

doors, we should look at other streamlining solutions that are already being successfully implemented. We should explore proven solutions such as adjusting post office hours to reflect customer use, extending early retirement eligibility to USPS employees, and adjusting postal delivery routes to better reflect the diminished volume of mail.

Madam Speaker, we need to keep Oteen and post offices like it open. I strongly encourage my colleagues to consider alternatives to rural post office consolidation and job loss that will help streamline the efforts of the postal service, cut costs, and increase efficiency.

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RECOGNIZING JOSH ECKHOFF

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Josh Eckhoff to the U.S. House of Representatives and to recognize his tremendous contribution to our nation. Josh's story is a testament to his selflessness and an example of service every American citizen should take to heart.

After he graduated high school, Josh volunteered to join the Missouri National Guard. He was called to service in Iraq on two occasions. On his first deployment, Josh trained Iraqi soldiers to provide security for convoys tasked with transporting supplies. When he returned home, Josh enrolled in the University of Missouri at St. Louis. He was then deployed to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Then, in September of 2007, Josh was called to duty in Iraq again. This time his mission was clearing roads. He had been in Iraq for six months when an improvised explosive device exploded, causing him serious injury. After several surgeries, tremendous hardship, difficult rehabilitation and a long recovery, Josh is now back in St. Louis, where he will complete his degree.

He has received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star for his courage, and he is a great example of perseverance to everyone in my home state of Missouri. He will be the Parade Marshall in the annual Cotton Carnival Parade in Sikeston, Missouri, on October 3 this fall. We will give him a hero's welcome in Southern Missouri, and I think it is highly appropriate that Josh Eckhoff receive the same recognition in this Congress for his many accomplishments, past, present and future.

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RECOGNIZING ELOISE McCALL OF ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Eloise Enoyer McCall of Pasco County, Florida. In a couple of days, Eloise will do something that all of us strive to do, but that very few of us

will ever accomplish, celebrate her 100th birthday.

Born September 11, 1909 in South Sabius, New York, she now resides in Zephyrhills, Florida. Eloise was married for 53 blissful years to her late husband Carl McCall. Together they had three sons, Gerald, Leonard and Bernard.

For the past 27 years Eloise has been a member of the Zephyrhills tourist club where she still goes dancing every week.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring Eloise Enoyer McCall for reaching her 100th birthday. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as her.

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IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF BOLIVAR, MISSOURI

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the First Baptist Church in Bolivar, Missouri, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary of serving its community guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ. Starting with a charter group of seven believers in early September, 1859, today the First Baptist Church in Bolivar includes more than 1,500 members.

Its 150 year history has been marked by steady growth and renewed commitments of service to the community and members of its congregation. Today, First Baptist in Bolivar provides more than spiritual richness; it offers recreation, child care, educational and family support through an array of missions, programs and services all geared to serve God.

It started as a small charter group organized as the "United Baptist Church of Jesus Christ at Bolivar" and at its second meeting voted to build a house of worship—the first of what would be five structures. With unrest in the nation caused by events that would lead to civil war, the church treasury was empty in January, 1861. Three months later with the start of the Civil War, construction of the new church for its 17 worshipers was halted. The building was left unfinished and in debt.

The conclusion of the war left only four members of the original congregation living in Bolivar. It was 1866 when D.R. Murphy stepped into the leadership role at the struggling church. As pastor, Murphy took up the call to resume construction of the church building and mount a donated church bell in the new tower.

Two years later the church was still under construction, but the congregation decided to move their worship services from the courthouse to the new church in August, even before the walls were plastered. The building was painted with pews and kerosene lamps in place by the end of the year, and the Bolivar church began to grow.

The first organized choir could be heard in 1869 accompanied by organ music. And the size of the congregation underwent a dramatic increase when Southwest Baptist College was moved from Lebanon to Bolivar in 1880. A

month-long revival in January saw the congregation more than double, including the baptism of 28 people on February 8, 1880.

By 1888, the church's name had been changed to the First Baptist Church, and membership continued to increase as the town and nearby college grew in population. In 1897 an entirely new building, complete with baptistry and gravity furnace, was in place. It was wired for electricity in 1901. It was replaced in 1926 with larger quarters on the northern half of Block #32 as Sunday school enrollments and congregational growth demanded expanded educational quarters. Other expansions came in 1959 and in the early 1980s.

The character of the First Baptist Church in Bolivar has been shaped over the decades by its location in the bedrock center of the nation and its close relationship with Southwest Baptist University, where I had the privilege of serving as President before my tenure in Congress. Education and leadership have given the church a unique outlook on the world, its community and the good works it does in the Lord's name.

First Baptist is making plans for their 150th anniversary celebration events throughout the month of September. The anniversary theme is Celebrate God's Faithfulness—Yesterday, Today, Forever. As my former house of worship, I know the people of this congregation, their work ethic, their love of God and the strength of their faith as they serve their community and the world.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I missed recorded votes on the House floor on Tuesday, September 8, 2009.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 687 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 324); "aye" on rollcall vote No. 688 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 310); "aye" on rollcall vote No. 689 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3123).

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EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. FRANK D. LUCAS**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Mr. LUCAS. 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. 2647, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010: This project, a SOCOM/Oklahoma State University collaboration, will perform testing, integration and commercialization of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) and command, control, communications, computers, intelligence surveillance, reconnaissance (C4ISR) sensor-related technologies.

IN HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN  
WILLIE GATHREL "BILL" HEFNER

**HON. JOHN P. MURTHA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Willie Gathrel "Bill" Hefner. Bill was a unique Member of Congress and served with distinction as the Chair of the Military Construction Subcommittee for many years. Few Members could match his contribution to the defense of this country. He represented his congressional district well, but never lost sight of national goals, whether those dealt with education, law enforcement, or defense. Many times he would sit on the floor listening intently to debate and he became one of the best extemporaneous speakers that ever served in Congress. Madam Speaker, Bill Hefner was a good friend and an outstanding American.

CELEBRATING THE FRANKLIN  
SCHOOL 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, this evening, the Franklin School in Bergenfield will celebrate 100 years of exceptional education offered in New Jersey's 5th District. Erected in 1908, Franklin School arose to meet the need for a notable educational facility within this expanding community in Bergen County. Its humble beginnings were made up of a \$15,000 budget and only 10 students grades K-12. Since then, Franklin School has grown to a diverse group of 365 students from grades K-5 that captures the excellence of what Bergen County students have to offer. With a dedicated teaching staff, Franklin School has found new and exciting strategies for enabling its students to excel in all areas of their instruction. Their mission is to put children first and this directive has given incentive to provide the student body with the necessary tools and guidance to obtain success. With laptop labs to teach communication skills, learning centers to further judge and improve performance, and performance measures put in place to continually improve all educational offerings delivered to those who attend, Franklin School has established the gold standard in educational offerings.

The Franklin School is an exceptional educational facility that has nurtured and sent forth successful students for the past 100 years. I am proud of its accomplishments and expect great things from those who have been offered invaluable guidance from this notable school. Because of committed administrators and selfless teachers who have put their time and effort into the educational program offered to their students, Franklin School has made this community in my district a better place. I wish all the very best to the Franklin School and all its staff and students in their next 100 years to come.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. CONNIE MACK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Mr. MACK. 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. 3293, The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2010.

Project Name: FGCU Impact of Freshwater Flow into Coastal Waters—FGCU Coastal Watershed Institute

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3293, The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: Higher Education (includes FIPSE) Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd., South, Fort Myers, FL 33965

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$350,000; Florida's coast is a principal economic driver attracting millions of tourists and thousands of residents to the coastal communities of Southwest Florida. Proper management of the freshwater that the coastal environment receives is critical to preventing toxic algal blooms and negative impacts on recreational and commercial fisheries. FGCU is requesting federal funding for their Coastal Watershed Institute to address the impacts associated with changes in the freshwater flows into the area. This project is geared to students learning about future management of our fragile ecosystems.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I am continuing to recover from back surgery. Yesterday, I missed 3 votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows.

Rollcall No. 687, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 324, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 688, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 310, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 689, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3123, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING DONNA GARSKE

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Donna Garske for her deep commitment to ending violence against women. Congratulations to Donna as she celebrates this mile-

stone of three decades of service to the Marin Abused Women's Services, and the survivors of domestic violence that the organization serves.

Through her leadership, Donna has raised awareness of the importance and prominence of domestic violence in Marin County and beyond. As a result of her devoted efforts, abused and battered women and girls have increased access to safety and justice.

The enthusiasm and passion she exhibits for her work is truly commendable. From her directorship of the Marin Abused Women's Services, to her service with the California Alliance Against Domestic Violence and her scholastic focus on abuse prevention, she has remained an influential and inspiring leader.

Donna's work on behalf of women knows no borders. With the Network of East/West Women, Donna creates dialogue with women in Eastern/Central Europe and the former Soviet Union about violence against women. Earlier in her career, Donna's passion and commitment took her to the Institute for the Study of Male Violence at Stirling University in Scotland where she studied violence issues.

Since her early work as a counselor at the Women's Transitional Living Center and board member of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Donna's advocacy on behalf of women remains firm and strong.

Madam Speaker, Donna Garske's unstinting dedication to ending violence against women shows citizens in our community the power one person has to make an important difference. Over the years, it has truly been a pleasure for me to work with her. Thank you, Donna, and congratulations.

TRIBUTE TO HARRIET BUCY

**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, Jr.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 9, 2009*

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I want to call the attention of the House to the remarkable life and work of Harriet Bucz, because it is inspiring and a shining model of what citizenship in a democracy is all about.

When Harriet Bucz died on May 8, 2008, she left a void in her community. She was one of those rare individuals who seem to have more energy and enterprise than the rest of us. Only a week before her death, the City Council of Rock Hill recognized Harriet Bucz for her role in having Rock Hill selected among the one hundred best communities in America for young people. Accomplishments like these will last long after her.

Harriet Bucz was an artist and used her passion for art to teach it to others. Her spirit and ability as a teacher won her the notice of school district officials, and she was drafted for a succession of assignments. In each, it became clear that she had a gift for inspiring and managing others.

Harriet Bucz was a founder of the Rock Hill School District Foundation, and helped it build a network of support, and provide numerous teachers with thousands of dollars in scholarship grants. Like other institutions she created, it carries on.

Harriet Bucz started the Community and Leadership Support Program, better known as CLASP, and continued forging relationships