

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

Materials and Resources. Some of the amazing environmentally-friendly innovations include: Electricity requirements are met by the purchase of 100 percent wind-power energy; over half the wood used in construction did not originate from logging; low-emitting volatile organic compound materials are used for paint and adhesives; 90 percent of its structural steel contains post-consumer content; 2 million gallons of water annually are saved by recycling rainwater for building cooling and through the use of low flow plumbing fixtures; and the carpet uses backing made from recycled soda bottles. This kind of top-to-bottom environmental sensitivity is where our Nation and our planet's future lies.

I would also like to acknowledge APEC's leadership in environmental education and awareness. Every year, over 35,000 school students from all over New York City and Long Island visit Alley Pond Park. At APEC-run programs, students of pre-school, elementary school, middle and high school ages learn about the environment and conservation policy. APEC also runs wonderful teacher workshops to educate teachers in methods to enrich and improve their natural sciences curriculum when they return to the classroom. APEC restored and reclaimed Alley Pond Park in the 1970s as a refuge where New Yorkers could experience nature, wetlands and woodlands first hand. APEC features live animal exhibits and several miles of trails in both wetland and woodland areas, bird walks, nature hikes, craft sessions and workshops on environmental topics. Through the "Green Living Award", APEC continues its environmental mission by recognizing the "green" achievements of individuals throughout the New York area.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to recognize Tom Santiago for his exemplary work in green building construction and for receiving the "Green Living Award" from the Alley Pond Environmental Center. I know my colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Thomas Santiago and his colleagues at Citigroup for this well-deserved honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF KENNETH OWENS UPON HIS RETIREMENT AS PRINCIPAL OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL IN MILTON, FLORIDA

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kenneth Owens, who is retiring after almost 40 years of service as a teacher, coach, and administrator in the Northwest Florida school system. His passion and dedication proves that teachers can truly make a difference in the lives of their students, and I am proud to honor such an admirable leader of our community.

Mr. Owens began his life as a public servant almost forty years ago. He spent his entire career enriching the lives of young people as both a teacher and a coach. Seventeen years ago, he came to Central High School in Milton, Florida as an assistant principal where he has remained ever since. As principal, Mr.

Owens transformed Central High School from a "C" school to a "B" school under Florida's A+ Plan for Education. This tremendous achievement exemplifies Mr. Owens' commitment to Central's mission statement of providing an environment that encourages students to achieve their fullest potential. He has touched thousands of lives, and his devotion will never be forgotten. Although he is retiring from his position as an educator, Kenny Owens will always be a Central High School Jaguar.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I would like to thank Mr. Owens for his years of public service to the students and community of Northwest Florida. Vicki and I wish him and his family best wishes for continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE SONS OF THE REVOLUTION

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York as they commemorate the 225th anniversary of Evacuation Day.

The Sons of the Revolution in New York is an organization which keeps alive the memory of the men who achieved American independence through military, naval, or civil service. They also promote and assist in celebrating the anniversaries of events which relate to the War of the Revolution.

November 25th is the anniversary of Evacuation Day, which signaled the end of the Revolutionary War when the last British troops departed Manhattan. Though the importance of this day is sometimes forgotten, the Sons of the Revolution have kept its memory alive. This year they are hosting a parade on November 22nd to commemorate the 225th anniversary of the British evacuation of New York.

Once again, I offer my heart-felt congratulations to the Sons of the Revolution at the time of this celebration. As representative of the 8th Congressional District of New York, I am honored to have such distinguished citizens working in my district to keep the history of America alive.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2009.

FEL Capabilities for Aerospace Microfabrication.

Account: U.S. Department of the Air Force, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation. Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Jefferson Science Associates on behalf of the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility.

Address of Requesting Entity: 12000 Jefferson Avenue, Newport News, VA 23606.

Description of Request: Provide \$1.4 million for the expansion of the Free-Electron Laser

program at Jefferson Laboratory through the USAF RDT&E Account. The FEL has delivered world-record levels of infrared light for development of defense, science and industrial applications. This joint project of the Aerospace Corporation and the Jefferson Lab in support of the Air Force Research Lab has demonstrated the use of kilowatt levels of ultraviolet light useful as a microfabrication processing tool to produce miniature satellite components. The completion of the ultraviolet processing capability will enable microfabrication techniques for production of miniature satellites at substantially lower cost and processing time than what is achievable with current technology.

\$11 million was appropriated for the UV FEL project in the FY 2001–FY 2004 period, as well as an additional \$1.6 million appropriation in FY 2008, which has allowed the hardware to be 90 percent completed. The FY 2009 request of \$1.4 million is needed to complete and commission this project. There is no matching requirement. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the U.S. Department of the Air Force, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation account.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE MARILYN MASSENGILL

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge The Honorable Marilyn Massengill, Plymouth Township Clerk, upon her retirement from the government of Plymouth Township after thirty-nine years of dedicated service.

Throughout her life, Marilyn has striven to better our community. Mrs. Massengill graduated from Plymouth High School in 1952 and went on to work in several township departments. She began her dedicated career in June, 1969 when she was hired to work in the Building Department before advancing to the Planning Department and then the Clerk's Office. Marilyn was first elected Plymouth Township Clerk in 1992, re-elected in 1996 and again in 2000. She received official recognition as a Certified Municipality Clerk in 1995 by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks following completion of specialized training.

Marilyn has participated in multiple associations during her committed service to Plymouth Township, including: The First United Methodist Church, Plymouth Business and Professional Women's Club, BPW, Wayne County Clerk's Association, International Institute of Municipal Clerks, Plymouth Study Club, and as a Charter Member of the Plymouth Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club. Despite her numerous accomplishments and community activities, Marilyn remains most proud of her four children, all of whom attended and graduated from the Plymouth Canton Community School District, and her eight grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, after over 30 tireless years, Clerk Massengill will be retiring from her position of Plymouth Township Clerk. As she enters the next phase of her life, she leaves behind a legacy of leadership, integrity,