

blast exposures, as the Army National Guard (NG) has already done. The NG initiative records the exposure to blasts in troops' personnel records in order to document the incident in the event of problems associated with traumatic brain injury or exposure to contaminants. This database will help determine eligibility for appropriate treatment, care, and disability entitlements. A comprehensive blast tracking system will also assist in efforts to research blast injuries and mild TBI and improve outreach, education, and follow-up for injured personnel who might otherwise fall through the cracks.

Second, I am appreciative of the inclusion of language that I submitted regarding the awarding of the Purple Heart to individuals who have sustained traumatic brain injuries, which calls on the Secretary to review its policies and procedures for determining eligibility and awarding of the Purple Heart as it relates to TBI. Media reports and anecdotal evidence have suggested that Purple Hearts may have been awarded inconsistently to service personnel who have sustained combat-related TBIs, suggesting that individuals with more severe TBIs may be eligible for the distinguished Purple Heart while individuals with less severe ones often receive refusals.

We believe that the Purple Heart criteria set out in regulation encompass soldiers who sustain a TBI or concussion as the result of enemy action. The Department of Defense's own Legislative Affairs has, however, stated that a brain injury that requires minimal medical attention would not suffice. I would caution against the use of such absolutes in the face of uncertainty about the effects of blast-related TBIs. Because the field of science still knows relatively little about effective interventions and the long-term consequences of traumatic brain injuries, particularly mild ones and those caused by blasts, the Department of Defense's interpretation of treatment should not preclude injured soldiers who fulfill all other Purple Heart criteria from receiving the recognition and benefits they deserve.

Third, I am pleased to see the inclusion of legislation introduced by Congressman WALTER JONES, of which I am an original co-sponsor. This important language permits separated service members to seek a review of their discharge if their post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or TBI was not taken into consideration when determining their separation and mandates a physical exam for active duty service members before an administrative separation proceeding if the service member had been diagnosed with PTSD or TBI. The effects and prevalence of PTSD and TBI have become too harsh and too widespread for our military leaders to overlook, and ensuring that the full facts of soldiers' injuries are considered upon discharge is the least we can do to ensure these individuals receive the care and benefits they deserve.

Finally, I praise the Committee for its recognition of the need for civilian and military collaboration in the science of the brain by providing for a Visiting NIH Senior Neuroscience Fellowship Program. This will provide an important opportunity for the military to learn from the work occurring at the National Institutes of Health on neuroscience and vice versa.

Thank you again to Chairman SKELTON, and I look forward to continuing to work with the Committee as we make further improvements

to the care and benefits that we provide to the brave men and women that put their lives on the line for our freedom.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY E. REIDER

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Larry E. Reider, a resident and community leader from Bakersfield, California, on his retirement as Kern County Superintendent of Schools and to recognize his remarkable and distinguished leadership while serving the students of Kern county. Over the last 44 years, Larry has been instrumental in advancing Kern County's public education system.

Larry was born in the State of Washington and was raised on his family's farm. In 1965, he earned his bachelor's degree from Central Washington State University and made the move to Kern County to teach in the Arvin Union School District. A dedicated math teacher, Larry spent 19 years in Arvin schools' classrooms and later as a school administrator. He also earned advanced degrees from the California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo and the University of Southern California.

In 1984, Larry joined the Office of the Kern County Superintendent of Schools as a district advisory consultant. Recognizing his dedication and commitment to the schools, students, and parents of the community, the Kern County Board of Education tapped him to be the Kern County Superintendent of Schools in 1999.

Since becoming Kern County Superintendent of Schools, Larry has been integral to a plethora of local initiatives and projects designed to enhance the reading, writing, and mathematical skills of elementary school students in the county. For instance, he partnered with the Bakersfield Californian to develop the Community Reading Project, which places volunteer reading tutors throughout various classrooms in the county to aid second graders in becoming more proficient readers. Additionally, he developed the Kern Reading Collaborative, an association that analyzes which reading programs are productive and investigates ways those programs can reach more students. Larry also established the Do The Math program, a bi-weekly television homework help channel where teachers assist students in both English and Spanish with their math problems both on and off the air, as well as Ready to Start, a summer pilot program that prepares pre-kindergartners to learn more efficiently as they begin their academic career.

As a former teacher, Larry was always cognizant that highly qualified and effective teachers in the classroom are the best recipe for successful students. To that end, he co-chaired a task force which formulated various approaches to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers in Kern County schools and get them in the classroom. This initiative has been highly successful, and our schools have some of the best and brightest teachers in the region. He also recognized that new generations of students are exceedingly technology savvy,

and so opened a learning center that helps teachers integrate technology into the classroom to better teach and engage their students. This not only helps teachers be more effective, it also helps ensure their students continue to develop the skills necessary to be successful in the technology-driven workplace of today.

Not only has Larry harnessed cutting-edge technology in the classroom, he has also been an advocate to use technology to help keep our environment clean. Under Larry's leadership, Kern County schools are in the process of converting their current diesel school bus fleet to clean burning Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). More than half of the diesel buses have already been replaced. As part of this initiative, in 2006, the Superintendent of Schools opened a CNG fueling station, which serves Kern County school buses and is open to the public. As Kern County unfortunately has some of the dirtiest air in the United States, this initiative is extremely important to helping clean the air in the Central Valley.

Larry is also active in several community organizations, including the Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, Kern County Network for Children, United Way, Rotary Club of Bakersfield, and Vision 2020. He has also been honored by several local and state organizations over the years for his leadership by organizations such as the Community Action Partnership of Kern, California State University-Bakersfield School of Education, Association of California School Administrators, California Teachers Association, Kern Council of Governments, and Kern Reading Association.

Larry exemplifies how one can serve their community with great enthusiasm, fortitude, and dedication. Over the years, I have enjoyed working with Larry and always found his perpetual optimism infectious. There was never an obstacle he did not challenge head-on in his amiable, but no-nonsense style, and fight for the best interests of the students of Kern County. After 44 years in public service, I know that Larry looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Sandy, a retired junior high language arts and drama teacher, and his daughter Mikhail. I know that Larry will be missed in the Kern County public education system, and I salute his lifetime of service and wish him the best as he begins this new chapter in his life.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2996, The FY 2010 Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act:

Agency: Environmental Protection Agency
Account: STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Amount: \$500,000

Project: Railroad Avenue/Main Street stormwater improvements, Borough of Califon, NJ

Recipient: Borough of Califon, 39 Academy Street, Califon, NJ 07830

The funding would be used for reconstruction of the storm water conveyance system to reduce flooding, meet storm water management standards, and to enhance storm water quality in the Borough of Califon, New Jersey.

Much of the historic core of the Borough of Califon was developed during the mid-late 19th century. Drainage systems were constructed to collect and deliver stormwater to waterpower sites. Considerable segments of the original drainage infrastructure remain and are antiquated. The current drainage ways are susceptible to frequent flooding. During flooding events, recharge to groundwater is reduced, suspended solids and floatables bypass normal catchments, and septic systems are inundated. The quality of receiving waters is degraded.

A reoccurring flooding problem exists along an unnamed tributary which traverses a natural, wooded area between Academy Street and Main St. Severe flooding occurs as flows overtop the existing channel and then sheet overland along Railroad Avenue and Main Street. Flooding along the area reoccurs on a regular basis and results in the degradation of water quality of the downstream receiving watercourses.

In general, the problem is inadequate capacity of the conveyance system of open channels, pipes and culverts. Reconstruction of the system is needed to reduce flooding, meet current stormwater management standards and to enhance stormwater quality.

This project is consistent with environmental criteria established by the State of New Jersey to improve stormwater systems and water quality. Since the stormwater from the area of this project enters the South Branch of the Raritan River, which flows directly through the center of the Borough of Califon, the benefits of this project are far reaching.

IN REMEMBRANCE AND RECOGNITION OF TIMOTHY MICHAEL ELLIOTT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Timothy Michael Elliott and in recognition of his service to our country and his dedication to the City of Cleveland, Ohio. Tim lived and worked in the Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood of Cleveland's west side in my district. He sought to preserve Cleveland's historic housing one house at a time and devoted his time to ensuring the historic integrity of each home he restored.

As a young man, Tim served in the U.S. Army and worked as a draftsman for Hauserman Inc., and B.F. Goodrich. He also worked for Century 21 Real Estate and led the Nolasco Housing Corporation, a non-profit development organization affiliated with the neighborhood Catholic Church, Our Lady of Mount Carmel. In addition to his work, he dedicated his life to the City of Cleveland. He was proud of the west side neighborhood in which he lived and became concerned about deteriorating conditions. He began to buy and repair neighboring homes to improve the housing of the neighborhood. He rarely worked on houses he could not walk to from

his Herman Avenue home. "He could walk into a place that was falling apart and not see it as it was but what it could be," said Judge Ray Pianka, a neighbor and friend as well as Cleveland's municipal housing judge. "He has taken some homes that appeared to be beyond saving and made them showplaces."

Also within walking distance of their home was Edgewater State Park, a beautiful park along the Lake Erie shore with beaches, boating, picnic areas, and other recreational activities. Tim and his wife Mimi, along with other neighbors and local officials, started the Friends of Edgewater Park to promote and preserve this wonderful amenity in their neighborhood. Tim is survived by his wife Mimi, his son Timothy Michael Jr., his granddaughter Brooke Elliott, and his many friends.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Tim Elliott, and in recognizing his dedication to the betterment of our community. His service and leadership in the west side neighborhood of Cleveland inspired us all to work toward neighborhood preservation.

TIMOTHY ELLIOTT, 63, FIXED UP OLD HOMES ON THE WEST SIDE—OBITUARY
(By Grant Segall)

Tim Elliott helped to turn around the West Side. The painstaking renovator and Realtor helped revive Ohio City and Detroit-Shoreway in the past four decades, boosting a couple of hundred properties and winning over skeptical investors, bankers and officials.

Elliott died Friday in his West Side home, one of his pet projects, a 3,200-square-foot Italianate from the 1860s. He was 63 and had struggled for several years with strokes.

"He could walk into a place that was falling apart and not see it as it was but what it could be," said Raymond Pianka, Cleveland's housing judge, a neighbor and the employer of Elliott's widow, Mimi. "He has taken some homes that appeared to be beyond saving and made them showplaces."

Elliott liked not just walking into a place but walking to it. He'd turn down a project if he and his small crew couldn't walk there from their homes.

He hoped each project would ripple through the neighborhood. He preferred corner homes, helping two blocks instead of one.

He liked to install modern conveniences such as whirlpools while highlighting history.

"There's not a newer old house in the city," he boasted about one salvage job.

He bought homes suffering from water, waste and vandals and sold them for several times his purchase price. He'd comb rural Ohio for replacement parts or make them himself, from tiles to spindles.

Elliott said he'd decided at age 7 to spruce up old homes. He was born on the East Side, the seventh of eight children. His father was an engineer, and several brothers followed suit.

He left Cleveland at 12 and graduated from Willoughby South High School. He enlisted in the U.S. Army, making photographs and maps, serving partly in South Korea.

Elliott returned to Cleveland in the early 1970s and helped Hauserman Inc. draft work for projects such as the Americana high-rise in Euclid. He later drafted pipes and buildings for Goodrich in Solon.

On the side, he got an associate's degree in arts at Cuyahoga Community College.

He started renovating West Side homes about 1978. He owned about 16 buildings over the years and handled many others as well.

He worked for Century 21 and led Nolasco Housing Corp., a development group affili-

ated with Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, in the 1980s.

Elliott was honored by Cleveland Magazine and the Cleveland Restoration Society.

On the side, he liked to bicycle, raise terriers and sail. He put together a 27-foot boat from a kit.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the Fiscal Year 2010 Department of Interior and Environment Appropriations request.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF MILLER

Project Name: Santa Rosa County for Navarre Beach water clarifier

Account: STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Santa Rosa County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 6495 Caroline Street, Milton, FL 32570

Description of Request: \$220,000—Santa Rosa County for Navarre Beach Water Clarifier, Milton, Florida. I requested these funds to allow for Navarre Beach residents to have a safe and reliable source of water. Currently there is no reliable backup beyond three days for citizens. It would also increase compliance with both State and Federal regulations. The entity to receive funding for this project is Santa Rosa County, Florida, located at 6495 Caroline Street, Milton, FL 32570. The funding would be used to complete the Navarre Beach Water Reclamation Facility clarifiers to protect the area's water quality. I certify that this project does have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interest of my spouse or me. Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that this request (1) is not directed to any entity or program named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended for a "front" or "pass through" entity; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2892, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: H.R. 2892, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: FEMA, Predisaster Mitigation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: CHRISTUS St. Elizabeth Hospital