

Madam Speaker, I am proud to call Nonnie Burns a friend and grateful for the advice I have been able to get from her over the years. In particular, during her tenure as Insurance Commissioner, she was of significant value to those of us on the Financial Services Committee in her thoughtful and prompt responses to questions we had affecting insurance policy. I congratulate Discovering Justice for recognizing her value and presenting her with this award, which, as I noted, I will not be able to note in person because I will be here on the floor when the event goes forward.

HONORING RALPH L. FLETCHER

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ralph L. Fletcher, the mayor of Lakeland, a city in my 12th Congressional District of Florida. Ralph has worked tirelessly to represent the best interests of the citizens of Lakeland. Moreover, as a small business owner, he has successfully run his Fletcher Printing Company and helped form the successful real estate company, Arch Inc.

"Buddy" Fletcher enjoyed building one-on-one relationships with the citizens of Lakeland. As his deputy city manager, Tony Delgado told the Lakeland Ledger, Monday mornings became Buddy Time—where the mayor would share with him all of the complaints and suggestions he had gathered from residents of Lakeland over the weekend. No task was too small or big for Mr. Fletcher, and he was dedicated to making sure that the issue was addressed properly.

Mr. Fletcher truly is Lakeland's own. He first attended Lakeland High School and then later pursued his education even further at Florida Southern College. Mr. Fletcher first served as one of Lakeland's City Commissioners from 1989 to 1992. He was then elected as mayor of Lakeland in 1993 as has served in that office ever since.

When he first decided to run for office, his wife suggested that running a campaign only on economic development would not be sufficient. However, during his tenure as mayor he helped bring in Watkins Motor Lines and the headquarters of the grocery chain Publix downtown to add jobs in the city. Always with an eye for the long term benefits to Lakeland, Fletcher is remembered by his admirers for improved economic development, city beautification and the restoration of parks.

Fletcher has been well renowned for his accessibility to residents. He instructed his staff to give out his cell phone number to any resident who wanted to reach him personally. People he has golfed with had several anecdotes about taking weekend calls out on the course. A reporter once asked him how many hours a week he dedicated to job. Fletcher was baffled by this question because he considered himself always on duty from when he woke up at 4:30 a.m. until he went to sleep.

In 1998, he was recognized for his volunteer service earning the Sun 'n Fun Chairman of the Board Award. The Sun 'n Fun organization is a volunteer group focused on aviation education and running the Florida Air Museum.

In 2001, he earned the Jere Annis Leadership Award. These awards are granted to

those who have graduated from the Lakeland Leadership Program—which has provided consistent leadership in enhancing quality of life and cohesion in the Lakeland community.

Mr. Fletcher truly is a great leader in the community and his extensive volunteer efforts reflect that. In February of 2004 he earned the Distinguished Citizen of the Gulf Ridge Council of the Boy Scouts of America for outstanding leadership. In May of 2009, he earned the University of South Florida Polytechnic Distinguished Service Award for his contributions to USF Polytechnic and service to the community.

Mr. Fletcher looks forward to spending his retirement with his devoted wife of 57 years, Weetsie.

Lakeland City Commissioner Dean Boring had this to say of Fletcher, "He's been Lakeland's No. 1 cheerleader, and he'll never stop doing that. If you cut Buddy Fletcher, Lakeland would pour out. He lives, sleeps, eats and drinks Lakeland."

IN RECOGNITION OF FAMILIES FLU VACCINATION DAY AND FAMILIES FIGHTING FLU

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Families Flu Vaccination Day and Families Fighting Flu. Influenza is a serious disease that kills nearly 100 children younger than five years of age every year in the United States. In fact, more children die from the flu than from chicken pox, whooping cough, and measles combined. The flu is a highly contagious viral infection of the respiratory tract. With the recent development of H1N1, a deadlier strain of the flu, it is more important now than ever to vaccinate our children and educate the American public. Indeed, more than 240 children in the United States have died from the H1N1 virus.

I commend the efforts of Families Fighting Flu, a non-profit, volunteer-based organization of families who have experienced firsthand the death of a child or have had a child experience severe medical complications from seasonal or H1N1 influenza. Families Fighting Flu and its medical advisors are dedicated to educating people about the severity of influenza and the importance of vaccinating children against the flu every year. The members of Families Fighting Flu have suffered terrible personal losses as result of the virus. We are grateful that they are sharing their personal tragedies so that others will not have to suffer such loss. Influenza is unpredictable, but we know that the more people who are vaccinated, the less likely the disease will spread.

Every year in the United States more than 20,000 children under the age of five are hospitalized due to influenza. Additionally, children are two-to-three times more likely than adults to get sick with the flu because of their less developed immune systems. Because the flu vaccine is typically 60 to 90 percent effective when administered to children, getting an annual flu vaccination is an easy way to help stop the spread of the virus.

This week is National Influenza Vaccination Week, a national observance that was estab-

lished to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination, as well as foster greater use of the flu vaccine after the holiday season into January and beyond. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that all children 6 months through 18 years of age get vaccinated against the flu every year. In addition, the CDC recommends that all contacts and caregivers of children from birth to age five should be vaccinated.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Families Fighting Flu. This non-profit organization is determined to help prevent the tragedy of losing another child by encouraging annual flu vaccinations for all children. I look forward to working with my colleagues to support Families Flu Vaccination Day and make influenza immunization for children a national health priority.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber yesterday evening and today. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "present" on rollcall vote 1, "nay" on rollcall vote 2 and "yea" on rollcall votes 3, 4 and 5.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. HELLER. 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. 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2010:

Requesting Member: Congressman DEAN HELLER

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: Military Construction—Army National Guard

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Nevada National Guard

Address of Requesting Entity: 2460 Fairview Dr., Carson City, NV 89701

Description of Request: \$2,000,000. Funding will be used for wind, solar, and geothermal energy projects at facilities and training sites operated by the Nevada National Guard.

Requesting Member: Congressman DEAN HELLER

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: Military Construction—Air National Guard

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Nevada National Guard

Address of Requesting Entity: 2460 Fairview Dr., Carson City, NV 89701

Description of Request: \$10,800,000. Funding will be used for the design and construction of a new fire station at the Nevada Air National Guard base located at the Reno-Tahoe International Airport in Reno, Nevada. The

new fire station is intended to replace the half-century old original structure. Construction of the new fire station will alleviate the concerns regarding the current fire station, which has become inadequate in size and insufficient in space in order to properly support the fire protection and crash/rescue requirements for the 152nd Airlift Wing.

Requesting Member: Congressman DEAN HELLER

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: Transportation—Federal Highway Administration—Surface Transportation Priorities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Nevada Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 1263 South Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712

Description of Request: \$779,200. The project will add three miles of controlled access freeway from Fairview Dr. to the southern connections at the existing US 50 West—Tahoe Juncture/Carson Street intersection. The Freeway will be designed for two lanes in each direction with provisions for future widening in the median connection to the Reno/Sparks community with Carson City and the Lake Tahoe Basin.

HONORING THE BLUE RIDGE COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 86 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UPSTATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. BOB INGLIS

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. INGLIS. Madam Speaker, Saturday, January 9, 2010, marked a special day for the Blue Ridge Council Boy Scouts and the entire Boy Scouts of America organization. The Blue Ridge Council celebrated its 86th year of serving the youth of Upstate South Carolina and the national Boy Scouts of America organization celebrated its centennial. The Boy Scouts of America organization was founded on principals set forth to shape and mold boys into young men. Learning to become mentally awake, physically strong and morally straight are key to the development of loyal patriots and the Boy Scouts of America have long since been instrumental in the lives of many young men.

TRIBUTE TO SALLY WINSHIP,
R.D.H., M.S., ED.D.

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, before my election to the House of Representatives, I served for several years as an elected member of the board of trustees for the Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kansas. This excellent community college is the crown jewel of my home community, and I was very proud to be associated with this outstanding institution of higher education.

During my board service, I got to know Dr. Sally Winship who served as dean of the Col-

lege's Continuing Education and Community Services. This month, Dr. Winship is retiring after working as a community college educator and administrator for 37 years. She retires as vice president of the College's Workforce, Community and Economic Development Department, and has also served as president of the JCCC Center for Business and Technology.

Sally was originally trained as a dental hygienist and became coordinator of the JCCC program before becoming assistant dean of the Science, Health Care and Math Division in 1987. She received her B.S. degree from Armstrong State College, and then obtained her M.S. degree from Columbia University, and her doctorate in education from the University of Kansas.

During Sally's time at the college, the outstanding Regnier Center for Technology and Business was designed, built, and opened. Her responsibilities included managing over 60 full-time staff and 550 part-time faculty, as well as managing programs serving over 155,000 participants and 480 area businesses.

Sally worked hard to make the Johnson County Community College this area's workforce development resource for the greater Kansas City business community. During her time at the college, it grew in student population, course offerings, campus buildings, prestige and reputation.

Madam Speaker, I join Sally's many friends and colleagues in wishing her health, happiness, and prosperity for the next chapter of her life, and in thanking her for her many, important contributions to our community.

IN MEMORY OF JAMES TERRELL
JORDAN

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of James Terrell Jordan of Monticello, Arkansas, who passed away on December 27, 2009, at the age of 84. Having fought for freedom in World War II, James then committed his life to the people of Arkansas through public office for over five decades.

James was born in Drew County, Arkansas, to his late parents Alvin and Linnie Jordan, and attended schools in Monticello and California. He was a member of the 101st Airborne Division in World War II, serving as a paratrooper and receiving a Purple Heart Medal.

Following active duty on the frontlines, James returned to serve his community beginning as Drew County treasurer in 1956. He then served as county judge for eight years before becoming mayor of Monticello for 17 years. Having also given his time and energy to numerous agencies, councils and committees, James was awarded the "Man of the Year" award in 1985 from the Drew County Chamber of Commerce.

James was elected to the Arkansas House of Representatives in 1986 and served for 12 years. Representing District 92, he served on the Committee on City, County and Local Affairs and the Committee on Public Transportation. His lifetime love of education led to his eventual appointment to the University of Ar-

kansas Board of Visitors by Governor Mike Huckabee.

I had the distinct privilege of serving with James during my time in the Arkansas state legislature and he was someone I respected and trusted for sincere advice and counsel. As an admired and respected public officer, James worked tirelessly to better the lives of those around him.

James was well known for far more than being a member of the Greatest Generation who committed himself to the state he loved so much; he was also known to many as a good friend and role model.

My thoughts and prayers and those of every Arkansan are with his wife, Bonnie; two sons, Terrell and Jerry; daughter, Cindy; his nine grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and the rest of his family and friends during this difficult time. James will be profoundly missed and the people of Arkansas are deeply grateful to his lifetime of exemplary effort and legacy of community service and leadership.

TRIBUTE TO MARIE LOUISE
ANDERSON GREENWOOD

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Ms. DeGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and exceptional accomplishments of Mrs. Marie Louise Anderson Greenwood. On January 15, 2010, Mrs. Greenwood will be honored by the Denver business community at the 25th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Business Social Responsibility Awards where she will receive the "Trailblazer Award" in recognition of her tireless commitment to education, community and moving beyond racial barriers.

She was born in Los Angeles, California on November 24, 1912, the only daughter of Joseph and Sarah Anderson. In search for better opportunities, her family moved to Denver, Colorado, where Marie attended Denver West High School. Marie graduated third in her class in 1931 and received an honorary four-year state scholarship which she used to attend the Colorado Teachers College, now The University of Northern Colorado. As an African American student, Marie faced racism and was prevented from living on campus or joining student organizations. However, she sought membership in the Alpha Kappa chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the first national sorority founded for college educated African American women, and solidified her commitment to education.

Marie excelled at the Colorado Teachers College. She was recruited to teach in Denver Public Schools in 1934, a year before she was slated to graduate. Despite the opportunity to be the first African-American teacher in Denver Public Schools, Marie chose instead to finish her studies and graduate with the class of 1935. With a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education in hand, Marie was hired as the first to receive a probationary contract as a first grade teacher in the school system. In 1938, she accepted the offer of permanent tenure at Whittier Elementary School as the first teacher of color in the Denver Public Schools.

Marie continued to teach first grade at Whittier Elementary School until 1945 when she