

to produce the first joint statement with Muslim leaders that condemned the 9/11 attacks as "anti-religious."

Although His All Holiness speaks English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Latin and Turkish, he is more widely known for his efforts at promoting interfaith dialogue. As a Christian leader of global significance who is domiciled in a country with a population that is 99 percent Muslim, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew's everyday life experience gives him a unique, mature and realistic perspective for engaging in this interfaith dialogue. And it is from these everyday life experiences that the moral timber of His All Holiness shines brightest, where even in the face of Turkish government sanctioned discrimination, oppression and outright physically threatening provocations, he steadfastly remains committed to interfaith conciliation, and supports peace-makers of all religions and stands firm upon his conviction that war in the name of religion is war against religion.

Beyond urging humanity to seek peace in fraternal harmony, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has more than any other religious leader promoted the spiritual dimension of environmentalism. In 2008, Time Magazine named Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to its list of the world's 100 most influential people, where the Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams acknowledged that "This brave and visionary pastor has given a completely new sense to the ancient honorific [Ecumenical Patriarch]; his work puts squarely on our agenda the question of how we express spiritual responsibility for the world we live in."

For his unparalleled spiritual commitment to the natural environment, His All Holiness has been dubbed the "Green Patriarch." The Green Patriarch has challenged people of faith to acknowledge that ecological questions are spiritual matters of concern for all humanity and that "a world in which God the Creator uses the material stuff of the universe to communicate who he is and what he wants is one that demands reverence from human beings."

Just last week, His All Holiness presided over the Religion, Science and the Environment Symposium entitled Restoring Balance: The Great Mississippi River, and just last night, His All Holiness arrived at Andrews Air Force Base for a weeklong visit to our Capitol city. I offer my congratulations to His All Holiness for his good deeds in the pursuit of interfaith peace and reconciliation, for his concern with our natural environment and for his activism that has brought him to the shores of America to help draw attention to the need to restore our environment, such as the need to restore to health the great Mississippi River.

It is a wonderful honor that His All Holiness is here in America upon the day of the 18th anniversary of his enthronement as Ecumenical Patriarch during his visit to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 831, on a Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to "Expressing support for designation of a 'National Firefighters Memo-

rial Day' to honor and celebrate the firefighters of the United States." Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2996, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this FY 10 Interior-Environment Conference Report and the key investments it makes to clean up our water, improve our national parks, combat climate change and promote the arts.

In order to remedy the previous administration's underinvestment in our Nation's water infrastructure, this legislation provides \$2.1 billion for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and \$1.38 billion for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. These investments will go a long way toward modernizing our aging wastewater systems and delivering safe drinking water to all of our citizens.

Additionally, I am pleased that today's conference report contains \$2.7 billion for our national parks. In addition to sustaining ongoing park operations, this funding will help the National Park Service continue to upgrade our parks ahead of the Service's 2016 centennial celebration.

As Congress works to finalize comprehensive clean energy and climate change legislation, this bill invests \$385 million in climate change research and abatement, including \$17 million to continue development of a Greenhouse Gas Registry and \$51 million for EPA's Energy Star program.

Finally, this FY 10 Interior-Environment Conference report includes \$167.5 million for the National Endowment for the Arts and \$167.5 million for the National Endowment of the Humanities to foster excellence and greater access to our Nation's cultural heritage.

Madam Speaker, in addition to these national priorities, I am particularly gratified that this legislation includes \$50 million in core funding for the Environmental Protection Agency's Chesapeake Bay program, and \$750,000 for the city of Rockville to rehabilitate its sanitary sewer system. This is important, fiscally responsible legislation, and I urge my colleagues' support.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information.

Bill Number: H.R. 3183—Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Project Name: Winnebago River, Mason City, Ia.

Amount Provided: Not Stipulated
Account: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Section 205
Recipient: Rock Island Illinois Corps Office/Mason City, Iowa
Recipient's Street Address: Clock Tower Bldg., Rodman Ave, Rock Island, IL 61201
Description: Continuation of authorized activities.

This project is related to mitigating recurring flood problems in Iowa, and provides for continuation of flood control strategies being undertaken by the Corps.

RECOGNIZING LIBERTY ISD STAFF FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, those who educate our children today, shape the leaders of tomorrow. I rise today to recognize six outstanding staff members of the Liberty Independent School District for their outstanding commitment to education.

Dottie Barrier—Business Secretary, Robby Fontenot—Social Studies Teacher and Coach, Margaret Lee—Chief Financial Officer for LISD, Mike Tabors—Custodian, Abbey Turner—Math Teacher, and Melissa Zalesak—Math Computer Lab Teacher were awarded the district's 212-degree medal in honor of their service and dedication to Liberty schools.

The philosophy of the 212-degree medal was best explained by Principal Bruce Lacefield, "At 211 degrees, water is very hot. At 212 degrees, water begins to boil. By applying that one extra degree so much more can be accomplished. Never give up. Just try a little harder."

These six 212-degree medal recipients work tirelessly to improve the lives of their students and fellow faculty. Their willingness to go the extra mile makes them outstanding examples and I commend them for their efforts and congratulate them on their achievement.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. FORBES. 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. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. RANDY FORBES

Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: 803 Front Street, Norfolk, VA 23510

Description of Request: Provides \$70,000 to conduct a feasibility study to address flooding concerns and environmental restoration. The

Dismal Swamp is maintained as a swamp by fixed weirs across the drainage ditches to restrict the flow of water out of the swamp and inward to Lake Drummond in the middle of the Dismal Swamp. The water exiting Lake Drummond through a feeder ditch is used to maintain the level of water in the Dismal Swamp Canal, a portion of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. When Lake Drummond spilled from its banks due to heavy rains, it inundated areas of the city. The public perceives that the Corps may have prevented or minimized the flooding by diverting the floodwaters from Lake Drummond through the navigation locks at Deep Creek, Virginia, and at South Mills, North Carolina.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 829—Motion to recommit H.R. 3854, had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

NATIONAL METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 787 designating October 13th as National Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

At a health care public forum I held in my district on October 25th, I had the great pleasure of meeting a woman of true inspiration.

Kristen Martinez of Colebrook, at the age of 31, was diagnosed with Stage 4 metastatic breast cancer. She had no idea the severe back pains and chronic fatigue were clear symptoms of cancer, but they were signs the cancer spread to her bones. As she stated, she was forced to face her own mortality as diagnosis touched her life during a time when she “was on top of the world.”

Kristen, like many women living with metastatic breast cancer, has faced a constant cycle of switching from different treatment methods. In her own words, Kristen said “living with metastatic breast cancer has been a journey filled with every emotion one could imagine.” But as a testament to her own personal strength, she has faced the illness head-on.

She has become an advocate on behalf of young woman across our nation living with breast cancer. As an active member of the Metastatic Breast Cancer Network, Young Survival Coalition, a graduate of the National Breast Cancer Coalition’s Project Lead and a volunteer patient advocate for breast cancer survivors, Kristen has provided motivation and encouragement for fellow women facing this debilitating disease.

In her own right, she has emerged from this battle as a stronger woman, devoted to giving back to her community and the young women of our nation. I am proud to co-sponsor this

resolution with my good friend Representative ROSA DELAURO, on behalf of Kristen Martinez and over 155,000 women and men who are presently living with metastatic breast cancer.

CELEBRATION OF MRS. MAGGIE KATIE BROWN KIDD’S 105TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, as the Proverb states, “Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.” I rise today to recognize a truly virtuous woman whose life is not only far above rubies, but one of great milestones and accomplishments that is worthy of celebration. On November 27th of this year, Mrs. Maggie Katie Brown Kidd will turn 105 years old and I am honored to serve as a spokesman for Mrs. Kidd’s family members and friends who will recognize her birthday with a party in her honor.

Born during President Theodore Roosevelt’s second term in office, Mrs. Kidd has been blessed to see 17 Presidents in her lifetime. The eleventh and youngest child of William and Lucy Brown, Mrs. Kidd learned the importance of hard work and faith in God at an early age. Baptized at the Mount Zion Baptist Church by the Reverend Henry Gresham, she served under the leadership of the Reverend W.M. Combs until she moved to her current home in Atlanta Ga. However, her faith is her Lord and her dedication to the church never left her and she instilled the traditions of faith and her work in her own family. She married the late Willie Kidd, III on November 30, 1940, and together they raised their two children, John and Rosalyn. She is also the proud grandmother to four and the great-grandmother to three and serves as the matriarch of her loving family.

Mrs. Kidd’s family describes her as a loving and selfless member of her community, offering her time and whatever she has to those in need. She is also an avid quilter and participates in family gatherings and activities outside of Georgia. Her most favorite moments, however, are the ones on a quiet afternoon stitching in her favorite chair.

Madam Speaker, I am so honored to serve as Mrs. Kidd’s representative. Her life is a living history of the times and events that have shaped our great land and is a monument to how far we’ve come as a nation. Moreover, her life serves as a testament to individuals and families everywhere that a strong unbinding faith in the Lord, coupled with hard work and a dedication to family will carry you far in life. As the Proverb states, “favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised”. Mrs. Maggie Katie Brown Kidd truly embodies the example of a virtuous woman and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing her life by wishing her a very happy 105th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GAINES PARTRIDGE

HON. PARKER GRIFFITH

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Gaines Roland Partridge. Dr. Partridge had a rewarding career in education that spanned over five decades. The scope of his accomplishments and contributions transcended every level of academia in various capacities, as he served our community as a teacher, principal, Dean, Professor, Department Chair and, in retirement, a student liaison.

Dr. Partridge’s rich legacy was as impressive as it varied. His relationship with and influence on students continues. Few individuals can measure the impact of their accomplishments in such significant numbers. As a result of his passionate advocacy on behalf of minority applicants to Loma Linda University, nearly 800 African American students have become alumni of the institution during his tenure.

Affectionately referred to as “Doc,” Dr. Partridge was steadfast to the cause of self-determination in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. He provided leadership in the fight to determine the pace, direction, and outcome of their efforts to establish and implement ministry priorities.

Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize Dr. Gaines Partridge on a phenomenal life as educator. His legacy will continue to empower students for years to come.

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING AND INVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3854) to amend the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve programs providing access to capital under such Acts, and for other purposes:

Mr. WU. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3854, the Small Business Financing and Investment Act.

I also want to thank my colleague from Oregon, Congressman KURT SCHRADER, for bringing this important bill to the floor.

H.R. 3854 will create incentives for small business lending, reduce bureaucracy, and increase the size of SBA loans in order to help loosen credit and get capital flowing again to small businesses.

Furthermore, H.R. 3854 addresses an important issue tied to health care reform, the cost of health information technology for small practice providers. These provisions were part of Congresswoman DAHLKEMPER’s Small Business Health Information Technology Financing Act.

This bill will streamline loan processing for health information technology by reducing paperwork for both the lender and applicant, and require a 72-hour response time by SBA on