

The Children of Fallen Soldiers is a non-profit organization based out of Round Rock, Texas with a goal to provide each child who has lost a parent in the line of duty, with \$25,000 to assist with college expenses, or to otherwise help them to start out in the world when they turn 18. The Children of Fallen Soldiers organization was born through the vision of the Rotary DISTRICT 5870, in Round Rock, Texas.

Fifteen central Texas children have been identified through the program who have lost a parent in the line of duty. The soldiers who were killed were all from Ft. Hood, Texas.

The Freedom Fest 2009, a 4th of July concert and fireworks presentation to benefit The Children of Fallen Soldiers, was held this year with the hard work of Landy, and other local sponsors.

It is an honor to recognize Landy, as he continues to be a true leader in Texas District 31, and in our country.

CONGRATULATING SUE LOFGREN—
SCI VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sue Lofgren from my home town of Tempe, Arizona. Sue is being recognized as the Sister Cities International Volunteer of the Year at the annual conference. This year's conference takes place in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

The cities of Tempe, Arizona and Timbuktu, Mali, West Africa have enjoyed an eighteen year partnership through Sister Cities International. This relationship has persevered, despite hurdles which would have daunted most people. Lack of modern communication methods in 1991, the language barrier, as well as the physical difficulties of travel to that remote part of the world, were just a few of the hurdles. Sue found a way to overcome all of them.

The number one issue facing Timbuktu was lack of water. Sue arranged for a retired water engineer to travel to Timbuktu—no easy task in itself—to assess the feasibility of drilling water wells. Once water was found 100 feet down, Sue's real work began. She organized a fundraising effort to secure the \$7,000 needed to drill a well, by selling bottled water bearing the label, "Water for You . . . and Timbuktu". The next hurdle was getting the money to Mali as Timbuktu had no bank, no Western Union, no nothing. This was eventually accomplished through a third party. When the first well opened, people literally danced in the streets and named that first effort, The Sue Lofgren Well. She has since raised money for six more wells.

When Sue made her first visit to Timbuktu, she packed her clothes and \$11,000 of donated medical supplies, reading glasses, soccer balls and school supplies. While on her visit, she was home-hosted and saw first hand the great needs of these proud people. She returned home and redoubled her efforts on their behalf.

To date, she has singlehandedly raised at least \$200,000 in aid for Timbuktu. In addition to the wells, money has gone to purchasing

wheelchairs, goats, sheep and camels, sewing machines, gardening supplies, medical and school supplies, as well as toilets and a millet grinder for the Women's Center. In 2008 she also facilitated a relationship with Project C.U.R.E which resulted in the donation of another \$500,000 in badly needed medical equipment.

All of this effort might seem to be enough for most of us, but not Sue. In addition to her efforts on Timbuktu's behalf, she volunteers a lot of her time to other programs of Tempe Sister Cities. She and her husband, Bob, have hosted international guests from Tempe's six other sister cities. She volunteers in the organization's gift shop, works in the kitchen for events and has organized the information booth at the annual Way Out West Oktoberfest. She is tireless in her dedication to Tempe Sister Cities, and especially to Timbuktu.

I am proud to call Sue Lofren a friend, and prouder yet that her efforts are being recognized by this wonderful award. Please join me in congratulating this outstanding person.

THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MR.
JESUS GONZALEZ VILLAGOMEZ

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jesus Gonzalez Villagomez, who celebrated his 100th birthday on May 5, 2009, surrounded by family, friends and loved ones.

Mr. Villagomez was born on May 5, 1909, in Villa Morelos, Michoacan, Mexico, to a ranching and farming family—Telesforo and Antonia Gonzalez Villagomez.

When he turned 18, he migrated to the United States entering at the Port of Brownsville in Brownsville, Texas, and a few years later returned to Mexico where he met and married his lifelong companion and wife, Mariana Aguillon Villagomez. Mr. Villagomez and his wife returned to the United States and settled in Fargo, North Dakota.

He joined the United States Army at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, during World War II and was honorably discharged. Mr. Villagomez would go on to make a name for himself holding positions with the Union Pacific Railroad and the Armour Meat Packing Company in Fargo, North Dakota, where he retired from.

He is fluent in English and Spanish and has a true love and passion for education. He has a son, Jesse Villagomez, Jr., of Ft. Worth, Texas, and a daughter, Maria Antonieta Villagomez, of Corpus Christi, Texas, as well as four grandchildren and three great grandsons.

Mr. Villagomez's hobbies include: gardening, cooking, reading, dancing, and traveling.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 100th birthday of Mr. Jesus Gonzalez Villagomez who has lived a happy life surrounded by family, friends and loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I submit a record of how I would have voted on June 18 and 26, 2009 when I was unavoidably detained.

Had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 383, "yes" on rollcall No. 390, "yes" on rollcall No. 400, "yes" on rollcall No. 406, and "no" on rollcall No. 472.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, consistent with the House Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, to the best of my knowledge the requests I have detailed below are (1) not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; and (2) not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark. As required by earmark standards adopted by the House Republican Conference, I submit the following information on projects I requested and that were included in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (H.R. 2997).

Account: Agriculture Research Service—Salaries and expenses

Project Name: Northwest Center for Small Fruits, Corvallis, OR

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research, 4845 B SW Dresden Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333

Project Location: Corvallis, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 2997 appropriates \$254,000 for the Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research conducted by USDA's Agriculture Research Service (ARS). According to the requesting entity, the appropriated funds for this project will be used by ARS to fund cooperative research, extension, and education activities on peer-reviewed small fruits research project proposals that will enhance profitability and sustainability of the small fruits industry in the Pacific Northwest.

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Project Name: Multi-commodity Research, OR

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-4501

Project Location: Corvallis, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 2997 appropriates \$244,000 for the Multi-commodity Research, OR program to be conducted by Oregon State University. Oregon State University has confirmed in their justification that the appropriated funds for this project will be used to

enhance competitiveness and expand the economic value-added component in Oregon agriculture products through research and outreach in food processing, product development, business strategy, marketing, and consumer testing.

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Project Name: Potato Research, ID, OR, WA

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-4501

Project Location: Corvallis, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 2997 appropriates \$1,037,000 for the Potato Research, ID, OR, WA program to be conducted in part by Oregon State University. Oregon State University has confirmed in their justification that the appropriated funds for this project will be used to develop and commercialize new potato varieties that will directly benefit all segments of the Northwest potato industry and indirectly benefit all U.S. potato producing regions.

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Project Name: Regional Barley Gene Mapping Project, OR

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Oregon State University Corvallis, OR 97331-4501

Project Location: Corvallis, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 2997 appropriates \$471,000 for the Regional Barley Gene Mapping Project, OR program to be conducted by Oregon State University. Oregon State University has confirmed in their justification that the appropriated funds for this project will be used to stimulate economic activity in the agriculture sector and to improve human health and welfare by using the tools of genomics to develop improved barley varieties, which will be more tolerant of stresses caused by plant diseases, insects, and climate change. Furthermore, enhanced tolerance will lead to greater productivity with fewer chemicals and fertilizer inputs. The project will also help develop varieties that will provide needed crop diversity for eastern Oregon wheat farmers.

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Project Name: Small Fruit Research, ID, OR, WA

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Oregon State University Corvallis, OR 97331-4501

Project Location: Corvallis, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 2997 appropriates \$307,000 for the Small Fruit Research, ID, OR, WA program to be conducted in part by Oregon State University. Oregon State University has confirmed in their justification that the appropriated funds for this project will be used to fund cooperative and competitive research grants, and education activities to enhance the profitability and sustainability of the small fruits industry in the Pacific Northwest.

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Project Name: STEEP IV—Water Quality in Northwest

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Oregon State University Corvallis, OR 97331-4501

Project Location: Corvallis, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 2997 appropriates \$444,000 for the STEEP IV—Water Quality in Northwest program to be conducted in part by Oregon State University. Oregon State University has confirmed in their justification that the appropriated funds for this project will be used to establish a network of agriculture research sites from which to address long term agriculture, environmental, and agroecosystem problems. According to the requesting entity, to date, the STEEP research grant has provided funds to develop cropping techniques such as direct-seeding, residue management, weed control, and accompanying extension programs to facilitate the adoption of successful conservation farming for the Pacific Northwest.

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the American Clean Energy and Security Act—a historic step forward to revitalize our economy and get America running on clean energy.

There is a global race underway to develop clean energy technologies. We have the innovation and manpower to take the lead—but we will not get there unless we muster the political will to keep our nation competitive. This bill makes sure that everyone benefits from the millions of jobs this bill will create through a Green Construction Demo Project and additional Green Jobs Act funding to train workers with the new skills they will need to repower and rebuild this nation.

This bill also makes the U.S. more energy independent by investing in energy efficiency, including for consumers of natural gas, home heating oil, and propane. We know that comprehensive energy efficiency programs can help households save money on energy. I thank the Chairman for providing states with greater flexibility to use allowances under the SEED Program to expand existing cost-effective efficiency programs. And for including a provision I cosponsored with my colleague RUSH HOLT, to jumpstart important research on consumer behavior, energy conservation and efficiency. Moving forward, I hope we will strengthen the combined energy efficiency and renewable energy standard, to maximize efficiency and investments in clean technologies like wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass.

Madam Speaker, this bill is a significant step towards a better future, and a major break from the past eight years of ignoring our energy crisis. For the first time, it would create a system of clean energy incentives designed to jumpstart the economy and reduce the carbon pollution that causes global warming.

Make no mistake—the effects of global warming are visible here and now. In my home state of Connecticut, global warming is a threat to our health, our wetlands, our lobster fisheries, and our economy. This bill is

our chance to mitigate that threat—a chance that will not come again soon.

Future generations are counting on us to do the right thing today—to set our country on a path towards a cleaner, more prosperous future. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

APPLAUDING HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS IN CELEBRATION OF FATHER'S DAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to praise my fellow colleague, EDOLPHUS TOWNS, for his outstanding career on Capitol Hill within the House of Representatives, as well as his continuous role as a father. This week, the New York Carib News acknowledged the Congressman in "Edolphus Ed Towns, Father and Lawmaker" in an article on outstanding fathers. The article noted his 30 years as a member of Congress and recognized TOWNS as the proud father of two adult children, Darryl, a New York State assembly member and his daughter Diedre, a Senior Executive with the Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company.

Mr. TOWNS, who is a former social worker and community activist, is a 14-term veteran and currently chairs the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Mr. TOWNS was born on July 21, 1934 in Chadbourn, North Carolina and earned his bachelor's degree from North Carolina A&T State University. He holds a master's degree in social work from Adelphi University. Prior to serving in the House, Mr. TOWNS was a teacher in the New York City Public School System, and a professor at Fordham University as well as Medgar Evers College. He is also a veteran of the United States Army and an ordained Baptist minister.

Mr. TOWNS continues to be dedicated and committed to serving his constituents within the 10th Congressional District of New York, which encompasses a variety of Brooklyn's diverse population. Mr. TOWNS also continues to be an advocate for adequate public health care, as well as equal access to quality public education and technology and financial security.

As a father, Mr. TOWNS strived to instill values in his children, as well as being fully invested in teaching them important life lessons by assuring the family spent time and had meals together. Mr. TOWNS understood the important role that fathers have in a child's life and cherishes the significance of sharing life experiences, which he attributes to his children's success in their personal and public lives. As an example, Mr. TOWNS and his son, Darryl, are the first African-American father-son team to serve simultaneously in New York public office.

Fatherhood is filled with many joys and challenges, and therefore, I applaud EDOLPHUS TOWNS for his continued commitment to his family as well as for his public service. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with my colleague and I commend him for his leadership.