

eliminate the coverage deficiencies through adjustments to the current system have had only limited success, and it has become evident that replacement of the system is crucial.

The rapid growth of Collin County dictates the need for interoperability in the event of a crisis. The adjacent cities of Frisco, Allen and Plano, as well as Collin County, are in the process of planning for upgrades to Project 25 digital technology. (Project 25 is a joint multi-phase effort of state, federal and local government with support from the Telecommunications Industry Association to provide unencumbered access to communications interoperability among law enforcement agencies.) The City of McKinney has engaged consultants to develop specifications for a three-to four-site Project 25 radio system to provide agencies with critical coverage improvements, interoperability, and expandability for continued growth.

Replacing the system with Project 25 digital radio system technology will maximize radio spectrum efficiency, ensure an open standard for non-proprietary equipment and interoperability, eliminate existing coverage deficiencies, and allow for continued growth to meet the City's ultimate buildout population. (McKinney's population will ultimately reach more than 300,000.) The Federal government has recognized the importance of interoperable communications equipment to meet the Nation's homeland security needs.

The total cost estimate for a three-site P25 radio system and equipment is \$5,938,000. This request is for \$300,000 in FY 2009 Federal funding to support McKinney's efforts. The City can get the project underway in 2009.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105.

Account: Museums and Libraries.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The National Virtual Vietnam Archive.

Address of Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 19th and University Avenue, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

Description of Request: \$571,000. The requested funding will be used to continue to develop and establish the Virtual Vietnam Archive, which is a digitized, online version of the Vietnam Archive. This multi-phased project is crucial in order for the extensive collection of the Vietnam Archive to be available to all Americans, and particularly to Vietnam veterans. The first phase focused on establishing the Virtual Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech. The second phase focused on expanding the Archive to include other private collections and non-government collections. The requested funding will be used for the final phase which focuses on including selected government documentary collections, which are not currently scheduled for digitization by the National Archives.

FY 2009 funding will be used to reproduce the documents contained in Record Group 472; ship documents to the Vietnam Archives at Texas Tech; digitize documents; and make documents freely available online to the American people and to researchers throughout the nation and around the globe.

TRIBUTE TO CAROL PETERSON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Carol Peterson, a resident of Mason City, Iowa, from her position as CEO of Allied Purchasing.

Carol began working at Allied Purchasing in 1963 when males dominated the industry. However, she took the challenge head on, starting at Allied running the press and doing printing jobs. Within 10 years, she was promoted to account manager and received a business degree from North Iowa Area Community College. After receiving an additional promotion to sales manager, she received a graduate degree from Syracuse University in sales and marketing. In 1989, Carol became vice president of sales before becoming the company's third CEO in 1995—a position she held until her recent retirement.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Carol Peterson for her groundbreaking achievements and thanking her for her hard work and dedication to her job and community. I wish Carol the very best in her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO NADIA TORKZADEH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the patronage of Nadia Torkzadeh, a resident of Waukee, Iowa who was named one of the top two youth volunteers in Iowa for 2009.

Nadia was selected to receive the Prudential Spirit of Community Award due to her extraordinary work as a philanthropist. More than 5,000 state youths were reviewed by an independent judging panel to receive the award. The judges made their decisions based on criteria such as personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact and personal growth. This is an extraordinary honor and Nadia will receive a bronze medallion at a local ceremony.

I know my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating the philanthropy and selflessness of Nadia Torkzadeh. I consider it an honor to represent in Congress young people like Nadia who make a difference in Iowa.

TRIBUTE TO JESSICA STAKEY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the patronage of Jessica Stakey, a resident of Kamrar, Iowa who was named one of the top two youth volunteers in Iowa for 2009.

Jessica was selected to receive the Prudential Spirit of Community Award due to her ex-

traordinary work as a philanthropist. More than 5,000 state youths were reviewed by an independent judging panel to receive the award. The judges made their decisions based on criteria such as personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact and personal growth. This is an extraordinary honor and Jessica will receive a bronze medallion at a local ceremony.

I know my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating the philanthropy and selflessness of Jessica Stakey. I consider it an honor to represent in Congress young people like Jessica who make a difference in Iowa.

HONORING MR. REAGAN LEE

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Reagan Lee on his impressive first place finish at the 81st annual National FFA Convention, where he won the Botany Division. Reagan lives in Winter Haven and is currently a student in the International Baccalaureate program at Bartow High School.

Reagan's research project focused on the extent of potassium's role in plant nutrition. By measuring transpiration rates and sodium-ion concentration in plants, he found that sodium can actually be substituted for potassium in regulating plant transpiration.

Drawn to the issue because of Florida's nutrient-deficient soil, Reagan hopes his research will have meaningful and practical applications for Florida agriculture. Reagan's research and initiative exemplifies how hard work and creativity can reap personal and public benefits.

It also demonstrates the great opportunities and experience that programs like FFA provide for our young people. FFA is an important tool for teaching our children about agriculture and giving them an opportunity to challenge each other to come up with innovative solutions that could have a positive impact on the public. As a former participant in the Florida 4-H program and a member of the FFA, I truly understand and appreciate the importance of these programs, as well as how difficult these competitions are to win.

I applaud Reagan for this significant achievement, and invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in wishing him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

TERRORIST ATTACKS IN ALGERIA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I wish to offer my condolences and deepest sympathies to the citizens of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the families of those who have been killed in recent terrorist attacks in that nation. Just today we have heard that nine security guards were murdered while on duty at an electricity facility near Ziana Mansouriah.