

Upgrade communications area: 22,769 SF = 2,115 SM.

Demolition/asbestos removal: 3,270 SF = 304 SM.

OFFSHORE DRILLING

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, with today's high price of gasoline, I would like to insert into the RECORD an article reprinted in the Baytown Sun which highlights the need for offshore drilling in our country.

[From the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Jun. 24, 2008]

OFFSHORE DRILLING

The legendary Willie Sutton robbed banks because, as he famously explained, that's where the money was.

The United States should take a cue from the late Sutton. It needs to expand drilling for oil and natural gas in offshore waters because that's where many of the nation's biggest untapped petroleum deposits probably can be found. At a time when gasoline prices have soared to the once-unthinkable level of \$4 per gallon, the country is more vulnerable than ever in terms of its exceptionally heavy reliance on foreign oil.

President Bush urged Wednesday that Congress remove a 27-year-old moratorium on offshore drilling. The ban includes waters off the East and West Coasts and in the eastern Gulf of Mexico off southwest Florida. Bush also called for drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska and areas of the western continental United States with large oil-shale deposits.

Annual U.S. oil production is about 1.8 billion barrels. The Interior Department estimates that up to 10 times that amount—about 19 billion barrels—is potentially recoverable in offshore areas that currently are off-limits to drillers, according to a McClatchy Newspapers report on Bush's proposal.

Democrats called the proposal a gimmick that will backfire on the Republicans.

The Star-Telegram Editorial Board long has supported significantly expanded offshore drilling. We also favor drilling in a limited portion of the Arctic refuge that constitutes only about 8 percent of that vast preserve, which is roughly the size of South Carolina. We're also open to considering expanded drilling in some areas of the Western U.S. . . .

. . . Congress probably won't give serious consideration to lifting the moratorium until after a new president takes office in January. Even if the moratorium were lifted today, motorists shouldn't expect any near-term relief from record-high fuel prices. Major offshore oil and natural gas projects generally take several years to complete and are very expensive. The price tag for a gigantic offshore oil production platform in extremely deep waters could exceed \$1 billion. Likewise, if the Arctic refuge suddenly were opened to drilling, it could be 10 years before oil was produced.

Nevertheless, adopting such policies to expand future oil and natural gas production could contribute to lower energy prices further down the line.

In 2007, 26.8 percent of U.S. oil production and 14.2 percent of natural gas production came from offshore wells.

An exciting discovery by Chevron and two partners in the Gulf of Mexico in late 2006 il-

lustrates the potential for big fields offshore. A test oil well, dubbed "Jack 2," was drilled 175 miles off Louisiana to a total depth of 5.3 miles (19 times the height of New York's 102-story Empire State Building), making it the deepest well successfully tested in the Gulf. It flowed at a prolific 6,000-plus barrels a day and was drilled in a promising geological trend known as the Lower Tertiary, which runs about 200 miles east to west and 30 to 40 miles north to south, Chevron spokesman Mickey Driver said. The area potentially could yield 3 to 15 billion barrels and become the largest domestic oil find since Alaska's Prudhoe Bay discovery in 1968, according to media reports.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. BARBARA ANN TEER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of one of my district's most important leaders, Dr. Barbara Ann Teer, who left this world on July 21, 2008.

Dr. Teer was born on June 18, 1937 in East St. Louis, Illinois to a family of teachers and leaders dedicated to community development. After graduating from the University of Illinois with a degree in dance, she moved to New York City to pursue a career as a dancer, actress, and director. As a performer in New York City, she found work in such shows as 1961's *Where's Daddy?* and 1966's *Kwamina*.

Dissatisfied with the options available to her as a black performer in a predominately hegemonic artistic field, she founded the National Black Theatre, NBT, so that African Americans could meet, share and discuss their creative ideas. She immersed herself in what became a forty year venture that would change the cultural landscape of the performing arts world.

As a cultural visionary she believed in the fundamentals of self-love and spirituality. In 1983, her commitment to and vision of free expression led her to expand the NBT and to purchase a 64,000 square foot building on 125th Street and Fifth Avenue. The new building not only allowed her to house one of the largest New Sacred Yoruba Arts Collection in the Western Hemisphere, but through the artwork she was able to continue the objective of the NBT to provide a place of inspiration and self-expression through spirituality.

With the National Black Theatre, Dr. Teer created an exceptional institution that to this day continues to inspire cultural appreciation and transformation, social change, freedom of expression, historic relevance, self-empowerment, and futuristic innovation.

Dr. Teer dedicated her life to creating a platform that would allow people to experiment through trial and error so that they could achieve a spiritual aura that would allow them to fully express themselves through the performing arts. Through all her tremendous efforts and achievements, Dr. Teer has been duly honored, receiving countless awards and numerous Honorary Doctorate Degrees.

Although Dr. Barbara Ann Teer has passed, her life's work will continue to affect those who are searching for a way to break free from a world that sometimes limits their ability to express their minds and souls. Dr.

Barabara Ann Teer was a visionary, a cultural icon. She will be greatly missed, but not forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO PEGGY BANG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peggy Bang of Mason City, Iowa, on being named the 2007-08 Higher Ed Art Educator of the Year by Art Educators of Iowa.

Peggy is celebrating her 35th year as an art educator, the last 23 of which have been spent at North Iowa Area Community College, NIACC, in Mason City, where she is the current visual arts instructor. After spending the early years of her career teaching elementary art, Peggy earned an MS from Bank Street College in cooperation with Parson School of Design in New York.

Peggy, who was a founding member of the MacNider Art Museum foundation, has been a board member of the museum for the past 21 years and is the current Vice President. She also played an important role in the restoration of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Stockman House in Mason City and was the first coordinator for the statewide Youth Art Month.

Over the years, Peggy has contributed greatly to her community through her involvement in art, inspiring many students along the way. I am honored to represent Peggy Bang in Congress, and I wish her the very best as she continues to serve as a mentor and role model to the students and instructors at NIACC and the Mason City community.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, in compliance with Republican Conference earmark disclosure requirements, I would like to submit the following statement for the RECORD.

Bill Number: H.R. 6599, The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs FY09 Appropriations bill.

Account: Military Construction/VA; Department of Defense; Air National Guard.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Connecticut Air National Guard located at Bradley International Airport, Connecticut.

Address of Requesting Entity: Bradley International Airport, Schoephoester Road, Windsor Locks, CT 06096.

Description of Request: Along with the entire Connecticut House Congressional delegation, I received a \$7,200,000 earmark for construction of an engine shop at Bradley International Airport to support the unit's assigned mission of providing an engine Centralized Immediate Repair Facility capability and also provide the capability for a Joint Cargo bed-down. The engines maintained will support the mission operations of A-10 aircraft equipped units in the Air Force and the Air National Guard.

Federal funding will be used to construct the new engine facility, which is required to support 78 PAA equivalents, in addition to parts storage, additional engine storage, shipping and receiving, personnel training and administrative support areas.

The current facility lacks adequate space and engine docks to conduct intermediate engine repair. It does not have adequate parts storage areas, shipping and receiving capabilities and administrative and training areas for the increased manpower necessary to handle the over 3-fold increase in assigned workload. The existing facility also lacks adequate parking and existing base road violates the anti-terrorist force protection standoff requirements.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL IANNUZZI

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, in recognition of 24 years of devoted service to the United States Air Force and the United States of America. Beginning with his graduation and commissioning from Pennsylvania State University, Col. Iannuzzi has been an extraordinary pilot, leader, husband, and father. A Veteran of OIF, OEF, Southern Watch, Allied Force, Desert Shield and Desert Storm, he has played a vital role in a revolution in military operations unlike any in the history of warfare. In the course of his career he has lived throughout the United States and overseas. As such, he understands on personal and professional levels the vital role the United States plays in shaping world events. As a squadron CO he had enormous influence on thousands of young men and women who will forever remember his strength in difficult situations, and use his example to shape their decisions in response to life's challenges. However, Colonel Iannuzzi's greatest accomplishment is his family. His many achievements would lack full meaning without the love of his wife Maria and three children. Absent their inspiration and support, the long deployments and many separations would have been unimaginable. For 24 years Col. Iannuzzi has stood watch for his family and his country. I represent all Americans, and particularly your friends and neighbors in Delaware County, when I say thank you for a job extremely well done, and welcome home!

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2008

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3221, the American Housing Rescue and Foreclosure Prevention Act.

This bill provides a long-awaited helping hand to many of our hard-working citizens, and I commend Chairman BARNEY FRANK and my House colleagues for diligently working with the Senate and the administration to craft a bill that helps individuals and neighborhoods

struggling with foreclosure, in addition to ensuring that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac remain on solid footing.

Owning one's own home is the epitome of the American Dream. Unfortunately, too many people have found themselves struggling after becoming trapped in complicated, poorly-explained mortgages with exploding interest rates. Already, I have received a call from a homeowner hoping this bill will help him refinance into a mortgage that won't eat up the bulk of his income. With gas prices rising, food prices rising, and wages stagnant, most homeowners just don't have the money to cover a mortgage payment that jumps by 30 or 50 percent.

According to the Center for Responsible Lending, one in 35 Texas homeowners could face foreclosure in the next 2 years—almost 1,400 of them in my district. While this bill won't help all those homeowners, it will help many. By providing an avenue for people to remain in their homes, paying an affordable mortgage, we help not only those individuals, but the neighborhoods that would otherwise be left to deal with abandoned and vacant homes.

As too many neighborhoods and cities are discovering, this housing crisis affects more people than just those who lose their homes. It affects their neighbors, whose property values are in decline as their neighborhoods empty out. It affects cities that must provide services yet are losing property tax revenues. Cities and towns are on the frontlines of this crisis, and this bill gives them an important tool to help neighborhoods recover, by allowing them to purchase and rehabilitate foreclosed homes and resell them at cost. I applaud all my colleagues in the House for passing this important legislation.

TOM LANTOS AND HENRY J. HYDE UNITED STATES GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AGAINST HIV/AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA RE-AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008 (H.R. 5501) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2009 through 2013 to provide assistance to foreign countries to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and for other purposes.

I would first like to thank Honorable HOWARD L. BERMAN for introducing this important legislation. The devastation of the HIV/AIDS disease does not discriminate, and impacts the lives of us all. Recent reports from the United Nations state that more than thirty-three million people globally have been infected with HIV/AIDS.

This legislation takes a comprehensive approach to combating global infectious diseases, specifically HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis by providing funding for the prevention, education, testing, and treatment. I support and applaud the substantial funding that

H.R. 5501 provides to fight infectious diseases around the world. I am happy to see that this bill authorizes \$48 billion in spending over five years for AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. The bill would also authorize operational research and health workforce strengthening initiatives, and would eliminate the ban on HIV positive visitors and otherwise qualified immigrants from entering the United States.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic has erased decades of progress in improving the lives of families in the developing world and has claimed over 20 million lives since its inception. By supporting H.R. 5501, the U.S. government has taken another major step in keeping its commitment to the global AIDS response.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL KEITH LOVEJOY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor COL Keith Lovejoy of the United States Army. Colonel Lovejoy, who is retiring, has been the Garrison Commander of Fort Benning in the Second Congressional District of Georgia, which I am privileged to represent.

Keith Lovejoy is a native of California. He holds a bachelor of arts from Norwich University, and a masters in personnel administration from Central Michigan University. He also has completed several intensive and challenging military training graduate courses, including one at the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Colonel Lovejoy, who is retiring after a more than 30-year career of service to the United States, has held a variety of troop and command positions both in the United States and overseas. The bases across the country where he has served include Fort Lewis, Washington; Fort Riley, Kansas; Fort Polk, Louisiana; Fort Hood, Texas; and now, Fort Benning, Georgia.

In between his postings at Army bases, Colonel Lovejoy also taught those who also sought to serve. From 1989 through 1993, he served as the Assistant Professor of Military Science at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia.

Over the years, Colonel Lovejoy has become a very decorated officer. He is a recipient of the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Medal with seven Oak Leaf Clusters, the Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals. His many awards speak for themselves about his commitment to our country.

Colonel Lovejoy is married to the former Carol Jean Barber of Columbus, Georgia. They have two children: Justin, a recent graduate of Kansas State University and now a First Lieutenant stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and Jessica, currently a student at Auburn University.

Through many postings, and many assignments in different places that I am certain placed strain on himself and his family, Colonel Lovejoy, in every sense, epitomizes the meaning of the phrase "service above self."