

HONORING SPENCER SMITH

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Spencer Smith of Kansas City, Missouri. Spencer is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Spencer has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Spencer has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Spencer Smith for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND  
REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2009*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, by definition, stimulus is to be immediate, focused, and targeted. This "stimulus bill" is no stimulus—it's spending.

The House version was packed with pork for projects like: \$3 billion for the Prevention and Wellness Fund for immunizations, including \$335 million for STD prevention programs; \$800 million to make capital grants to Amtrak; and \$600 million for GSA to replace a portion of federal motor vehicles with a plug-in.

The Senate Version added: \$400 million for a Social Services Block Grant; \$125 million for DC sewers; \$500 million for NASA exploration activities; \$300 million for FBI Construction; \$2 billion for FutureGen; \$100 million for National School lunch program equipment assistance; and \$70 million for energy efficient visitor centers.

Americans know that not all spending is stimulus. If it can't produce a job THIS YEAR—let's not spend it!

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT  
SANCHEZ**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2009*

Ms. SOLIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Robert Sanchez, a guidance counselor formerly at La Puente High School in California.

While I was a high school student at La Puente I was fortunate enough to have Mr. Sanchez as my college guidance counselor. Each day he worked tirelessly to promote education in our school and in our community.

During my senior year in high school, Mr. Sanchez took a vested interest in my education. He personally took time to explain the college application process to me and my family and helped show me how I could go to college.

At the time no one else in my family had attended college. College seemed to be an unattainable goal, and the college application process was both expensive and daunting. If not for Mr. Sanchez's counseling and guidance, I do not know that I would have been able to go on to pursue a college education.

For youths across our nation, high school teachers and counselors are a vital part of their education with the power to influence a student's decision to pursue higher education or not. I stand here today to honor those teachers and guidance counselors, like Robert Sanchez, who work each day in our schools, with little recognition or accolades, to place the dreams of knowledge and a better future back into the hands of our children.

Robert Sanchez has dedicated his life to motivating and educating countless youths in Los Angeles County and San Diego, California. Thank you, Mr. Sanchez, for never giving up on our children.

## HONORING BENJAMIN VLEISIDES

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Benjamin Vleisides of Parkville, Missouri. Benjamin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Benjamin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Benjamin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Benjamin Vleisides for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING BET NETWORK'S TV  
SERIES, "HARLEM HEIGHTS"**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2009*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Randolph D. Sturup and Kurt Williamson for creating BET Network's latest television series, "Harlem Heights," premiering on March 2, 2009 at my beloved Harlem's grandest stage, the Apollo Theatre.

Harlem Heights is a half-hour reality docudrama highlighting the ups and downs of seven young African-American professionals struggling to balance hectic work schedules with complicated social lives. It offers a window into the fascinating world of New York's

young, Black and fabulous crowd. Picking up where college leaves off, the show features a diverse cast of twenty-somethings with different backgrounds and personalities but common goals: making the post college leap into adulthood and finding love and success in the big city on their own terms.

The concept of Harlem Heights evolved from the creator's deep fascination with Harlem and the Harlem Renaissance. Some of our most prolific leaders from the past in the world of literature and music such as Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, Zora Neale Hurston, and Richard Wright all lived in Harlem and started their careers there. Randy and Kurt wanted to tell the story of a group of friends all between the ages of 25–30 who represent the new Harlem renaissance and all live within the world's most famous neighborhood. The show explores the ups and downs of being in your mid-twenties in the chapter post college. Some of the issues they explore in the series include: career transition, love, life challenges, and community.

Harlem has gone through many changes. In the 1950s Harlem was predominately Black and was a thriving community. The pulse of American culture always began in Harlem through the musical and literature influences. Also Harlem is the home of some of our great political figures during the civil rights movement. There are so many historical landmarks in Harlem such as the Apollo Theater, Cotton Club, Grant's Tomb, and Abyssinian Baptist Church. Over the next two decades Harlem became a symbol of urban decay with crime and drugs that infested the community. In recent years, the Harlem community has emerged as a place of opportunity and resurgence. There's a climate of change and progression within Harlem that is symbolic and parallel to the lives of the cast of Harlem Heights. This show represents the new renaissance of young, talented and successful African-Americans that are emerging as leaders and trendsetters within the Harlem community.

So Madam Speaker, I ask that in this Black History Month, that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating the creation of such a remarkable and impressive series that all Americans can equally enjoy.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2009*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on member requests, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding requests I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009.

I received six projects in H.R. 1105. They include:

\$416,000 shared by FL, CA, and TX for the Florida Shellfish Aquaculture Project located at PO Box 89, Cedar Key, FL 32625. This request, funded through the Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, SRG account, will fund research needs for Florida's shellfish aquaculture industries. This project will address areas, such as genetics,

product quality, health management, and species diversification, which warrant special attention in the years to come as well as immediate needs and concerns of the emergent clam farming industry, such as gear comparisons, specialization of harvesting equipment. This project will address these and other high priority needs by conducting applied multi-disciplinary research and demonstration projects involving partnerships with University of Florida researchers, extension faculty, and industry.

\$100,000 for the Levy County Sheriff's Office located at PO Drawer 1719, Bronson, FL 32621. This request, funded through the Department of Justice, OJP Byrne Discretionary Grants account, will help the Levy County Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force facilitate illegal drug investigations in Levy County. The Levy County Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force was established due to ever increasing illegal drug activities in Levy County. Levy County is a rural farming community that covers approximately 1,137 square miles of land and 50 miles of coastline along the Gulf of Mexico. The drug related activities in this area have increased to the point that arrests have over doubled since the Task Force was established. Methamphetamine, Marijuana and Crack/Cocaine are all drugs of choice within Levy County. In the last year alone, the Task Force conducted over 383 investigations that led to the apprehension of over 252 drug offenders, the seizure of 287.65 grams of powder or crack cocaine, 4.41 pounds of marijuana, 517 marijuana plants and 447.62 grams of other dangerous drugs.

\$400,000 for the Lake County Board of County Commissioners located at 315 West Main St., P.O. Box 780, Tavares, FL 32778. This request, funded through the Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology account, will be used for equipment and technology for the Emergency Operations Center in Lake County. Funding for this program will go towards an 800 Mhz radio system and for equipment and technology for the Emergency Operations Center of the County. An 800 MHZ radio system will allow for the coordination of Lake County's police, fire, emergency medical services in emergency and disaster situations. The project would allow for portable radio communications across the county, which is currently not possible. Service will be provided to all county public agencies, 14 municipalities, 13 law enforcement agencies, 13 fire services, the County Emergency Medical Service, 5 Animal Service agencies and Emergency Management. Additionally, funding will allow for the acquisition of technology equipment for an Emergency Operations Center, so that emergency response and communication is improved through connectivity via computer systems, data system hardening and backup, satellite, video and teleconferencing, and remote incident command centers. Technology will enhance communication capabilities with links to various radio networks (ham operators) and call-center operations.

\$1,500,000 for the Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge located at 1502 S.E. Kings Bay Drive, Crystal River, FL 34429. This request, funded through the Fish and Wildlife Service, Land Acquisition account, will be used to acquire the Three Sisters Springs tract in Crystal River, Florida. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has an opportunity to acquire

a 57 acre parcel known as Three Sisters Springs. This parcel would protect and enhance habitats used extensively by the federally endangered West Indian Manatee. Subject lands consist of 45 acres of uplands, 11 acres of wetlands (including and 8 acre fresh water lake filled by underground springs), and 1 acre of water bottoms (including three fresh water springs that are part of a system of approximately 30 springs that feed the headwaters of the Crystal River). Each of the springs is designated by the State of Florida as 2nd Magnitude.

\$380,000 for the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners located at 110 N. Apopka Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450. This request, funded through the Transportation, Community and System Preservation account, will be used to eliminate water runoff from U.S. Highway 19. For this coastal area of the county, the watershed master plan was completed in 2002. It identified an area of critical concern concerning water runoff from nearby development as well as U.S. Highway 19. The highway has been designated by the State for near term widening and does not include additional storm water catchments. This area, known as the Southfork area near Homosassa in Citrus County, drains into pristine wetlands. The county has recognized the need to capture and treat storm water runoff before it reaches these areas. The County, with matching funds from the regional water management district, has spent to date over \$1,000,000 in acquiring land east of U.S. Highway 19 to act as a pre-catchment area. The County does not have sufficient funds to purchase the needed land west of U.S. Highway 19 and build the necessary structures for storm water treatment.

\$767,000 and \$599,000 for the SubTropical Agricultural Research Station (STARS) located at 22271 Chinsegut Hill Road, Brooksville, FL 34601. This request, funded through the Agricultural Research Service, Salaries and Expenses account, will be used for continued funding of the SubTropical Agricultural Research Station (Improved Cow-Beef Operations of Water Quality and Subtropical Beef Germplasm). The subtropical United States, including Florida, accounts for nearly 40 percent of the nation's cow-calf herd. These funds will be used to conduct research to support the cattle industry of Florida and the southeast aimed at boosting efficiency, safety and environmental responsibility.

#### HONORING CHRISTOPHER WOODS

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Woods of Kansas City, Missouri. Christopher is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christopher has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Woods for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2009*

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

OMNIBUS FUNDING AWARD FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY METHAMPHETAMINE ENFORCEMENT AND CLEANUP PROJECT

Requesting Member: Congressman ADAM H. PUTNAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105.

Account: Department of Justice—Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

Project Funding Amount: \$250,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Hillsborough County.

Address of Requesting Entity: 3110 Clay Mangum Lane, Tampa, Florida 33618.

Description of Request: On behalf of Hillsborough County, I respectfully requested \$250,000 in funding for the county's Methamphetamine Enforcement and Cleanup project. Methamphetamine use and distribution is a major problem in the Tampa Bay/Hillsborough County area. Realizing that methamphetamine has clear and tragic consequences, whether it's the obvious striking physical and mental affects or the cleanup of the toxic production laboratories, Hillsborough County will use this funding to combat this problem through meth prevention, treatment, and the cleanup of drug sites.

OMNIBUS FUNDING AWARD FOR THE POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE METHAMPHETAMINE PREVENTION PROJECT

Requesting Member: Congressman ADAM H. PUTNAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105.

Account: Department of Justice—COPS Methamphetamine Enforcement.

Project Funding Amount: \$250,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Polk County Sheriff.

Address of Requesting Entity: 455 North Broadway Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830.

Description of Request: The Polk County Sheriff's Office has placed an earmark request of \$250,000 in continued funding for the Polk County Methamphetamine Project. This critical program has received previous federal funding to carry out methamphetamine prevention and mitigation programs that have shown positive results in cracking down on the growth of methamphetamine production and distribution in central Florida. This funding will cover equipment and training, thus enabling the Polk County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) to make a dedicated effort to combat the distribution and use of methamphetamine in Polk County, Florida. From 2003 through 2007, the PCSO made 3,481 methamphetamine related arrests, seized over 150,000 grams of methamphetamine, and eliminated 27 methamphetamine labs.

OMNIBUS FUNDING AWARD FOR FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION: THE COOPERATIVE REEF FISH MONITORING AND RESEARCH PROGRAM

Requesting Member: Congressman ADAM H. PUTNAM.