

member of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Pittston, where he has served as an acolyte and Eucharistic Minister.

Mr. Hromisin attended the University of Scranton on a four-year ROTC scholarship, majoring in criminal justice. As a Cadet, he attended Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia. He also attended Cadet Troop Leadership Training with a psychological operations unit at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He was also a competitor on the Ranger Challenger Team.

Upon graduation, Mr. Hromisin received the distinguished graduate award in the fields of criminal justice and military science and he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Army on May 28, 2005.

After completion of the Infantry Officer's Basic Course and attending Ranger School, he was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington in April 2006. He was promoted to first lieutenant in January 2007, and served as a mobile gun system platoon leader in the 4th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division.

During his unit's deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, he led his unit on 20 combat patrols and was critically wounded by a sniper on May 29, 2007, resulting in blindness and a traumatic brain injury. His recovery has included a month at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland; seven months at the Drucker Brain Injury Center at Moss Rehab, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and six months at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Rehabilitation for the Blind in West Haven, Connecticut.

In September 2007, Mr. Hromisin was promoted to captain. At that time, he was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal and the Combat Infantryman Badge. Mr. Hromisin resides at his home in Pittston, Pennsylvania, and continues to receive outpatient therapy.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commending Mr. Hromisin for the extraordinary and courageous service he has given to his country and for the profound sacrifices he has made in the defense of freedom and the protection of his fellow Americans.

#### OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2009*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Program at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The CTSA program is a noteworthy initiative with the potential to enhance and invigorate our nation's clinical and translational research enterprise.

As the representative from the 8th Congressional District of Massachusetts, I am especially pleased that the program makes significant efforts to create new clinical research homes in academic settings and, so, strengthen our nation's current and future research infrastructure. Furthermore, I am quite proud that Boston institutions; Boston University, Harvard University, and Tufts University are 3 of the 38 sites that currently comprise the growing CTSA network.

Over the past few years, roughly level funding for NIH has severely limited the size of the

award that can be made to these and the other CTSA-recipient institutions. These funding challenges have had dire consequences for the program's implementation and have seriously impeded its very necessary expansion.

As an ardent supporter of NIH, I thank Chairman OBEY on the increased NIH funding in both the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations bill and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

#### HONORING THE DELAWARE COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION

**HON. JOE SESTAK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2009*

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the courage and dedication of The Delaware County Fire Police Association. These exceptional first responders are often overlooked by many communities in our nation. However, I am proud to say that is not the case in the 7th Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

In the past two years I have come to appreciate and respect the invaluable service these essential citizens provide to their neighbors and brothers and sisters in our Fire and Police Departments. Were it not for the training and bravery of the Fire Police, those initial moments, as a tragedy unfolds, would be chaotic and exponentially more dangerous. For it is the Fire Police who, when a situation is still uncertain, stand in the breach to afford other first responders the time, space and security they require to do their jobs.

As we learned tragically on September 11, 2001, the earliest moments of a crisis demand the greatest caution, experience and communication. I thank the Delaware County Fire Police Association for generations of public service. By consistently arriving at the right time and being in the right place they have saved untold numbers of lives and valuable, often irreplaceable property and possessions.

Madam Speaker, I ask that our nation take this moment to offer our thanks and appreciation to a group of hometown heroes, the Delaware County Fire Police Association.

#### HONORING PLEASANT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2009*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and thank the students, faculty, administrators, staff, and parents of Pleasant Valley Community High School. Pleasant Valley students have now contributed over 100,000 hours of service as part of the innovative PVHS Service Learning Program.

In 2003, the PVHS community decided it was essential to teach students the importance of community service and civic responsibility. The school district created a bold service-learning program that requires all students to complete seventy hours of service before they graduate. Since the inception of the pro-

gram, PVHS students have contributed their passion, intelligence, and creativity to organizations across the United States and the world. They have served people in need and helped communities address some of our most difficult problems.

Today we face challenges that threaten the world economy, our national security, and the environment that makes life on earth possible. To meet these challenges and ensure that future generations can realize their full potential, we must embrace what the President has called a "new era of responsibility in America." PVHS students have answered this call and set an example for all citizens to follow. Congratulations to Pleasant Valley Community High School and thank you.

WANDA RIDDLE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Wanda Riddle at Sullivan County Memorial Hospital on the occasion of celebrating 50 years as a Registered Nurse.

Wanda graduated from the College of St. Teresa as a Registered Nurse, and began her career at Sullivan County Memorial Hospital in 1955. She has dedicated almost her entire career to the hospital in Milan, MO and the community it serves. Wanda has had many accomplishments throughout her career, including starting the Sullivan County Ambulance Service at the hospital in the 1980s. She has also taught CNA classes, attended numerous inservice/education for cardiac and EKG interpretations, and has been a mentor to the entire nursing staff at Sullivan County Memorial Hospital.

Wanda has earned the gratitude and respect of her colleagues and fellow citizens of Sullivan County, Missouri. Her life's dedication and hard work should serve as an example to the rest of us on how we can better serve each other and our communities.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending Wanda Riddle for her dedicated service to Sullivan County Memorial Hospital. I know Wanda's colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking her for her commitment to others and wishing her happiness and good health for years to come.

#### STATEMENT RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE JOLIET PARK DISTRICT

**HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2009*

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Joliet Park District. The park district is the 2009 recipient of the "Salute to Accomplishment" Award from the Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce. I join the Chamber of Commerce in saluting the Joliet Park District for its long record of service to the residents of Joliet, Illinois.

For 85 years, the Joliet Park District has played an integral role in the lives of its residents. The park district has enriched the lives of residents in a variety of areas providing opportunities for fitness, entertainment, and recreation as well as serving as an example for environmental stewardship.

Partnering with Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center, the park district runs the Saint Joseph Inwood Athletic Club. The center was recognized with the Community Partnership Award for Youth Fitness from the Illinois Department of Human Services. It is also known as a state-of-the art work of architecture.

The Joliet Park District provides fun for all ages. Nearly 1,500 children participated in the district's youth soccer program. Residents may also participate in basketball, baseball, volleyball, softball, hockey, and golf. Splash Station Water Park is a place where over 300,000 persons choose to escape the heat and 2,000 persons received swimming lessons. World-class musicians have entertained young and old at the annual Taste of Joliet.

Due to its commitment to a better environment, Joliet Park District has received grants from the State of Illinois. The district received an Illinois Clean Energy Grant for an upgrade to its multi-purpose building that included energy efficient lighting. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources contributed to the completion of its Bird Haven Greenhouse.

Once again, congratulations to the Joliet Park District. I know this treasured institution will continue to prosper.

#### CONGRATULATING PHOENIX ANALYSIS & DESIGN INCORPORATED ON ITS 15TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2009*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of Phoenix Analysis & Design Technologies Incorporated, a mechanical engineering company in my home town of Tempe, Arizona.

Phoenix Analysis & Design was established in 1994 and has since become an important member of the Arizona business community. It has served as a leading consultant and provider of mechanical engineering services in the Southwest for fifteen years and continually sets the standard for excellent customer service.

The business thrives because it is committed to innovation and employee participation. It has increased its employment base from the initial four founders to 50 employees, and the personal integrity of each employee shines brightly with their timely and efficient service. Each member of the company is extremely talented and continually strives to master the new technologies of their field.

If one were to choose a place in Tempe to represent what the community should value, that place would be Phoenix Analysis & Design Technologies.

The success and longevity of this local company is a model for independent businesses. It is for these reasons and more that I ask you to join me in congratulating Phoenix Analysis & Design on this accomplishment and wish

them many more years of prosperous business.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 2009*

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the House passed version of H.R. 1105.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. GRESHAM BARRETT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Provision: Division B, COPS Law Enforcement Technology Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: County of Anderson, SC

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 S. Main St, PO Box 8002, Anderson, SC 29622

Description of Request: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide \$50,000 to be used in implementing 800 megahertz radio technology for emergency responders. The nine EMS providers in Anderson County responded to approximately 21,000 calls for assistance in 2008 and the numbers increase each year. By converting over to the Palmetto P25 / 800mhz interoperable communications system, EMS squads will experience approximately 95% radio coverage when responding to calls. With the current VHF radio system, EMS squads now have only approximately 65% radio coverage within Anderson County. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. GRESHAM BARRETT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Provision: Division E, EPA, STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 399, Seneca, SC 29679

Description of Request: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide \$500,000 to be used for the construction of 125,000 GPD Phase I Wastewater Treatment Facility at Golden Corner Commerce Park and upgrade of wastewater treatment plant to 100,000 GPD at SC Welcome Center. Infrastructure added to this region provides for job creation, enhanced investment and development resulting in an improved economy. In addition to federal funding, the Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority has secured a \$1 million grant from the state, and approximately \$2.8 million from county government to fund the project. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. GRESHAM BARRETT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Small Business Administration, Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clemson University

Address of Requesting Entity: 201 Sikes Hall, Clemson, SC 29634

Description of Request: I have secured \$100,000 for the Clemson University Ad-

vanced Materials Innovation Center. The Advanced Materials Innovation Center at Clemson's Advanced Materials Center in Anderson County will serve as a research and development campus for start-up companies devoted to cutting-edge research, development, and job creation in the advanced materials field. The Innovation Center will house fledgling high-technology companies that focus on such advanced materials as optics, nanotechnology, and biomaterials. It will also provide space for entrepreneurial start-ups and Clemson University spin-off companies. These federal funds will be used to develop laboratories at the Advanced Materials Innovation Center. With many manufacturing jobs going overseas, there is a critical need in the United States, and particularly in South Carolina, of incubators such as the Advanced Materials Innovation Center to accelerate the creation of knowledge-based companies. The United States must also continue to develop new advanced materials to ensure continued military superiority. It is my understanding that \$9.5 million in funding is expected to be provided by non-federal sources for this project. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. GRESHAM BARRETT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Provision: Division C, Title III Department of Energy, Section: Congressional Directed Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Projects Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clemson University

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 Brackett Hall Box 5702 Clemson University Clemson, SC 29634

Description of Request: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide \$951,500 in funding to construct and operate a pilot plant at a brownfield industrial site in Charleston, SC, to scale-up commercially viable technology for conversion of cellulosic feedstocks from the coastal plains, i.e. trees, wood residuals, and row crops, to bio-fuels and other higher value products. Currently, biofuels are the only alternative that can be readily incorporated into the existing petroleum-based transportation infrastructure. The development of commercially-viable biomass facilities will help our nation move away from dependency on traditional fossil fuels and towards energy independence, all without affecting our nation's food supply. Approximately \$50,000 (5%) will go towards site utilities/grading; \$680,000 (71%) will go towards building structure; and the remainder (24%) will go towards process equipment, support utility systems and construction fees.

In addition to federal funding, Clemson University will contribute in-kind and financial resources, including over \$1.5 million in resources already committed. It is also expected that private industry will provide a total of \$6-8 million for the project. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. GRESHAM BARRETT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Provision: Division I, Title I Department of Transportation, Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Laurens County, SC

Address of Requesting Entity: 3 Catherine Street, Laurens, SC 29360