Katrina, contributed more than \$25,000 for the victims of the Asian tsunami in 2004, they have helped open doors for investment opportunities in India, and they partnered with the United Service Organizations (USO) to create the "101,000 Room Nights for America" program, which provided complimentary rooms for deployed members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize AAHOA and the Indian American community and look forward to working together in the future.

#### CONGRESSMAN J. RANDY FORBES TRIBUTE TO MRS. HELEN DAUGHTREY

#### HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 8, 2009*

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Helen Daughtrey, who was 80 years old when she passed away on Saturday, August 15, 2009. America lost a community icon, public servant, and devoted daughter, wife, sister, and mother with the death of Helen Daughtrey. Helen will be remembered for her strong voice for fairness, civic duty, equality, and justice.

A long-time resident of Suffolk, Virginia, Helen was active in a myriad of service groups that improved the lives of those in the community. She served as the NAACP's Vice President for the Suffolk Branch. Helen was also a member of the American Red Cross, the Suffolk Beautification Committee, the Order of the Eastern Star of Virginia, the International Black Women's Congress, and Chesapeake Silver Strands Senior Citizens Club.

Helen was perhaps best known for her leadership and tireless efforts to see through the community improvement projects at The Fairgrounds and the East Washington Street corridor. Helen also tirelessly championed the conversion of the 1921 Phoenix Bank, Suffolk's first African-American bank into a black history museum.

As a lifelong member of Metropolitan Baptist Church, Helen was a dutiful woman of faith. Her commitment to her community of faith was evident in her service on the Deaconess Board, and as a member of the Mass and Chapel choirs and the Harvesters' Missionary Circle. She also taught a Sunday school class and was the founder of the Afro-Centric Ministry.

Helen was a 1946 graduate of Booker T. Washington High School and remained involved in the alumni chapter. Helen was the proud wife of James Otis "Buck" Daughtrey. They had four daughters—Brenda, Rhonda, Sharon, and Ida. Helen deeply touched each one of her many friends in the community, and I am proud to count myself among them.

Helen Daughtrey was the personification of determination, volunteerism, and persistence. Her deep faith drove her efforts to improve her city and the lives of the people within it. Helen's contributions to the citizens of Suffolk will not be forgotten or easily replaced, and her work will live on for generations. I can say with certainty, that at another ceremony in Helen's honor that we cannot see with our eyes, Helen is hearing the words: "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

#### CONGRATULATING DR. REGINA BENJAMIN ON HER NOMINATION AS SURGEON GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 8, 2009*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Regina Benjamin on her

nomination as United States surgeon general. Upon confirmation, Dr. Benjamin will become the third Alabamian to serve as the nation's chief health educator.

A native of Mobile, Dr. Benjamin earned a bachelor's degree from Xavier University in New Orleans, and she attended the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine. Following the completion of her residency at the Medical Center of Central Georgia, Dr. Benjamin returned to south Alabama and founded the Bayou La Batre Rural Health Clinic. Dr. Benjamin also holds a masters of business administration from Tulane University.

Founded in 1990, Dr. Benjamin's non-profit clinic strives to provide high-quality medical care for the uninsured citizens of Alabama's bayou. In the aftermath of Hurricanes Georges and Katrina, despite the devastation of her own clinic, Dr. Benjamin selflessly continued to serve her patients, making house calls in order to treat those who were isolated, injured, and unable to leave their homes.

Dr. Benjamin's résumé boasts an extensive list of accomplishments. In 1995, she became the first African-American woman and first person under age 40 to serve on the American Medical Association board of trustees. In addition, as president of the Medical Association of Alabama, she was the first African-American woman president of a state medical society. In September 2008, she was one of 25 honored with a \$500,000 "genius award" from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. She also previously served as associate dean for Rural Health at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine and chair of the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States.

Dr. Benjamin has received numerous awards throughout her career. In 1998, she was the United States recipient of the Nelson Mandela Award for Health and Human Rights. Time magazine named her as one of the "Nation's 50 Future Leaders Age 40 and Under." She has been profiled by the New York Times and ABC's "World News Tonight." She was named "Woman of the Year" by both CBS "This Morning" and People Magazine. In 2008, U.S. News and World Report named Dr. Benjamin one of America's Best Leaders.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the proud citizens of the First Congressional District and the entire state of Alabama, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Benjamin on this distinguished nomination.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 8, 2009*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Project name: Synchrotron-Based Scanning Research

Requested amount: \$6,000,000.00

Recipient: Loma Linda University Medical Center, 11175 Campus Drive, Loma Linda, CA 92354

Purpose: The Synchrotron-based Neuroscience and Proton Institute (NSPI) is pioneering new possibilities in medical technology and neuroscience for the service of patients

with previously untreatable benign diseases. The potential of the NSPI is to expand efforts in the treatment of people with uncontrollable serious behavioral conditions, including military personnel and veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder as well as persons who are currently incarcerated in prisons and who volunteer for this treatment. Eventually the treatment would be an available medical option to all persons seeking a non-invasive, non-drug alternative to behavioral disorders, both in the military and civilian populations.

Project name: Center for Innovative Geospatial Technology—

Requested amount: \$7,000,000.00

Recipient: ESRI, 380 New York Street, Redlands, CA 92373

Purpose: Geospatial support to the warfighter has proven its value on the battlefield. Successes to date, together with advances in GIS technology, create the demand and the opportunity to apply geospatial analysis to a much larger set of military intelligence issues, and to embed advanced geospatial analysis techniques in critical warfighter support systems. These tasks can also help to integrate the national intelligence, defense intelligence, and military operational communities, all of which are heavily invested in geospatial technology and applications. Building on widely used information systems will expedite the work, facilitate ready application to new problems, create a foundation for sharing, and in the process create opportunities for economies. For the taxpayer, this means more efficient use of intelligence assets and resources to support military and other government operations, and lower operating costs in the intelligence community due to better integration of intelligence information and better quality of information to a large number of intelligence users.

Project name: Facility Security using Tactical Surveys

Requested amount: \$4,500,000.00

Recipient: TSG, 301 Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, California 92408

Purpose: The Tactical Survey System is an innovative computer-based, interactive tool that provides crisis personnel access to a vast database of reliable pre-incident information on a facility, thereby enhancing their ability to effectively respond to an emergency situation. The Tactical Survey System includes immersive imagery with embedded tactical intelligence including hazardous material types and locations, aerial photos, ingress and egress videos, key personnel, building construction information, utility shutoff locations with instructions, communications infrastructure, fire fighting assets, fire and security alarm systems, and perimeter control systems. Completion of a survey at a federal installation allows precise advanced planning of emergency response, conduct of realistic exercises, and detailed training of individuals.

Project name: Commercialization of Advanced Technology

Requested amount: \$2,500,000.00

Recipient: California State University, San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, CA 92407-2393

Purpose: A collaborative partnership between California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) and San Diego State University, with the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, San Diego, other govern-

ment, academic, and industry representatives, offers a proven process for accelerating technology to meet priority military and homeland defense requirements. Key focus is on commercializing technologies developed in government labs and/or funded under the SBIR program, transitioning technologies from the commercial sector to meet government priorities. The need for advanced technological solutions for personnel protection, enhanced situational awareness, NBCR protection, and critical military operations is paramount.

Project name: Integrated Information Technology Policy Analysis Research and Technology Commercialization and Management Network

Requested amount: \$4,000,000.00

Recipient: California State University, San Bernardino, 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, CA 92407-2393

Purpose: Integrated Information Technology Policy Analysis Research creates a more strategic, adaptive IT policy to advance the Army's Network Centric Operations vision for the future force, especially with regard to providing situational intelligence to soldiers on the battlefield. Technology Commercialization and Management Network accelerates DoD spiraling technologies acquisition strategy, lowers defense costs by accelerating government technologies, promotes higher educational institutions & small businesses technological innovation, increases commercial application of innovations derived from DoD R&D.

Project name: Research to Treat Cancerous Brain Tumors using Neural Stem Cells

Requested amount: \$2,000,000.00

Recipient: Loma Linda University Medical Center, 11175 Campus Drive, Loma Linda, CA 92354

Purpose: Current cancer treatments do not work on a majority of brain tumors. New breakthrough research has led to the theory that cancerous brain tumors develop and are propagated by a small sub-population of rogue transformed neural stem cells that are highly resistant to existing cancer therapies due to their self-renewal capacity.

With the proposed project, Loma Linda seeks to partner with the Department of Defense and a leading industry research company to achieve the following goals over the next four years: 1. Establish an in vitro brain tumor stem cell model sufficient for systematic screening of potential agents with anti-tumor activity; 2. Search for potential anti-tumor agents that block tumor-activating proteins or enhance tumor-suppressing proteins in the human neural stem cell model of brain tumor; 3. Create an animal model of human glioblastoma for efficacy testing of potential anti-tumor agents; 4. Create a drug form or route of administration of the anti-tumor agent that can be selectively delivered to the brain without exposing peripheral organs to potentially high toxic dose; 5. Demonstrate a proof-of-principle anti-tumor activity with the most promising test agent in the animal model.

Project name: Norton AFB Infrastructure Improvements

Requested amount: \$6,000,000.00

Recipient: Inland Valley Development Agency (IVDA), 294 South Leland Norton Way, Suite #1, San Bernardino, CA 92408-0131

Purpose: The Office of Economic Adjustment in the Department of Defense is tasked