

backdrop in a contest between host-defense molecules and pathogen virulence factors that seek to subvert the host's innate and adaptive immune responses. Identifying the players and mechanisms of the natural host responses, many of which are common to a broad range of infections, may provide novel (host-targeted) leads for broad-spectrum therapeutics, the exciting possibility of naturally boosting innate immunity, as well as the discovery of novel adjuvants for vaccine design. Vaccine technology has developed little in the past 50 years. A high priority will therefore be the development of novel vaccine methodologies which employ robust single-chain antigen-adjuvant combinations that facilitate rapid production and modification in the face of engineered or mutant pathogens.

The IIDC is well positioned in that it already has much of the infrastructure in place to generate novel therapeutic leads; shortly, with the opening of our new facility in Orlando, FL we will have the additional capability of developing these leads through medicinal chemistry and pharmacology to phase I trials, the latter in collaboration with our clinical partners in Florida.

Additional funding made possible through this process to the IIDC will enable the expansion of our Center into a number of critical areas. Priorities include recruitment of new faculty members and their programs working in the fields of innate immunity, microbiology, and medicinal chemistry. Recruitment into these currently underrepresented areas within our Center will complement our existing expertise and further expedite the development of novel therapeutics.

Leveraged Funds—Based on the Burnham Institute for Medical Research's past successful record of leveraging seed funds, we estimate that \$3 million for additional scientists through this request will result in \$30 million in additional grant funding for the next 10 years at the BIMR.

Current/Future/Matching Funding—Private philanthropy for the San Diego, CA area has contributed to the current research work ongoing at Burnham's IIDC. Since BIMR scientists started focusing on the important area of research, the IIDC has secured nearly \$40,000,000 in competitive federal grants from a number of sources including the DoD and the NIAID. BIMR researchers and their research are very well respected throughout these federal agencies. Researchers in the IIDC will continue to seek federal grants through the traditional competitive process, this year through funding opportunities available from the DoD and the NIAID.

TRIBUTE TO PETER AND BETSY LOWE FOR RECEIVING THE 2008 ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to congratulate my friends, Mr. and Mrs. Peter L. Lowe, Sr. of Huntsville, Alabama, for receiving the 2008 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award. This award is given annually to the person or persons in the Huntsville community who displays

exemplary community leadership. The Lowes are distinguished community advocates and civic volunteers who have given countless hours to numerous community and state-wide organizations and boards.

Peter and Betsy Lowe have led efforts to nurture the cultural development of our region. Together they serve as co-Chairs of the Huntsville Museum of Art's "Masterpiece in the Making" Capital Campaign which is currently raising \$11 million for improvements to the museum's existing facilities and an endowment for the museum's long-term financial stability. In addition to her service to the Huntsville Museum of Art, Betsy has volunteered as a board member at the Huntsville Hospital Foundation, the University of Alabama Huntsville Foundation, the Alabama Heritage Foundation and many other distinguished organizations.

Peter Lowe serves as the president of GW Jones & Sons Consulting Engineers, Inc., a highly regarded Huntsville company that specializes in real estate development, sales and appraisals. The Lowes are members of the First United Methodist Church of Huntsville and have three children and five grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, the leadership and dedication of Peter and Betsy should serve as a model for others to follow. On behalf of the people of North Alabama, I congratulate them for being named the 2008 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award recipient.

FUGITIVE SAFE SURRENDER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the efforts of the United States Marshals Service for its pioneering program to encourage hundreds and thousands of individuals wanted for non-violent felony or misdemeanor crimes to voluntarily surrender to the law in a faith-based or other neutral setting. The initiative was conceived and is administered by the Marshals Service in states that have particularly high numbers of fugitive warrants.

The goal of Fugitive Safe Surrender is to reduce the risk to law enforcement officers who pursue fugitives, to the neighborhoods and communities where they hide, and to the fugitives themselves. Authorized by Congress in July 2006, it is believed to be the first program of its kind in the Nation.

In Detroit, Michigan, where the majority of my constituents reside, Fugitive Safe Surrender took place in June 2008, under the leadership of Robert M. Grubbs, United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Michigan. Over the course of the four-day surrender period, more than 6,500 individuals with outstanding warrants took advantage of the opportunity to surrender to law enforcement and help pave the way for a more successful future for themselves and their families. The credit for this outstanding success goes to the many city workers, judges, prosecutors, attorneys, clerks, and community leaders who contributed their time, efforts and leadership to administering the program. I am proud to salute the leadership of Dr. Edgar Vann, pastor

of Second Ebenezer Church, who allowed the Marshals Service to use his beautiful facility and who devoted countless hours to mentoring government officials and fugitives during the process.

This brilliant initiative was conceived by Peter J. Elliott, United States Marshal for the Northern District of Ohio, after the death of Cleveland Police Officer Wayne Leon at the hands of a wanted fugitive. He believes that "desperate people commit desperate acts." Marshal Elliott has helped lead the program in ten cities and has been urged by mayors from across the country to implement the program in their cities. As the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, I applaud Marshal Elliott for his courage to 'think outside the box,' and his leadership in pairing law enforcement with communities in an amazingly successful effort to apprehend fugitives while giving thousands of individuals a second chance at life.

TRIBUTE TO POCAHONTAS AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the excellence in education in the Fourth Congressional District of Iowa, and to specifically congratulate Pocahontas Area Elementary School in Pocahontas, Iowa, for making the list of the 2008 No Child Left Behind, Blue Ribbon Schools.

The No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools that are either academically superior or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement. Pocahontas Area Elementary School scored in the top 10 percent in Iowa with at least 40 percent of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

I consider it a great honor to represent Pocahontas Area Elementary Principal Lynn Moody, the teachers, students, school board members, and administrations of Pocahontas Area Schools in the United States Congress. I wish Pocahontas Elementary continued academic excellence as they provide a positive impact on future generations to come.

HONORING THE BUCKS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bar Association of Bucks County for its 125 years of service and dedication to the legal professionals of Bucks County. In 1683, William Penn established the first courts in the county, holding an orphan's and common pleas court in Falls Township, Pennsylvania. Twenty five years later, in 1708, Bucks County appointed its first Deputy Attorney General. In 1812 the first "old" courthouse was built, followed by the second "old" courthouse in 1877. This second courthouse was demolished in 1960 to construct the courthouse we still use today.

In 1853, seventeen attorneys formed an organization of legal practitioners, creating the Association of the Bar of Bucks County. The organization was incorporated in 1883 and had grown to 40 members. They worked then, as they do now, to improve the welfare of the judicial system, the courts, the administration of justice and service to the public.

Now with more than 700 members, the Bucks County Bar Association has made huge advancements. It now has its own legal journal, the Bucks County Law Report. They also have established a lawyer referral program, Legal Aid Society, and mock trial and law day programs. What once consisted of just 40 members now has 30 committees within the organization. The Bar Association of Bucks County has come a long way since it was incorporated over 100 years ago.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Bucks County Bar Association and its service and dedication to the residents and legal professionals of Bucks County.

HONORING ALPENA, MICHIGAN'S STATE RUNNER-UP GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the players and coaches of the Alpena High School girl's softball team. They were Michigan state runner-up champs for high school girls' softball in Division I play and I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in honoring the outstanding Alpena Wildcats.

No one can fault the girls for being disappointed after their 14-inning 2–1 loss to the Garden City Cougars in the state championship game. After years of finishing the season at the district tournament, the Alpena High School girls' softball team finally broke away from that barrier and made it all the way to the State final in which they finished second. Their hard-fought advancement to the State Final is a source of great pride not only to the softball team and high school, but also for the Alpena community as a whole.

This championship run was a defining moment in girls' softball for the Alpena area. Head Coach Paul Marwede was quoted as saying "I've been proud of these kids from day one . . . I will be proud of them for the rest of my life." What this girls' softball team accomplished was extraordinarily special and will always be remembered for years to come.

I wish to congratulate each of the players and coaches on a memorable season. These players and coaches include: Rachel Gebauer, Aubrey Kowalski, Kursten Paczkowski, Leah Cox, Nikki Preuss, Alyssa Smith, and Rachel Brown, Allison Keen, Brandy Lancewicz, Kayla Paczkowski, Katie Prevo, Leah Ventimiglia, Head Coach Paul Marwede, assistant coaches Jason Barbeau, Louie Hoppe, Brittney Kirkwood and Christin Sobeck and trainer Brad Nash.

Madam Speaker, as the Alpena High School girls' softball team celebrates a memorable season and a second-place finish, I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representa-

tives join with me in congratulating them on this extraordinary accomplishment. This truly is a time in these young women's lives that they will never forget.

RECOGNIZING THE SONOMA COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY, to honor and acknowledge the Sonoma County Medical Association, SCMA. The SCMA will celebrate its 150th anniversary on November 11, 2008.

Recently discovered documents place the first call to organize the forerunner to the SCMA on April 10, 1858, with the creation of a constitution and by-laws. The group went through at least 2 subsequent reorganizations, the latter being in 1888, which had long been considered by medical historians to be the original founding date of the organization.

From 1888 to 1910 the Sonoma County Medical Society, as it was then called, held monthly meetings around such topics as "The Emotions in Their Relationship to Disease" and "Bubonic Plague: Keeping it Out of Sonoma County." In 1906, the association elected its first woman president, Dr. Anabel Stuart. During both World Wars, 29 percent of the medical society's membership served our country in uniform.

Since 1951, the SCMA has had only 5 full-time administrators or executive directors. Josephine Quayle served as "general helper" until her retirement in 1963. She was succeeded by Norman Brown, who served from 1960 to 1982. Roger Brown served from 1983 to 1989, followed by Torn Wagner from 1989 to 2000 and Cynthia Melody from 2000 to the present.

Over the years, the SCMA has made numerous contributions to the health of Sonoma County. In 1962, the SCMA coordinated a "Knock Out Polio" campaign that resulted in 92.3 percent of the county's population being immunized. From the mid-1970s to the late 1990s, the SCMA created several other affiliated companies that helped increase medical services to county residents, including the Specialty Physicians Association and the Children's Health Network. And, in 2000, the SCMA returned to its roots as a self-sustaining, non-profit county medical association supporting physicians and their efforts to enhance the health of the community.

Madam Speaker, the SCMA has a long history of assisting physicians practicing in Sonoma County and of preserving the well being of county residents. It is appropriate that we honor this distinguished organization and its members for their past accomplishments and wish them well as they continue to work on behalf of the physicians and residents of Sonoma County.

U.S. TAIWAN RELATIONS

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am pleased that the House recently considered and passed H.R. 6646, a bill that would require the Secretary of State to provide Congress with detailed briefings on any recent discussions conducted between the United States Government and the Government of Taiwan and any potential transfer of defense articles or defense services to the Government of Taiwan.

I was proud to cosponsor this legislation, which I hope will end a reported freeze on arms sales to Taiwan. The U.S. and Taiwan have enjoyed a positive economic and political relationship for several decades and it is our duty to make defense articles available to our allies, especially in the Asia Pacific region.

The U.S. Taiwan Relations Act states in Section 2(b)(5) that "it is the policy of the United States to provide Taiwan with arms of a defensive character." The same Act specifies in Section 3(b) that Congress has a role in determining the defensive needs of Taiwan. Furthermore, Section 3(b) also states that any determination "shall include review by United States military authorities in connection with recommendations to the President and the Congress." Yet the administration has not reported any recommendations to Congress nor explained why arms sales to Taiwan have been delayed. Since Taiwan's legislature passed its arms budget last year, further inaction by the administration is unnecessary.

As twenty-four Members and I wrote in a letter to President Bush on July 31, "A secure and prosperous Taiwan requires the means to provide for its own self defense and the ability to engage its neighbors without fear of military intimidation." If we are serious about Taiwan's security, we must continue to permit the judicious sale of defensive weapons to our key ally.

H. Res. 6646 provides a framework for maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait by requiring the administration to consult with Congress regarding its arms transfer policy. I applaud the passage of this much-needed legislation.

HONORING BILLY JIM VAUGHN

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Billy Jim Vaughn as the Brentwood Rotary Club will present him with this year's Community Service Award on October 17, 2008.

For 73 years, Billy Jim Vaughn has served as Scoutmaster for Troop 1, thought to be the oldest continuous Boy Scout troop in the United States. With his love for nature, athletics, and above all other people, Billy Jim has been a part of Troop 1 B.S.A., as a scout and leader, for a total of 82 years. With the pride of a father, Billy Jim has inspired countless young men through scouting by providing the direction, purpose, leadership and teamwork skills needed to develop into strong individuals and community leaders. The entire