

A Hero from The 2-7 Cav . . . 11 Bravo, Corporal Webb, his soldier's story
 A fighting force to be feared, who gave all he had so very clear
 A Soldier's Story
 Who, into that valley of death . . . so walked
 All with his two fine legs, as was our freedom bought!
 His charge, his thought's
 The life of Travis Webb, so much to all has taught
 All about courage and faith
 As this mighty Michigander makes his way
 As no other's could so take his place
 As throughout his young life, his flow and ebb
 Through the good and bad!
 A work of art, to be said!
 As it all began
 With a young man with no direction
 Until, he found his life's true passion . . . his reflection
 Reaching, his greatest introspection
 His fine reflection, in a Uniform
 As A Soldier's Heart and soul, so proud and bold . . . so very warm
 All for his country 'tis a thee
 As a future Hero was born, as we would see
 While, on battlefields of honor and death and gore
 Charging bravely so, so ever . . . ever forth!
 When, Looking down
 As there it was he so found, no more
 His two strong fine legs, which made up this most valiant force
 While, there in that moment of truth
 As in that moment we find the answer, the proof
 All about what courage, and a magnificent heart can do!
 To build where none lie left
 To climb the highest of all mountains, no less
 To Teach Us all . . . to so bless
 To Reach Us . . . to so Beseech Us, all no less
 To But Be The Best
 When, Courage comes to Crest
 Day by Day
 Night after Night
 To win the battle, to win that fight!
 As he will not give up, will not rest!
 As is this soldier's story, our hearts have blessed
 As we watch him grow
 For he has a life to live
 And to this our world, so much more to give!
 Could such faith and courage, we so know? Possess?
 And, if I ever have a son
 I, but hope and pray . . . that he could so be like this fine one!
 Shining, all in Faith's True Son
 A Soldier's Story, Travis Webb our hearts have won!
 All in our Lord's Heart, that will be done
 Amen!
 —Albert Carey Caswell

IN MEMORIAL OF SGT. TIMOTHY SIMPSON

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, on November 17, 2008, Sgt. Timothy Simpson, a 20-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department and a constituent of the 13th Congressional District was killed by a drunk driver while responding to a robbery. He is the fourth Philadelphia police officer killed this year in the line of duty.

Sgt. Simpson, 46, left behind his wife, Catherine, and three children. His brother, Terry, is an officer on the Philadelphia Police Department SWAT team.

He was a decorated officer, having recently earned superintendant of the month in the 24th District. Other accolades included a heroism award, four merit awards, and a letter of commendation.

Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter said Simpson was "a good officer trying to do his duty."

Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey said he was "an excellent sergeant, excellent police officer," adding "you can't say enough good things about him."

Sgt. Simpson's death is a major shock to Philadelphia opening wounds that have had little time to heal. He was the partner to Sgt. Stephen Liczbinski, a 12-year veteran and former constituent, who was shot and killed on May 3, 2008 while responding to a bank robbery.

The sacrifices that the Simpson and Liczbinski families have made to protect the City of Philadelphia can never be repaid. All Philadelphia residents owe a debt of gratitude to these families and the families of the other fallen officers from Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, including Gary Skerski, Charles Cassidy, Isabel Nazario, and Patrick McDonald all of whom died in the line of duty in the last two years.

I ask that the House of Representatives extend its condolences to Catherine Simpson, her family, and the Philadelphia Police Department for yet another significant loss.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of FY 2009 Defense Appropriations Bill.

Project: Monmouth University's Rapid Response Institute.

Funding Amount: \$3,200,000.

Account: Research, Development, and Testing, Defense Wide.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lockheed Martin.

Address of Requesting Entity: 400 Cedar Avenue, West Long Branch, NJ 07764.

Description of Request: Project will evaluate the software's ability to improve the effectiveness of military (including National Guard) preparedness and its support to the civilian first responders.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM D. HENDERSON, JR.

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. William D. Henderson, Jr. who has contributed over 24,000 volunteer service hours over the course of 45 years to his local communities. Mr. Henderson was born in Wellesley, Massachusetts in 1927 and began volunteering with the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad in 1963 and later with the Northumberland County Rescue Squad in 1995. Through this time he has served as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), as an Advanced Life Support Provider and as a Training Officer. Mr. Henderson's selfless dedication has been recognized throughout his tenure as a volunteer EMT.

First, in 1973 he was awarded the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's Citation of Merit, and in 1986 was selected for the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad's Captain's Choice Award. As recognition of his commitment to the entire community, the Honorable Thomas J. Vandever, then Mayor of Charlottesville, VA, proclaimed "William D. Henderson Day" in 1993. Two years later Mr. Henderson would again be recognized by the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad with the Joel Cochran Award for Outstanding Service.

Next, the Rappahannock General Hospital would recognize Mr. Henderson in 2000 as the EMT of the year. The subsequent year he would be honored by the Peninsula EMT council as the Outstanding Pre-Hospital Provider. In 2002 the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad named its training room after Mr. Henderson. He would then be recognized by the Governor of Virginia in 2003 with the Governor's Award for outstanding Pre-Hospital Provider.

2008 has been just as busy for Mr. Henderson as he was awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award by the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad. In December, the Northumberland County Rescue Squad will award him a second lifetime Presidential Volunteer Service Award and the Point of Light Award. Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating and thanking William D. Henderson on his steadfast service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and its citizens.

IN APPRECIATION OF MY SENIOR AND AGING ISSUES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS' SERVICE

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute today to the men and women of Southeastern Arizona who for the past two years have served on my Senior and Aging Issues Advisory Council.

These 35 active and engaged citizens have selflessly shared their time and expertise with me as important advisors. Each one brought considerable personal and professional expertise to the table to help me gain a greater understanding of the challenges faced by seniors and their family members. Their advice and insights allowed me to better represent my constituents in Arizona's 8th Congressional District.

The counsel they provided has been invaluable to me in making legislative decisions and delivering constituent services. I am grateful to them for the recommendations and issues

they brought to my attention during my first term in Congress and I look forward to their continued assistance.

The Senior and Aging Issues Advisory Council members are: Harry Anthros, David Braun, Marlene Bluestein, Fred Ebeling, Dr. Mindy Fain, Karen Fields, Sharon Gartner, Doris Goldstein, Mary Gomez, Craig Gordon, Clark Hay, Kathleen Heard, Felipe Jacome, Anna Jolivet, Al Kaszniak, Joe La Cava, Cress Lander, Dr. Allan Levenson, David Likness, Larry Linderman, Marian Lupu, Barbara Matteson, Dr. Fred Miller, Jim Murphy, Steve Nash, Elizabeth Packard, Gordon Packard, Anita Royal, L'Don Sawyer, Bill Santa Cruz, Mattie Stone, Jan Sturges, Helen Symes, Russ Symes, Dr. Tony Vuturo and Carol West.

I commend each of them for their contributions to our work on behalf of seniors and thank them for their service our community.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I submit the following earmark disclosure and certification information for one project request I made included within the text of H.R. 2638, the "The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009."

Requesting Member: Congressman CHIP PICKERING.

Bill Number: FY 09 Defense Appropriations Bill.

Project: Advanced, Long Endurance Unattended Ground Sensor Technologies.

Project Amount: \$3.6 million.

Account: Defense-wide; RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Special Operations Command.

Address of Requesting Entity: Tampa, Florida.

Description of Request: A significant challenge in modern military operations is the ability to achieve and maintain real-time battlefield situational awareness. Achieving battlefield situation awareness requires the ability to robustly and persistently monitor the movements of the adversary in near real-time across a wide range of operational environments including foliage, mountainous, and urban terrain.

The funding will continue the research and development of small, low power UGS technologies that support critical USSOCOM reconnaissance and surveillance missions by providing robust: (1) target detection, classification and tracking; (2) high bandwidth, covert communication of data, voice and video, and (3) data/information exfiltration via satellite communications (SATCOM) for displaying advanced visualization technologies. The proposed UGS capability will provide USSOCOM with the ability to relay critical, actionable intelligence from remote areas of interest to analysts and commanders worldwide in near real-time—ultimately allowing special operations forces (SOF) to think and react more quickly than the adversary. The proposed research program will also have applications in other areas such as border patrol.

HONORING PATRICK R. VECCHIO

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a public servant of rare devotion and accomplishment. My constituent, Patrick R. Vecchio is marking his 30 year anniversary as supervisor of the town of Smithtown, a historic community on the shores of Long Island Sound. His tenure as supervisor is the longest in New York State's 231-year history, and has few rivals anywhere in the Nation.

On October 23rd, I was proud to join the Smithtown Historical Society at its gala in St. James in the town of Smithtown, New York, at which it honored Supervisor Vecchio for his steadfast commitment and countless contributions to the people of Smithtown.

Mr. Speaker, Supervisor Vecchio is a life-long public servant, U.S. Army veteran and retired NYPD detective sergeant. During his tenure as supervisor, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility and low taxes while protecting vital government services. His legacy is clear: Today, Smithtown is on solid financial footing and has the lowest debt level of the 10 towns in Suffolk County.

Pat Vecchio is more than an exemplary public servant, he is a friend and a role model. You can always trust that the words that come out of Supervisor Vecchio's mouth will be the truth, to the chagrin of some. As someone who was new to public service when I was elected to Congress in 2002, I learned a lot simply by watching and talking to Pat.

In 1655, an English settler, Richard Smith, struck a unique bargain with local Native Americans where he was entitled to settle all of the area he could ride around on his bull in a day's time. Smith's ride on his bull, Whisper, formed the boundaries of modern-day Smithtown. Richard Smith's ride is the stuff of legends.

I don't know if Pat Vecchio ever rode a bull. But I know he has gotten into a boxing ring with a champion fighter; I know he has guarded the President of the United States; I know he has taken on organized crime and I know he has done it all without a hint of ego. In short, Mr. Speaker, Pat Vecchio's life is the stuff of legends. I am honored and humbled to help honor his lifetime of service to the town of Smithtown and our Nation.

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA DEVASTATED BY TORNADOES

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, families from my district in eastern North Carolina are working to recover from tornadoes over the weekend that killed two people and displaced up to 125 people.

Please join me in expressing our deepest sympathies to the families affected by this damaging storm. They should know that our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time.

Tragically, the tornado claimed the life of 11-year-old Joshua Wiggins, a bright, outgoing sixth-grader at Toisnot Middle School in my hometown of Wilson, North Carolina. He played the drums, enjoyed soccer, and sang in the chorus. The tornado also took the life of Maryland Gomez, a 61-year-old mother from Kenly, North Carolina.

The tornadoes, believed to be EF-2 to EF-3, moved northeast along the Interstate 95 corridor at 45 to 55 miles per hour with winds of 130 to 135 miles per hour.

I want to give thanks to the North Carolina Department of Transportation workers who have been clearing fallen trees from roadways and to the Progress Energy crews who are restoring power along the storm's path.

North Carolina Governor Michael Easley has requested a U.S. Small Business Administration disaster declaration for Wilson and Johnston County areas affected by deadly tornadoes.

Madam Speaker, our hearts go out to the community and especially to the families directly affected by this tragedy. Although this natural disaster may have destroyed many homes and upended the lives of many families, the people of North Carolina are generous and caring. I have no doubt we will pull together to rebuild these communities to make them stronger than ever. I look forward to working with my colleagues to assist the families in need and to helping them to move forward from this tragedy.

CONGRATULATING THOMAS SANTIAGO ON RECEIVING THE "GREEN LIVING AWARD"

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Thomas Santiago for receiving the prestigious "Green Living Award" from the Alley Pond Environmental Center, APEC, on November 13, 2008. APEC, located in Douglaston, Queens, is a superb educational center committed to environmental understanding and awareness. Tom's commitment to using environmentally-friendly green building techniques and protocols for Citigroup's new office tower in Long Island City is a truly groundbreaking example of "green living" in an urban environment and is truly worthy of public notice and praise.

In his role as the Managing Director of real estate for Citigroup in the Northeast U.S., Tom was the driving force behind Two Court Square, Citigroup's second 1.5 million square foot tower in Long Island City. The building is Citi's first ever Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, LEED, Gold certified green building, the national benchmark for rating green buildings. Two Court Square serves as the "green" model for corporate America, not only for being environmentally responsible, but also for demonstrating the economic value of money-saving "green" building technologies and materials.

Under Tom's leadership, Two Court Square is LEED Gold certified because it meets or exceeds stringent criteria in five categories: Sustainable Sites, Energy and Atmosphere, Water Efficiency, Indoor Environmental Quality and