

on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks one of my district institutions received as part of Bill 3326, the "Department of Defense Appropriations Act for 2010."

Requesting Member: Congressman NATHAN DEAL

Bill Number: H.R. 3326

Account: O&M, Army Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: North Georgia College and State University

Address of Requesting Entity: North Georgia College & State University, The Military College of Georgia 82 College Circle, Dahlonega, GA 30597.

Description of Request: The DoD Language Transformation Roadmap requires language education for officers. This pilot establishes a cost efficient model for meeting this requirement. The hub concept provides for pre-commissioning language education rather than while on active duty, saving annual pay and allowances in excess of \$40K per year per officer. Following the three year pilot, state funding based on credit hour production begins, resulting in a sustainable language hub program. Initial investment is repaid in savings within three years of pilot completion and subsequently represents an annual cost savings in excess of \$2M.

CONGRATULATING ST. MARY'S MERCY LIVONIA ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and pay tribute to the doctors, nurses, and the entire staff of St. Mary Mercy Livonia, as they celebrate 50 years of providing compassionate care to the citizens of my district.

St. Mary Mercy Livonia was built in the tradition of the Felician Sisters, who were founded by the Blessed Mary Angela in Warsaw, Poland in 1855 as a ministry of healing and service. Her selfless dedication to her fellow citizens played an influential role in the creation of the hospital.

St. Mary Mercy Livonia opened its doors in 1959 with 170 beds, 99 physicians and 300 employees and the hospital has developed extensively since its origin. Today, the hospital includes an innovative Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, as well as a Heart & Vascular Center and an Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit. The hospital is an essential part of our community and continues to provide caring and comprehensive health care.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to say the hospital has received various honors over the years. In 2007, St. Mary Mercy Livonia received the HealthGrades 2007 Clinical Excellence Award for the third straight year. Last year, St. Mary Mercy Livonia was named a 100 Top Hospital for 2007 by Thomson Healthcare. Congratulations to the talented and erudite doctors, nurses and staff who work tirelessly to improve the lives of countless numbers of human beings every day.

St. Mary Mercy Livonia has had a long and distinguished history as a sanctuary for those who need quality care. I ask my colleagues to

join me in congratulating St. Mary Mercy Livonia on its 50th anniversary and venerating the institution's dedicated commitment to the community and our country.

HONORING MEXICO ON HER INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 199th anniversary of Mexican Independence Day, which celebrates the historic independence of Mexico from Spanish rule. This momentous day is significant because it represents a sign of justice and equality—rights valued and protected in our great country of the United States. It represents the day when Mexico was able to begin its quest for freedom for the people of that beautiful and spirited country. Our two countries will continue to make sure that the rights of the people come first.

Mexican Independence Day is celebrated on the date that Father Miguel Hidalgo y Castillo, a priest in Dolores, Guanajuato, frustrated with Spanish rule, rang the church bell to gather the people of the town. Hidalgo ignited a fire in the listeners, thus starting Mexico's War of Independence, requesting that the people of Mexico join him in rising against Spanish rule. Just as the soldiers in the American Revolutionary War fought on behalf of our country, these courageous, patriotic men fought to gain the independence of their beloved Mexico. The war lasted 10 years, finally giving Mexico its independence in 1921. Now, this event known as Grito de Dolores or "Cry of Dolores" is joyfully celebrated every year on September 16 by Mexicans all over the world. The red, white, and green flag is proudly displayed on this day during festivities. The green represents independence, the white represents religion, and the red represents union. This occasion is celebrated with food, parties, and the Mexican president delivering the speech that rallied the people to fight for Mexican freedom.

El Centro Comunitario Mexicano, or as it is popularly known, CECOMEX, is one of the oldest active, not-for-profit organizations for Mexican Americans in New York City. It has worked independently as a community organization in East Harlem, catering to the needs of the Mexican American population established in the tri-state area, specifically the area of El Barrio. It is estimated that there are around 35,000 Mexican immigrants or Mexican descendants there. CECOMEX has been organizing Mexican Independence Day festivities since 1996, with attendance growing every year. I would like to commend Consul Ruben Beltran and Ambassador Arturo Sarukhán for their hard work on behalf of the country of Mexico.

Let's pay our respects to those courageous men who fought on behalf of Mexico to help position the country where it is today. I call upon my fellow Members Of Congress to join me in celebrating Mexican Independence Day in honor of all the Mexican immigrants and descendants, not only in my district, but throughout this great nation and world.

TRIBUTE TO FAMILY FARMS LIKE J & J FARM IN AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the continuing importance of family farming in America, well exemplified in my district by J & J Farm of Amherst, which marks its 100th anniversary this year, the same year of the 250th anniversary of the Town of Amherst. Family farming is a long and proud tradition in Massachusetts, and the positive community impact of these farms is as vital as ever. Family farms help maintain economically and socially vibrant rural communities. They serve to conserve and enhance our invaluable soil, water and wildlife habitat for future generations. Most important of all, they provide healthy, high-quality food for American families.

Because of the tremendous importance of family farms and rural communities to our nation and to western Massachusetts in particular, it is fitting that we should recognize the many years of hard work of farm proprietors, like the Waskiewicz family of J & J Farm.

Dimetro and Victoria Waskiewicz immigrated from southern Poland in 1895. Dimetro worked as a farm laborer in the North Amherst area for several years. By 1909 he had saved enough money to purchase a farm on Meadow Street in North Amherst from the Spear family. The original farm consisted of 40 acres with the Mill River running through the east side of the farm. Ten years later another 40 acres were added. Milk, tobacco and onions were the farm's main products.

Dimetro died at the early age of 43. His two eldest sons bought the farm from Victoria in 1930. Joseph and John Waskiewicz began the farm as it is now known, J & J Farm. Joe's son Joseph took over operations following John's retirement in 1970. Cucumbers, potatoes and milk became their main crops. Joseph Sr. retired in 1995 at the age of 86. The farm is now in its fourth generation: Joseph III and Michael now operate the farm with their father.

The past century has brought floods, hurricanes and droughts, but despite hardships and market changes the farm has continued to provide area residents with fresh produce and dairy products. J & J Farm is the last remaining dairy farm in Amherst. The farm operates a seasonal roadside stand that supplements the dairy products with sweet corn, another specialty.

We must sustain our rural communities so that future generations of family farmers, like the Waskiewicz family, will enjoy the dignity of a good day's work and the reward of seeing the tangible yield of their labors with the land and with livestock. It is my hope that future generations will maintain the tradition of family farming that the Waskiewicz family built at J & J Farm, and that America will sustain its family farms through the 21st century and beyond.

HONORING JONATHAN BYRD

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today with deep sorrow to mark the passing of a true friend of the state of Indiana.

Jonathan Byrd will forever be regarded as a savvy businessman who grew a family-owned cafeteria into the world's largest banquet facility and owned a successful racecar team. But it was his generosity and deep faith that will cast Jonathan Byrd's most lasting legacy.

Jonathan Byrd often told people as a teenager that he would be a millionaire by the age of 25. Operating Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants in central Indiana in the 1970's and 80's, Jonathan did in fact become a millionaire in his first quarter century on Earth.

However, those closest to Jonathan understood that those millions were not for himself, but instead a means in which to carry out the will of the Lord. He funded many Christian schools, financed mission trips, and helped put more than 500 million copies of Scripture in the hands of people around the world.

Millions of people have dined at Jonathan Byrd's Cafeteria since it opened in 1988, but this enterprise wasn't the only business venture Jonathan Byrd found success in.

He Founded Byrd Enterprises of Arizona—their products include Intercontinental, Hilton and Marriott Hotels. Jonathan Byrd's Rare Books and Bibles quickly became the nation's largest dealer, importer, and restorer of ancient Bibles and theology books under his stewardship.

Like many Hoosiers, Jonathan had a passion for auto racing that led him to form his own race team. True to form, Jonathan applied his business sense to his race team and of the 16 cars that he entered in the Indianapolis 500, he is credited with 7 top-ten finishes.

He was also blessed with a wonderful family: wife Virginia of 35 years; two sons, Jonathan and David; and many grandchildren. My prayers will be with them in the days and weeks ahead. Though Jonathan Byrd is no longer with us, we can all take comfort knowing that the Byrd legacy will live on because of the example he leaves behind.

Jonathan Byrd personified the American Dream. Though he was a well known businessman, Jonathan was guided by strong principles, anchored by his faith and had a servant's heart.

Let that be the standard to which we all aspire.

RECOGNIZING 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 556, which recognizes the 75th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act.

Credit unions, not-for-profit financial cooperatives, are a form of economic democ-

racy. Credit unions exist to serve their members, not turn a profit. Earnings beyond operating expenses are returned to members in the form of lower loan rates, higher interest on deposits, and lower fees.

While we are recognizing the 75th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act today, it is important to note that credit unions have been present in the United States since 1909, starting with the chartering of the first credit union in the State of New Hampshire.

As a Representative from Michigan, a State with 341 credit unions serving over 4.3 million members, I can speak to the positive impact of these vital financial institutions.

In Michigan, members of a credit union can expect to see a membership benefit of, on average, \$92 a year by working with a credit union. For the average household, the annual benefit rises to \$175. I know that in my district, \$175 goes a long way toward covering necessary household expenses.

For a member in Michigan, financing a new automobile through their credit union produces an average savings of \$156 per year in interest expense. The Invest in America program, a partnership between GM and Chrysler with credit unions, has helped to spur over 189,000 new vehicle sales. Sales from this program have reinvested over \$3.05 billion in the national economy, crucial support during the current economic downturn.

In addition to the direct financial benefits that credit unions provide to their members, credit unions positively impact their communities in other ways. Credit unions put on financial literacy seminars throughout Michigan in order to educate people about their financial options.

Because of these contributions to our Nation's communities, I am proud to support House Resolution 556.

Congratulations on the 75th anniversary of the Federal Credit Union Act and the first 100 years of credit unions in America.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this bill.

IN HONOR OF RUTH HYMAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ruth Hyman on the occasion of her 90th birthday celebration. On September 13, we celebrate Ruth Hyman's birthday as well as her many years of service to her local community. Ms. Hyman is certainly deserving of the recognition that she has received over the years for her passionate work.

Ms. Hyman has been a longtime leader in the Jewish community. Her leadership as the president of the Long Branch Hadassah brought fresh ideas and a successful path towards empowering and motivating women in the Jewish community. Also, as a benefactor and board member of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Monmouth County, Ms. Hyman has provided a place where people of all ages have access to programs that improve their health and enrich their lives.

Ms. Hyman has been recognized for her superior support of Jewish causes both in my

district and in Israel. Perhaps the greatest reflection of her commitment is the dedication of the Ruth Hyman Jewish Community Center by the Community Center of Greater Monmouth County. It is appropriate that the center be named after Ms. Hyman considering her years of hard work, generosity and devotion to her fellow members of the community.

As Ms. Hyman celebrates her 90th birthday I am sure she will reflect on her many unique experiences. The world has changed in many ways over these past ninety years. However, our country would not be the great power it is today without the dedication and hard work that citizens like Ms. Hyman put forth over the last 90 years.

Surely these many years have departed on her wisdom and knowledge that few can share. I appreciate the contributions that my constituents make to their communities and Ms. Hyman's have certainly been numerous and valuable.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Ruth Hyman on the occasion of her birthday. Her leadership and dedication will long serve as a shining example of what can be accomplished by the determined human spirit.

CONGRATULATING JACOB COSTELLO FOR HIS CONGRESSIONAL AWARD SILVER MEDAL

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jacob Costello from Wesley, Arkansas for achieving the Congressional Award Silver Medal.

The Congressional Award Silver Medal is achieved after participating in 200 hours of Public Service in the community as well as setting and achieving challenging goals in physical fitness and personal development and expedition/exploration.

Jacob's volunteer service was completed through involvement in the Washington County Historical Society, the Washington County Master Gardeners, and the Boy Scouts of America. He also worked with a local summer camp for children with parents in prison, helping prepare the facilities by painting, hauling gravel and removing fallen leaves. In addition to completing the requirements for the Silver Medal, he's already added 40 hours of volunteer work through his Boy Scout Eagle project which will go towards his Gold Medal aspirations.

To complete the physical fitness portion of the award, Jacob biked, swam, hiked, and backpacked for more than 100 hours. He actually completed more than half of the necessary hours to achieve the Congressional Gold Medal.

For the personal development requirement, Jacob joined the performance for Peter Pan at the Northwest Academy of Fine Arts. Playing his violin, he attended rehearsals and practiced on his own time, learning how to play in a group setting. He attended a Fiddle Workshop at the Ozark Folk Center and traveled to New York City to play with the North Arkansas Youth Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. Once there,