

travel, supplies, and costs for a winter seed nursery.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON
Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Bootheel Resource Conservation and Development, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 18450 Ridgeview Lane, Dexter, MO 63841

Description of Request: Provide \$207,000 to the USDA—APHIS—Wildlife Services in Southeast Missouri. Of the \$207,000, 80% would be utilized for salaries and benefits, 17% for APHIS—Wildlife Services program support and 3% for vehicle maintenance and fuel. A portion of the operating budget will also be provided by local municipalities, commodity organizations and university support.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON
Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: General Provision

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Congressional Hunger Center

Address of Requesting Entity: Hall of States Building, 400 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite G100, Washington, DC 20001

Description of Request: Provide \$3,000,000 for the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship Program and the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship Program. Of the \$3,000,000 in funding 54% would be for salaries, benefits, healthcare and other costs associated with the Emerson National Hunger Fellowship Program and 46% for similar costs associated with the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship Program.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON
Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Agriculture Research Service—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry

Address of Requesting Entity: 203 Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building, Columbia, Missouri, 65211

Description of Request: Provide \$660,000 to support research on viable alternative production and protection options to help revitalize the economic and environmental health of rural farms and communities in Missouri and surrounding states. Approximately, \$438,882 [or 66%] is for salary and fringe to support professional track faculty, research associates, field research specialists, graduate and undergraduate students; \$201,982 [or 31%] for materials and supplies in support of laboratory and field-based research on campus and at five MU farms and centers; \$19,137 [or 3%] for travel.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON
Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—Research and Education Activities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Center for Grapevine Biotechnology at Missouri State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 9740 Red Spring Road, Mountain Grove, Missouri, 65711

Description of Request: Provide \$422,000 to research the ability of wild grapevines to defend themselves against pathogens, and their capacity to synthesize health-promoting properties. Of the funds available 46% for salary and benefits, 21% for other direct costs including materials and supplies, and 25% for F&A.

TRIBUTE TO BILL HARRISON

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bill Harrison, the recently retired president of the Coweta County Development Authority, who died September 29 after a battle with cancer.

I had the great privilege of knowing Bill personally. He was a professional, a dedicated husband and father, an avid outdoorsman, and an all-around great guy.

He put his heart and soul into bringing new businesses and opportunities to Coweta County, and that's how he and I became acquainted. He would take business recruits under his wing like a mother hen. He would often bring them into my district office personally, assuring they had a friendly, familiar face in the room and that they got all of their needs met and all of their questions answered. He also saw to it that nothing got lost in translation between us Georgians and our international business partners.

As the Newnan Times-Herald reported upon his death, "Harrison assisted with locations or expansions of numerous companies, including PetSmart, SYGMA Networking, Kingwasong, Winpak Films, D&H Distribution, and MC Pre-cast. He considered the planned location of the Cancer Treatment Centers of America to Coweta County the highlight of his professional career."

It's fitting that his crowning achievement will be a center to fight the ravages of cancer, the disease that took him from us much too soon. The cancer treatment center will bring at least 500 new jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in economic impact for Coweta County.

When Bill retired this summer, the Times-Herald editorialized: "Bill Harrison is a good guy. If he were in an old western movie, he would be wearing a white hat. . . . When Harrison took the economic development job in Coweta, our community's industry-recruiting effort was a mess. It was fragmented. There was no single go-to person or organization. It had gotten so bad that prospects would simply look elsewhere. That changed after Harrison was hired to preside over the Development Authority and that group became the go-to agency here."

Bill was more than a fierce advocate for the community; he was also a beloved figure. On a web site set up for his family, more than 2,000 people expressed their condolences.

All of Coweta County mourns the loss of our dear friend Bill Harrison. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife of 43 years, Virginia Heitzman Harrison, and their family.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HOWARD CHO, PRESIDENT OF CVE TECHNOLOGY GROUP IN PLANO

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, congratulations are in order for Howard Cho, president of CVE Technology Group in Plano.

It is an honor and a privilege to salute him for winning the distinguished Minority Manufacturer of the Year Award. Presented on behalf of the United States Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency, this prestigious award pays tribute to the minority entrepreneurs who have demonstrated industry leadership, business success, and community impact.

Founded by President Cho in New Jersey in 1986, the company specializes in consumer electronics, has revenues of \$50 million and employs over 1,200 people. In 2002, CVE Technology Group relocated to Plano, Texas, where it now provides refurbishment of cell phones and remanufacturing business with Samsung Telecommunications America, LLC. CVE plans for more growth through continued cellular phone manufacturing, expanding their operation and sales revenue.

In fact, the city of Plano honored Mr. Cho and the company with a citation creating "CVE Technology Group Day."

Economic data demonstrates minority-owned firms are poised to generate long-term employment and economic growth in their communities. Howard Cho's CVE Technology Group in Plano is a shining example of that.

Congratulations again, and thank you, to Mr. Cho and CVE Technology Group in Plano, Texas. I salute you.

TRIBUTE TO BEN LEWIS ATUAHENE

HON. THOMAS S.P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, Ben Lewis Atuahene—also known as Kofi Kwarteng—was born to Dora Yaa Akyea Kyerematen and Samuel Kwadwo Atuahene on January 23, 1942 in Kumasi, Ghana. He attended Ghana National Secondary School in Cape Coast and briefly worked at the President's Castle in Ghana before moving to London, England in 1965 to study law. In 1969, he was admitted to the Honorable Society of the Inner Temple, and was called to the Bar in 1971. During that same time he met and married the love of his life, Beatrice Achampong, in London. They later moved to New York in 1972, where they started their family. Opportunities arose for the couple in California and they moved with their two daughters, Nannette and Bernadette, to Los Angeles in 1976, where he began work as legal counsel for C & R Clothiers in Culver City. In 1984, he passed the California Bar and immediately began the independent law practice he ran until his untimely death. Ben was an invaluable asset to the Ghanaian community and touched the lives of thousands of people through his legal practice, philanthropy, and mentorship. Ben's untiring generosity, strength of character, determination to succeed, and desire to make those around him realize their full potential survive in his daughters, Nannette and Bernadette, and his grandchildren, Abdeena, Aliou, Alim, and Afia Nyarko. He is also survived by brothers, Yaw Kankam, Oppong, Frimpong, Dixon, Kwame, Ernest, and sister, Eva Atuahene, as well as extended family both here and abroad. Ben will be deeply missed by his family and his

community, where he served as a guide, a counselor, and a friend.

HONORING SOUTH PADRE ISLAND
CHIEF OF POLICE ROBERT
RODRIGUEZ ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and dedication of Police Chief Robert Rodriguez for his service and commitment to the Town of South Padre Island, where he worked for 25 years, and retired from the police force on September 1, 2009.

Chief Rodriguez has been instrumental in working during the years with the many law enforcement agencies in the Rio Grande Valley as each of the town's police officers, including him, strove to serve and protect South Texans and guests who visit South Padre Island year-round.

During the past few years, Chief Rodriguez, along with those that call South Texas home, has seen South Padre Island grow. We have seen new development come in, new businesses open, and hotels and condominiums constructed.

Through these significant changes, we know South Padre Island continues to evolve even after suffering from great loss in revenues and services brought about by Hurricane Dolly. South Padre Island continues to accommodate, protect, and serve its many residents and tourists.

Chief Rodriguez has been able to adjust his staff and manpower to the growing needs of South Padre Island. On any given day, you can spot Chief Rodriguez, while on or off duty, visiting with locals and residents. He works around the clock.

In 1984, he began his work for the Town of South Padre Island as a dispatcher, and later was promoted to the police force. From then on, Chief Rodriguez has climbed the ranks within the South Padre Island Police Department and on August 18, 2000, he was sworn in as police chief.

Chief Rodriguez has been instrumental in his work with South Padre Island, and although I am sad to see him leave, I know he is ready to enjoy his much needed retirement with his family, friends and loved ones.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in commemorating the service of Chief Robert Rodriguez, who served the Town of South Padre Island, the State of Texas, and the United States of America, in his capacity of law enforcement officer for 25 years.

HONORING COL. JIM MUDD

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true leader, dedicated public servant, and a dear friend, Col. Jim Mudd, Collier County Manager.

Jim served his country honorably for 26 years in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of Colonel and retiring as the Commander and District Engineer of the U.S. Army Engineer District in Rock Island, Illinois. He graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1974 and earned a Master's degree in operations research from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1982. He was formerly Assistant Director of Civil Works, Central Region, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C., and Chief of the Assessment Division, U.S. Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He is also a veteran of the Gulf War. He and his wife Annette have two children who are also serving in the armed services. His son Ryan is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and his daughter Kati is a Captain and physician in the U.S. Army.

After completing his military service in 2000, he moved to Collier County where he became the Public Utilities manager followed by nine months as the Deputy County Manager and eventually earning the top leadership position as County Manager on July 15, 2002.

Throughout the years I have had the privilege of working with Jim to advance the needs of Collier County and the Southwest Florida Community. He has been committed to the people of Collier County for almost a decade even continuing his service after being diagnosed with brain cancer. Through this most difficult battle of his life Jim has shown grace and dignity. He has dedicated his life to his country and to the people of Southwest Florida and truly embodies the spirit of public service. Speaker, I ask that you join me in thanking County Manager Jim Mudd for his service to this country and the people of Southwest Florida. It is an honor to know such a great man, and a personal privilege to call him a friend.

THE RETIREMENT OF PAUL
COWEN AS CHIEF OF STAFF TO
STATE SENATOR EDDIE LUCIO,
JR.

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of Paul Cowen, who is retiring after 20 years as Chief of Staff to State Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr.

Paul has worked day in and day out with our office on policy that has greatly impacted South Texas. His vision, perseverance and commitment to helping the less fortunate is remarkable.

In 1989, Paul got a call from then-candidate Eddie Lucio, Jr., the soon-to-be Senator asked Paul if he would run his campaign for the Texas 27th Senatorial District, Paul agreed. The rest is history.

Paul is one of 10 children of Louis and Virginia Cowen. He has been married to Tamara Cowen for 37 years and has three children: Tara Jean, Jonathan Paul, and Timothy Patrick. I take this time on the House Floor to wish Paul a happy retirement, and at the same time, thank him for the many lives he impacted and changed through his work in the Texas Legislature alongside Sen. Lucio.

Although Paul will no longer be Chief of Staff to Sen. Lucio, he will forever remain in the hearts and souls of those he impacted.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in commemorating the retirement of Paul Cowen as Chief of Staff to Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr. I wish you the best of luck, amigo.

ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF
HELEN KELLER PRESENTED BY
THE PEOPLE OF ALABAMA

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Congressional Tribute commending the dedication of the statue of Helen Keller.

The life of Helen Keller is one that we continue to praise because of her tenacious spirit. Having her sight and hearing stolen by illness as an infant in rural Alabama did not stop her from accomplishing incredible feats. Ms. Keller is not only a champion for the blind and deaf in the United States, but also worldwide. Her miraculous breakthrough came at a simple well-pump, learning the spelling of the word "water" as it ran over her hand. From this moment, she went on to graduate from Radcliffe College, author several books and be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

As a Representative, as a woman, and as a nurse, I can appreciate the societal and medical challenges Ms. Keller overcame to become the triumphant figure that she is. Young women have a great role model in Helen Keller. She has also inspired medical professionals and humanitarians across the globe to fight preventable blindness and malnutrition.

It is with great respect for this American hero that I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Congressional Tribute commending the dedication of the statue of Helen Keller.

TRIBUTE TO ART VAN FURNITURE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Art Van Furniture. Throughout the month of October, Mr. Art Van Elslander and Art Van Furniture are celebrating 50 years as a family-owned and Michigan-based company.

In my district, the city of Kalamazoo is home to an Art Van Furniture store that has been dedicated to supplying guests with quality furniture and superior customer service. They have continued to provide jobs and revenue to the local economy during a time when Southwest Michigan has needed it most.

As Michigan's largest furniture retailer with 32 locations, Art Van Furniture has brought recognition and notoriety to our State by receiving numerous distinguished honors. One recent accolade was the 2009 Retailer of the Year Award from Furniture Today, a furniture industry publication. In acknowledgment of their green efforts, the Michigan Retailers Association named Art Van Furniture a 2007