

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 22, 2008

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, because of my commitment to a family event on May 20, 2008, I missed rollcall votes 331–337. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote 331, “yes” on rollcall vote 332, “yes” on rollcall vote 333, “no” on rollcall vote 334, “yes” on rollcall vote 335, “yes” on rollcall vote 336, and “yes” on rollcall vote 337.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN R. “RANDY” KUHL, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Representative JOHN R. “RANDY” KUHL, JR.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Army Aircraft Procurement, Utility Helicopter Mods.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Elmira/Corning Regional Airport.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1250 Schweizer Road, Horseheads, NY 14845.

Description of Request: Provides a total of \$5,000,000 to upgrade UH–60A Black Hawk helicopters to the UH–60L configuration. Most of the funding will be used to procure and install the upgrades required to increase performance of this aircraft, and a small portion will be used for salaries in support of this effort. The UH–60 Black Hawk helicopter is an essential capability of the Army National Guard. It provides units in every state with a multi-mission aircraft for search and rescue, utility lift, disaster relief and medical evacuation. Funding the UH–60A to L upgrade will significantly improve the Black Hawk fleet and ensure that National Guard units are ready for deployment to protect our national interests at home and abroad.

A TRIBUTE CELEBRATING THE
BROOKLYN BRIDGE’S 125TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues’ attention to the historic occasion of the Brooklyn Bridge’s 125th birthday. In 1883, citizens of New York City and Brooklyn took the first step toward uniting their two cities. Then, the Brooklyn Bridge opened to the public, bringing to life the dreams and plans of John and Washington Roebling. It is this bridge that captures the imagination of the world, appearing as a symbol of Brooklyn and New York City as far away as Europe and Asia.

After 60 years of political, financial and technical discussions, including a six-lane tunnel

proposal in the 1830’s, John Roebling’s plan was approved, the New York Bridge Company was formed, and in 1869, construction of the bridge finally began. The bridge was built over a period of 14 years in the face of enormous difficulties. Washington Roebling, John’s son, had always been a man, who liked to be on site during the construction, and often he could be found instructing others what to do and many times doing manual work himself. Washington actually spent more hours in the working chamber than anyone else for fear that any slip might prove to be disastrous.

Unfortunately, in the summer of 1872, Washington Roebling had to be carried out with caisson disease. From this point on, he remained painfully paralyzed and became known as the “man in the window” as he never returned to the site of the bridge, but watched it from his townhouse, directing the construction through his wife, Emily Roebling, who acted as an intermediary. In total, 27 people died during the construction of the bridge, some of the worse accidents happened during cable rigging and others were crushed by swinging blocks.

In the end, John Roebling’s claim that “the great towers will be ranked as national monuments . . . as work of art and a successful specimen of advanced bridge engineering,” came to life. On May 24, 1883, with schools and businesses closed, the Brooklyn Bridge also referred to as the “Great East River Bridge” and costing \$15 million was opened with hundreds of people attending the spectacular ribbon cutting event.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent the congressional district that begins once you cross this magnificent structure and is one of New York’s most spectacular and evocative landmarks.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a list of projects that I have requested receive federal funding as part of the FY09 appropriations process. The projects requested in the list below were presented to me by constituents, local groups, and local governments.

Project Name: Multidisciplinary Alternative Reception Center (MARC). The Multidisciplinary Alternative Reception Center (MARC) would provide a facility for police to refer non-violent minors in Santa Clara County.

Project Name: Collaborative Response to Victims of Domestic Violence. This project will develop a new model of collaborative education, training and community response to victims of domestic violence. The College of Applied Sciences and Arts (CASA) at San Jose State University will foster interdisciplinary education and internship team placements in the relevant departments/schools in collaboration with central public and community agencies in both Santa Clara County and the city of San Jose, California.

Project Name: San Jose Police Mobile Identification, Field Reporting, and Records Management Systems. This project will complete

department-wide availability of mobile identification technology and initiate addition of automated field reporting and upgraded records management systems. In addition, it will address inefficiencies and enable better cross-analysis and information sharing.

Project Name: South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study (NASA-Ames Research Center). A 2.5 mile trail adjacent to the restored habitat and NASA’s Ames Research Center is being constructed as part of Phase 1 restoration of the South San Francisco Bay Salt Ponds. The requested funding will be utilized to construct a new security fence for the Research Center as the current fence is substandard and could be easily compromised.

Project Name: Coyote Creek Watershed. The project is a new study and was authorized by a May 2002 resolution of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The Coyote Creek Watershed Study will examine ways to provide flood protection for the cities of San Jose, Milpitas, and Morgan Hill, including a major portion of the Silicon Valley’s high-tech area.

Project Name: Upper Guadalupe River. The Upper Guadalupe River flood protection project will provide flood protection for 7,500 homes in Santa Clara County.

Project Name: Guadalupe River. The Guadalupe River flood protection project extends through downtown San Jose from Interstate 880 to Interstate 280 and protects the area from \$576 million in damages from a one percent flood. The project is part of a multi-phased flood protection project along the Guadalupe River and is an integral component to downtown San Jose’s revitalization efforts.

Project Name: San Jose Area Water Reclamation and Reuse Project. The San Jose Water Reclamation and Reuse Project will increase water supply reliability and protect endangered species by reducing wastewater discharges into San Francisco Bay through the recycling of wastewater.

Project Name: Coyote and Berryessa Creeks. The project provides extensive flood protection to the area downstream of Montague Expressway in Milpitas and San Jose where potential damages from a 1 percent flood exceed \$250 million.

Project Name: Llagas Creek. By providing flood protection to the local community, the project will protect 1,100 homes, 500 businesses, and over 1,300 acres of agricultural land in Santa Clara County that would otherwise result in damages totaling more than \$8 million (1982) dollars with annual average damages of \$900,000.

Project Name: Upper Penitencia Creek. The Upper Penitencia Creek flood protection project will provide flood protection to over 5,000 homes, schools, and businesses in the communities of San Jose and Milpitas and surrounding areas, with potential damages from a 100-year flood exceeding \$455 million. The project includes modified floodplains, levees, floodwalls and bypass channels along the Upper Penitencia Creek.

Project Name: South San Francisco Shoreline. The South San Francisco Shoreline study project is expected to provide tidal and fluvial flood protection for Silicon Valley, including approximately 42,800 acres, 7,400 homes and businesses, and major highways, parks, and airports. This year’s funding will allow the Corps of Engineers to make satisfactory

progress on completion of the Feasibility Report for the study as directed by the Water Resources Development Act of 2007.

Project Name: San Jose Urban Forest Planting Program. This project will plant trees throughout San Jose, in partnership with Our City Forest, to achieve the goal of 100,000 new trees over the next 15 years, replacing 60,000 trees lost and increasing the tree canopy to reduce urban heat island effects and carbon impacts. Trees will be planted throughout the City and will benefit all of the diverse communities within San Jose.

Project Name: South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study (USGS). US Geological Survey would use these funds to conduct interdisciplinary monitoring (biological, hydrological, and water quality studies) of Salt Ponds in San Pablo Bay and San Francisco Bay. With restoration work occurring in both the South Bay and North Bay salt ponds, there is an urgent need for monitoring to guide planning and implementation efforts.

Project Name: South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study (FWS). The Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge is managing 9,600 acres of the recently acquired South Bay Salt Ponds; funding is needed annually to effectively manage these lands, including installation and management of water control structures, levee maintenance, and monitoring of salt ponds.

Project Name: The Japanese American Experience: Making It Available. Located in one of only three Japantowns remaining in California, the Japanese American Museum of San Jose (JAMs) is contributing to the renaissance of Japantown through the construction of a new museum. This museum will allow the broader community better access to and understanding of the history, culture and arts of Japanese Americans in Santa Clara Valley.

Project Name: Branham Lane/Monterey Highway Rail Grade Separation—San Jose, CA. Federal funding will complete environmental assessment work and conceptual engineering to convert the highway-rail at-grade intersection of Branham Lane and Monterey Highway to a below-grade intersection. By depressing Branham Lane and Monterey Highway, the project will separate vehicles and trains to provide both a safety and congestion relief benefit.

Project Name: Lazzarini Place Affordable Homes—San Jose, CA. Federal funding will provide funds to train at-risk young women and men in the construction of new homes for low-income first time home buyers.

Project Name: Advanced Zero-Emission Bus Demonstration Program—Santa Clara, CA. This funding request relates to purchasing three hydrogen fuel-cell buses by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority in order to implement an Advanced Zero-Emission Bus Demonstration Program pursuant to regulations enacted by the California Air Resources Board. Under the program, public transit agencies must purchase a minimum of three advanced zero-emission buses and operate them in revenue service for a minimum of 12 months starting January 2009.

Project Name: Way Back Lot at Children's Discovery Museum—San Jose, CA. Proposed project includes the following: (1) A 30,000 square foot outdoor exhibit gallery with interactive exhibits and educational program spaces that engage children in the process of creating ideas and solutions that have been

San Jose's stock-in-trade as far back in history as archaeologists have documented. (2) A perimeter wall or fence, artistically designed to depict distinct cultural periods of the Guadalupe River, which also secures the outdoor exhibit gallery for the safety of visitors and deters vandals. (3) A 12,000 square foot "green building" expansion to Children's Discovery Museum's southern wing that will serve as support space to the new outdoor gallery.

Project Name: First-Time Homebuyer Low Income Downpayment Assistance Program—San Jose, CA. The mission of the Housing Trust of Santa Clara County is to provide the resources and leadership to make housing more affordable for those who want to live and work in Santa Clara County. Federal funds will go to a revolving loan fund for Low Income Assistance Program to households with incomes up to 80% of Area Median Income, with maximum assistance of \$15,000 per loan with a below market interest rate loan.

Project Name: Preserving the Historic Issei Memorial Building—San Jose, CA. Federal funding will rehabilitate and renovate a historic building built in 1906, now known as the Issei Memorial Building. Structural safety improvements are needed and facility expansion is required to meet the needs of the local community.

Project Name: DeWitt Avenue S-Curve Realignment—Santa Clara County, CA. The project would straighten the existing horizontal curve and flatten the vertical curve by extending it and widening the travel lanes. The project would straighten an S-Curve on DeWitt Avenue to enhance the line of sight for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians, thereby improving overall safety.

Project Name: Silicon Valley Regional Interoperability Project (SVRIP) Data Interoperability Project. Like jurisdictions across the country, the SVRIP operates standalone and disparate Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), as well as law enforcement and fire Records Management Systems (RMS). The SVRIP has piloted a way to shave valuable minutes off the response times of first responders by interconnecting three disparate CAD systems.

Project Name: Development & Testing of Advanced Paraffin-based Hybrid Rockets for Space Applications. Recent research at Stanford University has led to the identification of a new class of fast burning paraffin-based fuels that promise to make hybrid rockets a practical system for a wide variety of propulsion applications of interest to the government.

Project Name: Strategic Language Initiative (CSU Center for Strategic Languages). The 5 California State University (CSU) campuses originally comprising the Strategic Language Initiative (SLI) Consortium worked collaboratively between 2005 and 2007 to create an effective model capitalizing on campus language expertise, student heritage language diversity, and local linguistic communities in Arabic, Mandarin, Korean, Persian, and Russian. The Consortium's success in southern California can be enhanced by developing a similar model in northern California. This request would build the programs within the current Consortium, and add CSU campuses in San Francisco and San Jose. Lessons learned from the current 5 programs will shape the 2 new programs.

Project Name: Advanced IED Jammer Research & Development Program. The most important aspect of the program is the develop-

ment of a next generation IED jammer that can simultaneously allow our Blue Force radios to communicate. Another facet of the program is to develop a flexible, standardized, jammer architecture that can adapt to changing threats quickly, a so-called "multi-mission spectral combat system" architecture.

Project Name: Advanced Tactical Threat Warning Radio (ATTWR). This project will substantially advance U.S. Special Forces teams to combat and defend our troops against radio controlled roadside bombs. The effort will lead to an advanced technology that will allow for the dismantling of the terror cell command and control elements, as well as identify and locate the bomb making factories. This effort will ultimately save U.S. lives and also reduce the number of maiming and casualties due to IED's.

Project Name: Large Area and Printed Electronics for Defense Systems. This project involves the combination of new, advanced materials and large area printed electronics and will enable flexible, lightweight, and rugged photovoltaic, battery, sensor, and communication products for military systems. Integration with textiles and other surfaces will enable production of electronics for military infrastructure not possible today.

Project Name: Nonlinear Optics for Memory Electronics (NOME). This project will be used to develop and manufacture nonlinear materials, solid state lasers and large field of view deep ultra-violet objectives for the development and inspection of memory microelectronic chips, as well as advanced microelectronics that are used in classified and secure communications equipment, electro-optic sensors, satellites, and various weapon systems.

Project Name: San Jose Courthouse. This money would be used for site acquisition for a new Federal Courthouse in San Jose.

Project Name: AACI Domestic Violence Shelter Project. The Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI) Domestic Violence Shelter Project will expand an emergency shelter for abused women and their children. In Santa Clara County, this is the only domestic violence shelter that meets the linguistic and cultural needs of the Asian community.

Project Name: Regional Homeless Medical Respite Care Initiative. Funding will be used for one-time start-up costs of a homeless medical respite care program providing post-hospitalization medical services to the homeless in San Jose/Santa Clara County, including program refinements, personnel, and equipment, in order to address medical needs in a more cost-effective manner, to be sustained by local funding.

Project Name: Center for Migration Studies. Purpose of the funding is to establish an interdisciplinary Center for Migration Studies (CMS), envisaging faculty and student participation from multiple departments in the College of Social Sciences at San Jose State University (SJSU). The main objective of the CMS is to facilitate interdisciplinary research on a comprehensive, multifaceted examination of immigrants' experiences globally.

Project Name: Center for Employment Training—IT Capacity Building. Center for Employment Training (CET) is a private, non-profit human services organization focused on providing employment training and education services to hard-to-serve populations. The

project will expand and upgrade the IT capacity of the organization and enhance the computer technology for vocational training and GED education services for at-risk youth, ages 18–24.

Project Name: Student Partners Reaching Kids. The Student Partners Reaching Kids (SPRK) program serves more than 1,000 young adolescents through a series of offerings which form a continuum of opportunities throughout the year for students in the fourth through ninth grade age range.

HONORING CONGRESSIONAL CERTIFICATE OF MERIT RECIPIENT
WILLIAM PENDER

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the successes and achievements of William Pender who has received the Congressional Certificate of Merit award at Temple High School in Temple, Texas. William has shown exceptional leadership qualities through his involvement in numerous activities which makes him a great candidate for this award.

William is a member of the Temple High School Top Band, Wind Ensemble, and has played on the varsity Wildcat football team. William is a volunteer in the assisted nursing area of the VA Hospital in Temple. Through his volunteering for the VA, William has learned the importance of giving back to the men and women that serve our country.

I congratulate William Pender for his achievements in school and in his community and am proud to represent such talented and dedicated people in the District of Texas.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL DRUG
COURT MONTH

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to congratulate drug courts in Arkansas and nationwide during National Drug Court Month. Over 2,100 drug courts in the United States provide an alternative to incarceration for non-violent, drug-addicted offenders by combining intense judicial supervision, comprehensive substance abuse and mental health treatment, random and frequent drug testing, incentives and sanctions, clinical case management and life skills services. The tireless efforts of the judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, treatment providers, rehabilitation experts, child advocates, researchers, educators, law enforcement representatives, correctional representatives, pre-trial officers and probation officers that are involved in drug courts provide substance abusing offenders with the much-needed chance at long-term recovery and productive lifestyles.

I have seen firsthand the impact of the 40 operational drug courts in my state, where drug court programs have enhanced public safety, saved taxpayer dollars and, most im-

portantly, saved lives. Nearly 1,000 people have graduated from the program according to state records and currently 1,600 people are enrolled all across the state.

For example, the Fifth Judicial District Drug Court in Russellville, Arkansas, has graduated 43 clients since it opened its doors in 2004. Four of these drug court graduates have received their college degrees and started careers. One client has even advanced into the position of general manager for his company. The Fifth Judicial District Drug Court has set up a dental plan for clients, along with a work placement assistance program. This drug court and its achievements are just a small example of what is happening in the numerous drug courts across the state of Arkansas. In addition, the efforts of people like Judge Mary Ann Gunn and the 4th Judicial District Drug Court have helped make the program a success in the Natural State. More than one thousand people have been treated through that program that has an 89 percent retention rate. Town Hall Meetings held by the group help to promote awareness and prevention of substance abuse in our families and schools.

As we face a growing population of drug-addicted offenders in the American justice system, we must expand our efforts to bring treatment to a larger number of those in need. According to a recent study by the Urban Research Institute's Justice Policy Center, approximately 1.5 million drug-involved offenders should be diverted to drug court, which would generate \$32.3 billion in savings to American taxpayers. Armed with our existing research that drug courts work, reduce recidivism, and save lives, we must work on taking drug courts to scale. There is no greater opportunity for change in the American justice system and there is no greater opportunity to heal families and communities.

Again, congratulations to the dedicated drug court professionals and graduates from Arkansas and around the country on a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF
HEBRON CONNECTICUT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 300th anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Hebron, Connecticut. Throughout 2008, the town and its residents have and will continue to celebrate 300 years of rich history.

From its original settlement, agriculture production has supported the growth of the town as well as agriculture development and growth of neighboring communities. From colonial labors to modern agricultural machinery, cultivation of the land has remained an important economic and communal component of the town of Hebron. Hebron's agricultural history, reflecting on the distinct New England seasons, will be highlighted in the yearlong third centennial celebration.

This past March, residents enjoyed Maple Fest, which focused on a favorite New England winter harvest and culinary tradition. Families in Hebron and across the New England community joined in the festivities, which

featured regional treats from local sugar houses. The sweet products of the maple trees were enjoyed in traditional to untraditional forms, from maple syrup to maple cotton candy. In the coming September, Hebron Harvest Fair will highlight the products of the New England fall harvest.

Three hundred years after incorporation, from its colonial origins through its modern evolution, Hebron represents the very best of a Connecticut and more broadly, small-town America. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in honoring and celebrating Hebron's third centennial and welcome many more to come.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF COLONEL
ANTHONY JOSEPH WENDEL
III, U.S. MARINE CORPS

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 30 years of dedicated service of United States Marine Corps Colonel Anthony Joseph Wendel III.

Since being commissioned a Second Lieutenant in August 1979, Colonel Wendel has served the Marine Corps in a variety of roles, both at home and abroad. During his 30 years of total service, he has served his country in positions of leadership in Okinawa, Japan; Washington, DC; Eugene, Oregon; Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Los Angeles, California; and at Camp Pendleton, California.

In 1980, Colonel Wendel attended Basic Combat Engineer Officers Course, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Between 1986 and 1987, he attended Amphibious Warfare School, Quantico, Virginia. He graduated from the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College in 1994 with a Masters of Military Studies, and in June 2000 he graduated from the U.S. Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island with a Masters of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies. Thereupon, he served as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4 U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Korea from July 2000 to July 2001. During this period, he was selected to the grade of colonel.

Colonel Wendel has served in two major combat operations, Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Operation Restore Hope. His leadership background encompasses a wide range of roles, responsibilities, and spectrum of experience. With his diversity of knowledge and talent, Colonel Wendel has given much to this country through his dedicated military service, which will be formally concluded with retirement on June 5, 2008.

Colonel Wendel currently serves as the Program Officer, Western Regional Environmental Coordination Office, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California. He continues to serve to protect and defend U.S. Marine Corps western region training interests and entities. He and his wife Susan have their home in Oceanside, California.

On behalf of the people of the United States whom he has served with courage and honor, we commemorate the service of Colonel Anthony Joseph Wendel III.