

and our entire family, we want to wish Andrew, Danleigh, Madelyn, and Ainsley all the best.

THANK YOU FOUNDATION

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Thank You Foundation of Lebanon, Ohio. The Thank You Foundation is an all volunteer, non-profit organization whose stated mission is to show appreciation and express gratitude for those who have served in the United States Armed Forces both past and present.

The Thank You Foundation was created by John Guinn, a veteran of the United States Army and the organization's current President. John's inspiration came from his mother, who worked tirelessly for the Am Vets Organization and served as President of the Ladies Auxiliary, Post 24, in Dayton, Ohio. John's mother Juanita believed that gratitude and appreciation for soldiers and veterans should always be a priority and that without exception our support and respect should be presented publicly.

The Thank You Foundation provides an array of support for our soldiers and veterans. This includes sending care packages to active duty personnel serving overseas; providing resume and job coaching services to veterans and their families; and visiting veterans in care facilities. The Thank You Foundation is currently spearheading a large project to construct a Mobile Health Unit for use by the Veterans Affairs Cincinnati Medical Center. Once completed the mobile unit will travel the Cincinnati region and act as a one-stop center for veterans to enroll for care, receive initial examinations, and have access to mental health counseling. Just recently, The Thank You Foundation visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where they helped entertain and bring encouragement to the children of wounded veterans.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing all the amazing volunteers from The Thank You Foundation who continually lend their time to give so much to our men and women in the Armed Forces who preserve our Freedom.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE RAMONA ROBERTS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Judge Ramona Roberts as she retires as a Flint District Court judge. A celebration is planned for August 9th to honor Judge Roberts in Flint, Michigan.

Ramona Roberts graduated from Flint Northern High School in 1964 determined to become an attorney. She attended Flint Junior College, now Mott Community College, and graduated from Michigan State University with

high honors. She obtained her Doctorate of Jurisprudence from University of Toledo—College of Law in 1980.

Before returning to her hometown of Flint, Judge Roberts spent time working in Ohio completing legal research. Back in Michigan she spent several years working for Legal Services of Eastern Michigan, UAW Legal Services and as a judicial assistant to former Genesee County Circuit Court Judge Earl E. Borradaile. She entered private practice sharing office space with LoLanda R. Johnson and the soon to be named Chief Genesee County Circuit Judge Archie L. Hayman.

She successfully ran for Judge of the 68th District Court in 1992 because she wanted to bring a woman's perspective to the bench. She has served the people of Flint in this capacity since then. In 1992 she was elected by the highest number of votes for any Flint District Court judge and has been reelected twice, unopposed. In addition to her judicial duties, Judge Roberts has also served as the Financial Secretary of the Judicial Council National Bar Association and in 2002 she was President of the Michigan District Judges Association. She is the past President of the Boys and Girls Club of Flint and their learning center is named in her honor.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing Judge Ramona Roberts the best as she enters this new phase of her life. The 68th District Court and the people of Flint are losing a wonderful public servant and a diligent legal mind with her retirement.

REMEMBERING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR ARMISTICE

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge and remember the 55th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice and to remember the more than 474,000 Allied troops who lost their lives defending our freedom and liberty.

On June 25, 1950, the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th parallel in blatant contravention of international law and aggression against South Korean democracy. Under the guise of a counter-attack, the North Korean Army struck on the early Sunday morning behind a firestorm of artillery. The North Korean army advanced quickly and eventually gained control of nearly 90 percent of the peninsula. After days of bloodshed, South Korean and Allied troops pushed North Korean forces back beyond the 38th parallel. Then on October 8, 1950, Chinese forces joined efforts with North Korean troops. Fighting continued for the next two years, and both sides struggled until ultimately ended in a stalemate. By July 27, 1953, a ceasefire was established at the front line which by that time was again the 38th parallel. After three years of full scale fighting, tens of thousands of allied troops and South Korean civilians had died.

Today, South Korea and the United States share a deep and abiding commitment to uphold the ideals of freedom, democracy, justice, and human rights.

Madam Speaker, today many people refer to the Korean War as the "Forgotten War,"

but we cannot forget the sacrifice of our American service men and women. I ask my colleagues to rise with me in remembering the courage and sacrifice of those lost.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, as a leader on earmark reform among House Republicans, I am committed to honoring House Republican rules that provide for greater transparency. The Fiscal Year 2009 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriation Act contains the following funding that I requested:

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard.

Legal Name Requesting Entity: Tennessee National Guard.

Address: 3041 Sidco Drive, Nashville, TN.

Description of Request: \$10,372,000 for the construction of a new Army National Guard Readiness Center to replace the inadequate Readiness Center that was constructed in 1954. The existing facility has numerous health and safety issues as well as significant electrical code issues, and ADA violations. The new facility will house the 20th Troop Command, and the Company Headquarters of the 1175th Transportation Company. This project is in the Army National Guard's Fiscal Year 2012 Future Year Defense Plan.

H. CON. RES. 361, A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF IRENA SENDLER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today as an original co-sponsor and strong supporter of House Concurrent Resolution 361, a resolution which commemorates the life of Irena Sendler, a woman whose courage and selflessness saved the lives of thousands of Polish citizens from Nazi brutality during the Holocaust.

I would like to thank my friend and colleague, Congresswoman JAN SCHAKOWSKY of Illinois, for introducing this legislation, as well as the 63 other bipartisan Members of Congress for their co-sponsorship of H. Con. Res. 361.

This important resolution commemorates the work of Irena Sendler, a Polish woman who dedicated her life to saving 2,500 Jewish children from Poland's Warsaw Ghetto and Nazi extermination during the Holocaust. As an early activist during World War II, Sendler joined Zegota, an underground movement that provided a safe haven for Jews who would otherwise be sent to death camps throughout Europe. In addition, Sendler built strong connections in Warsaw's Welfare Department that enabled her to help ferry Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto.

Sendler was eventually caught by the Nazis, brutally tortured, and sentenced to death for her heroic acts. However, Sendler managed to escape and continued her work of saving children in the Warsaw Ghetto.

After the Holocaust, Irena Sendler was rewarded for her courageous efforts. In 1965, she was recognized as "Righteous Among the Nations" by Yad Vashem in Israel. In 2006, she was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. Sendler was also awarded the Order of the White Eagle, Poland's highest civilian decoration.

Irena Sendler passed away on May 12, 2008 at the age of 98. A woman who risked her own life to defend the lives of others, it is appropriate for Sendler to be recognized and honored by the Congress. Her selflessness and courage to fight against hate and genocide should serve as a model for others in our world to combat hatred and intolerance and seek to end the genocide in the Sudan.

It is unacceptable for citizens of this country or any other nation to allow, accept, or tolerate acts of hatred. Yet worldwide discrimination continues to exist and Holocaust deniers still serve as leaders of nations.

In honoring the life of Irena Sendler and her courageous acts to save Jewish children from the Nazis, we pay tribute to the righteous among us and reaffirm our commitment to combating worldwide acts of discrimination. I send my condolences to the Sendler family and hope Irena's story will encourage all citizens of the world to uphold justice, equality, and human rights.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding an earmark I received as part of H.R. 6599, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY.

BM Number: H.R. 6599.

Account: Military Construction, Air Force.

Project Amount: \$6,000,000.

Legal Name of Recipient Military Installation: Edwards Air Force Base.

Address of Recipient Military Installation: 1 S. Rosamond Blvd., Edwards AFB, CA.

Description of Request: This funding would complete construction of the main base runway at Edwards Air Force Base, CA. The funding will be used to complete paved shoulders on the runway and account for extra costs in the overall runway replacement project from items such as the stabilization of over 41,000 cubic yards of both unsuitable and unstable soil.

The main base runway, which supports almost every flight operation at Edwards Air Force Base, as well as space shuttle landings when necessary, is over 50 years old and is rapidly degrading as a result of Alkali-Silica

Reaction (ASR), a reaction between the cement and the aggregate that creates map cracking, scaling and spalling of the concrete. Emergency Foreign Object Damage (FOD) repairs have forced runway closures affecting 10 to 15 flights for each closure. No other runways at Edwards AFB can safely support the current and projected test operations without significant test mission delays, and temporary relocation of these missions is not feasible; however, many of the current and planned test missions can be supported by a temporary runway.

This project was programmed by the Air Force in 2003 for FY06, and was incrementally funded over 3 years (FY06, FY07 and FY08). After the project was programmed, the cost of construction materials escalated dramatically, eliminating all management reserve and resulting in a reduction in the planned scope of the project. Providing the final \$6,000,000 in FY09 will complete the project as originally scoped, avoid contractor demobilization and remobilization, and avoid reconstitution of the temporary runway to support this work, saving the government over \$4,000,000 in cost avoidance on the temporary runway alone.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN'S SOLAR CAR TEAM FOR WINNING THE NORTH AMERICAN SOLAR CHALLENGE

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Michigan's Solar Car Team on their recent victory in the North American Solar Challenge.

The team finished the 2,400-mile course in just over 50 hours, and beat 15 other universities, including the second-place team by an astonishing 10 hours. The victory marks the University's fifth in the nine races since the North American Solar Challenge began in 1990.

The University of Michigan Solar Car Team is an entirely student-run organization whose purpose is to design, finance, build, and race a solar-powered vehicle in competitions around North America and the world. With more than 100 members, Solar Car is one of the largest student organizations on campus, including students from the College of Engineering, the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, the Ross School of Business, the School of Art and Design, and the School of Education.

This victory is a testament to the team's hard work, creativity, and determination. Many of the students have worked on their car for two years. They raised money, created new systems, tested their designs, and made the necessary tweaks to ensure the car was ready for competition. All of this hard work paid off on Tuesday, when they captured their fifth title.

As University President Mary Sue Coleman said, "These students have demonstrated the promise of alternative energy and new technologies with the championship run of their car, Continuum. The campus community applauds such an impressive performance in this year's race."

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the students and faculty supervisors of the University of Michigan's Solar Car Team.

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL CONSUMER COOPERATIVE BANK ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2008 JULY 29, 2008

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer the National Consumer Cooperative Bank Act Amendments of 2008. This legislation is necessary to make a technical correction to the statute of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank Act.

The National Consumer Cooperative Bank, NCB, was created by Congress in 1978 and is dedicated to strengthening communities nationwide through the delivery of banking and financial services, complemented by a special focus on cooperative expansion and economic development.

The National Consumer Cooperative Bank Act of 1978 established a non-profit corporation to reach further into low income communities and to serve disadvantaged populations. NCB Capital Impact is that non-profit, mission-driven subsidiary of NCB that works to provide housing, education, healthcare, cultural centers, small businesses and social services in economically distressed communities.

In the last 10 years alone, NCB Capital Impact has invested more than \$600 million in assistance to low- and moderate-income communities. Cumulatively, these funds helped finance 32,000 affordable housing units, 8,700 affordable assisted living units for seniors and persons with disabilities, 94,000 school seats, 2.4 million square feet of community health center space serving 350,000 patients, and helped created 15,000 jobs for low-income individuals.

In my home city of New York, NCB Capital Impact has played a significant role in providing housing finance to much of New York's 14th District. In fact, NCB has participated in more than 600 loans in my district alone. Most of these loans are for housing, including affordable housing, as well as loans for community facilities and loans to non-profit organizations like the Council of New York Cooperatives and Condominiums. Together, these groups are able to provide assisted living, affordable housing and services to the frail and elderly. Presently, NCB Capital Impact is working with 5 community-based organizations to help finance 17 projects that will create 558 housing units.

Despite their good work in serving low-income communities and disadvantaged populations, NCB Capital Impact is not eligible for assistance authorized under the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994, which is administered by the CDFI Fund. The Fund has ruled it cannot certify NCB Capital Impact as a CDFI because of the corporate structure of its parent NCB. In short, NCB Capital Impact is shut off from critical sources of financial awards that are needed to maintain their housing and community development efforts.