

gift to the U.S. Capitol and to the American people. The Capitol Christmas Tree has been a tradition at the United States Capitol since 1964. This is the first time that Arizona has gifted the Capitol Christmas tree, and it is also the tallest ever.

On December 8th, 2009, this majestic 85-foot Blue spruce, originally harvested from the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests in Eastern Arizona, was unveiled on the west lawn of the United States Capitol. The Capitol Christmas Tree, also known as "The People's Tree," is decorated with more than 6,000 holiday ornaments made by Arizona's school children. These ornaments were made from recycled materials and were made specially to survive the winter elements of this colder Washington climate.

The tree's journey to the United States Capitol began when it was cut down on November 7th, and embarked on a 10-day tour of Arizona, during which the tree stopped in 28 of our communities. The tree eventually travelled over 4,600 miles before arriving at its final destination in Washington, D.C., but before arriving, it stopped at cities across the nation so that thousands of Americans could marvel at the seven-story, 9,000-pound spruce. Moving such a large tree for so great a distance was a challenge, and was successful due to the efforts of Harry Baker and his crew from Southwest Industrial Rigging.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking the U.S. Forest Service, and especially the employees of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, for their devotion to this wonderful project. These employees gave up their Thanksgiving holiday with their families to assist with the transportation of the tree to Washington, D.C. I would especially like to thank Rick Davalos, the District Manager of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, and Jim Payne, the Forest Service's Public Affairs Officer, who headed up this extensive project. And lastly, I would like to commend the Steering Committee of the Capitol Christmas Tree 2009 Project, and the project's many volunteers, for their time and hard work.

TRIBUTE TO TERESEANN LYNCH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember a woman from Iowa who personified the courage and spirit of a working mother and Member of the United States Military. TereseAnn Lynch was killed on November 11, 2009, due to an act of domestic violence. TereseAnn, 30, was a mother of an 8-month-old son. As a member of the Iowa Air National Guard for more than a decade, she served tours of duty in Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia working as a weapons specialist. Most recently, TereseAnn served her country with honor providing aid in the Iraq War as a technical sergeant. She was also an active and committed employee at the Department of Human Services in Iowa where she provided help to young children and mothers trying to recover lost child support payments.

On behalf of my family, and the United States Congress, I would like to extend my condolences to her family, friends, and loved

ones. TereseAnn embodied the character and values of a servicewoman and loving mother.

A tragedy like this is a painful reminder of the frequency of domestic violence cases. Domestic violence is a willful act of abuse that results in many reactions such as fear, anger, depression, and even death. In the U.S., an estimated 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year. In Iowa over the past decade, domestic violence has affected nearly 6,000 women annually and 1,200 men. Structured to fight the battle against domestic violence, the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) is an organization established to reach out and help Iowans with domestic violence issues. With 28 direct service programs across the state, the coalition offers counseling and community outreach. The ICADV institutes a 24-hour statewide hotline for those needing help. The phone number is 1-800-942-0333.

Domestic violence is a horrific act that no one should have to deal with, and it is my hope that the resources and help available will offer guidance and aid to those affected.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of HR 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2010:

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, COPS Tech

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Hartselle, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: 200 Sparkman St. N.W. Hartselle, AL 35640

Description of Request: Wireless Area Network \$250,000

The funding would be used to purchase a Wireless Area Network. This funding will greatly improve the telecommunication access in the area.

The full amount of these funds will be used to purchase equipment.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—Byrne

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama Department of Public Safety, Montgomery, AL
Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1511, Montgomery, AL 36102-1511

Description of Request: "ADPS Child Sexual Predator Project, \$150,000"

The funding would be used for Project targets arrest and prosecution of Child Sexual Predators in AL. ADPS received 2008 start-up funding from COPS Child Sexual Predator Program. ADPS needs federal assistance to maintain the current level of effective operation. This program continues efforts initiated nationwide under the ADAM WALSH ACT.

These funds will be used for the following areas: \$50,000 equipment; \$10,000 access to background data base repositories to locate absconded sex offenders; \$70,000 salaries and benefits; and \$20,000 enhancement of the department's ability to accept electronically transmitted sex offender information.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—Byrne

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: Box 870117, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Description of Request: Domestic Violence Law Clinic, \$300,000

The funding would be used to provide free civil legal services to victims of domestic violence, stalking, and assault in the seven west Alabama counties of Bibb, Greene, Hale, Fayette, Pickens, Lamar and Tuscaloosa. The services provided by the DV Law Clinic further the national goal of crime prevention and victim assistance and support the important services set forth in the Violence Against Women Act and other federal laws.

These funds will be used for the following areas: \$219,000 for salaries and benefits; and \$81,000 will be used for facilities and administrative costs associated with the Clinic.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—Byrne

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama District Attorneys Association, Montgomery, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: 515 South Perry Street Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Description of Request: Zerometh Drug Prevention Campaign, \$1,000,000

The funding would be used by Zerometh to expose meth and its deadly consequences to teens and young adults. The goal is to stop a potential first-time user from ever trying the drug, while encouraging everyone to look for the warning signs and support treatment. Methamphetamine is a national epidemic and efforts to educate youth on its dangers and hopefully prevent the initial use of meth are needed.

\$30,000 would be used for Program Administration, Project Evaluation, and Compliance, while \$970,000 would be used for a year of demand reduction programs across the State of Alabama.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—JJ

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind, Talladega, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: 205 E. South St, P.O. Box 698, Talladega, Alabama 35161

Description of Request: Overcoming Communication Barriers for AIDB At-Risk Youth, \$15,000

The funding would be used to expand a preventive education program for at-risk disabled children impacted by communication barriers, increased incidence of dysfunctional families and a lack of appropriately trained personnel in rural areas and school systems. One in 10 US children is born with a disability, adding emotional and financial stress to families and rural school systems. Disabled teens are more likely to face abuse, pregnancy or suicide due to communication and other barriers, and this funding helps address this.

\$110,000 for program development, \$29,000 for parent education and training, \$11,000 for program materials, supplies and support.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account or Provision: NASA, Cross Agency Support

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Address of Requesting Entity: 301 Sparkman Avenue, Huntsville, AL 38152

Description of Request: Virtual Environment Simulation Laboratory \$500,000.

The funding would be used for purchasing of equipment which provides UAH a new capability to support Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) missions by developing engineering and science applications of virtual environment simulation as well as enhancing student involvement in virtual environments. This would benefit NASA MSFC uses of the facility relevant to MSFC missions, including virtual examination of rocket engines while firing, virtual participation in spacecraft manufacturing and maintenance processes and virtual presence on the surface of the moon.

The full amount of these funds will be used to purchase equipment.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: NASA, Cross Agency Support

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Southern Research Institute

Address of Requesting Entity: 757 Tom Martin Drive, Birmingham, AL 35211

Description of Request: Development of characterization techniques for advanced high temperature materials in space launch, \$1,000,000.

The funding of \$1 million for the "Development of Characterization Techniques for Advanced High Temperature Materials in Space Launch Applications" will enable research and developments of advanced modeling, testing and characterization techniques for advanced composite materials in extreme environments. SRI has identified several gaps in current NASA technology that if filled, will greatly assist analysts and designers to successfully utilize composites in advanced structural and thermal protection system applications and reduce overall program risk.

\$350,000 to be spent on equipment and material purchases, \$400,000 to be spent on materials research and analysis, \$200,000 to be spent on testing, and \$50,000 to be spent on program management.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account or Provision: NASA, Cross Agency Support

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: B.G. Smith & Associates, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 555 Sparkman Drive, Suite 810, Huntsville, AL 35816

Description of Request: Product life-cycle management and advanced modeling and simulation methods, \$1,000,000.

The program seeks to create an integrated and interoperable Product Lifecycle environment as it relates to engineering and manufacturing capabilities and to perform focused critical analyses on flight vehicle performance issues. To move MSFC in the direction leading to modernizing its systems, streamline operations, increase traceability, decrease costs, gain better insight, and increased aerospace manufacturing expertise.

The funding would be used for about 6 full time employees, to purchase some hardware and cost associated with PLM software.

HONORING DR. LAWRENCE B. SCHOOK

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Dr. Lawrence B. Schook, who recently led an international team in the sequencing of the swine genome. Dr. Schook is a distinguished Gutsell Professor and Director of the Division of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he has spent the past nine years researching genetic resistance to disease, regenerative medicine, and using genomics to create animal models for biomedical research.

The draft sequence will allow researchers to pinpoint genes that are useful to pork production or are involved in immunity or other important physiological processes in the pig. It will enhance breeding practices, offer insight into diseases that afflict pigs (and, sometimes, also humans) and will assist in efforts to preserve the global heritage of rare, endangered and wild pigs. It also will be important for the study of human health because pigs are very similar to humans in their physiology, behavior and nutritional needs.

With the growth of our world's population and subsequent rise in interaction between both domesticated and wild animals it is imperative that we continue to fund researchers such as Dr. Schook. The recent outbreak of H1N1 is a great reminder that the work of Dr. Schook and his colleagues is of upmost importance, not only to our world's food supply, but to our health as well.

I would ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Dr. Schook, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and all of the team members under Dr. Schook who made this discovery possible.

HONORING SCOTTS BLUFF NATIONAL MONUMENT ON ITS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join in honoring the Scotts Bluff National Monument—which will be celebrating its 90th anniversary this Saturday.

On December 12th, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson signed a Presidential Proclamation, officially establishing Scotts Bluff National Monument on approximately 2,000 acres.

One of the highest points in Nebraska, Scotts Bluff played an important role in our country's westward expansion. A natural landmark, the formation served as a point of reference for travelers on the Oregon, California, Mormon, and Pony Express Trails.

Today, visitors to the monument can hike the Saddle Rock Trail, see a magnificent view from the summit, visit the Oregon Trail Museum and Visitor Center, and even relive life on the Oregon Trail during special "Living History" programs during the summer. The north face of the monument shows more geological

history than any other formation in Nebraska, spanning a time period extending millions of years.

Having grown up in the shadow of the monument, I know full well just how important this monument has been for our country, for Nebraska, and for the local economy. It is with great pleasure I join with all Nebraskans to celebrate the 90th birthday of such an icon.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROY FOSTER AS A 2009 TOP 10 CNN HERO

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a courageous veteran turned social activist, Mr. Roy Foster. Mr. Foster is the founder of Stand Down House, an organization in South Florida that has been providing veterans with life-changing assistance since 2000. His hard work and dedication has earned him the esteemed distinction of 2009 Top 10 CNN Hero. CNN Heroes is an annual awards ceremony that recognizes "everyday people changing the world." Mr. Foster was one of ten CNN Heroes chosen by a blue-ribbon panel of distinguished leaders and humanitarians, including Retired General Colin Powell, Whoopi Goldberg, and Sir Elton John, from an initial pool of more than 9,000 viewer nominations.

Mr. Foster knows all too well how hard it is to find programs that help veterans deal with addiction and homelessness because he used to be one of them. Born in rural Georgia, Mr. Foster joined the Army right after high school. Throughout his six years in the military, he drank alcohol and experimented with drugs. By the time he left the Army in 1980, Mr. Foster was an alcoholic and his drug use had begun to escalate as he struggled to deal with life after the Army. Like many people dealing with addiction, Mr. Foster spent nights sleeping on the streets as he battled his disease for many years.

After starting a life of sobriety in the early 1990s, Mr. Foster used his experiences to become an effective substance abuse counselor. Acknowledging the problems that veterans dealing with substance abuse face, Mr. Foster and another veteran, the late Don Reed, established the non-profit Faith*Hope*Love*Charity, Inc. so that veterans would no longer fall through the cracks of an imperfect system.

After six years of work, Mr. Foster founded Stand Down House to help fellow veterans who are struggling and have lost their homes, dignity, and the ability to lead productive lives. Through referral by the Veterans Administration (VA) and with help from their funding, Stand Down House provides transitional housing and support services to 45 veterans in different stages of recovery. This support includes housing, clothing, counseling, life skills classes for up to two years, and transportation to the VA hospital for medical and mental health care. The goal is to not only assist veterans in their recovery process, but give them the tools to find employment or attend school after their recovery process is over.

At Stand Down House, veterans realize that they are not alone in their struggles after returning home, which allows for veterans of all