

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Rep. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

Bill Number: HR 2638

Account: Federal Emergency Management Agency's Pre-Disaster Mitigation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Trenton

Address of Requesting Entity: City of Trenton

Description of Request:

The City of Trenton will use the \$500,000 in Pre-Disaster Mitigation funding in the FY 2009 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill to begin elevating the utilities of 270 flood prone properties that have suffered severe and repetitive physical damage resulting in significant economic loss.

Trenton's Island and Glen Afton neighborhoods are greatly affected by rapidly rising flood water as a result of their proximity to the Delaware River. These two neighborhoods are bordered by the Delaware River to the southwest and the Delaware and Raritan Canal to the northwest. Route 29 (a four lane state highway that traverses the City) splits the two neighborhoods; causing an island-like geography.

These waterfront communities are home to approximately 270 structures, many of which are occupied by single family working class homeowners who have suffered great financial loss as a result of: water damaged electrical distribution systems, hot water heaters and central heating units, as well as the loss of personal items that can never be replaced.

Six historical river crests (occurring from the earlier part of the 20th century until present) have caused considerable property damage and interrupted sewer, electric and gas services, causing the evacuation of these neighborhoods. Although these neighborhoods are designated as a 100 year flood plain, the last two floods occurred within seven months of each other (September 2004 and April 2005). Just as the Island and Glen Afton residents saw their lives getting back to some semblance of normalcy, the second flood occurred, resulting in lost wages, belongings, property, major systems and complete dislocation.

One major contributing factor to the early flooding is the storm sewer outfall, which provides an early entry point for water to backflow into the lower points of the Island and Glen Afton neighborhoods via the storm sewer system during early flood stages. However, once the river reaches two feet above flood stage, the entire Island and Glen Afton neighborhoods will flood. The City of Trenton wishes to assist the most affected residents so that property loss and displacement are minimized.

This project is designed to elevate the utilities of approximately 270 properties that have suffered repetitive damages. The 270 identified properties will abandon the use of their basements and elevate their major systems by re-

wiring the electrical system and redirecting the duct work so that the hot water heating and heating system can be moved to above the first floor; minimizing loss during future floods.

CELEBRATING CENTRAL LOUISIANA'S RICH MILITARY HERITAGE

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. ALEXANDER. —Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 66th anniversary of the creation of the Airborne at Camp Claiborne, La., and to celebrate Central Louisiana's rich military heritage.

Central Louisiana has strong historic ties to America's military history, from colonial days to the present, having served as a major training location for the U.S. military forces in World War I, World War II, as well as more recent conflicts around the world.

On August 16, 1942, the 101st Airborne Division was created at Camp Claiborne, La. The 101st Airborne had a "rendezvous with destiny" to defend American interests on the battlefields of the world since World War II.

To commemorate this day in history, the City of Alexandria and the City of Pineville, with Louisiana State University (LSU) at Alexandria, are cosponsoring a historic event on October 3, 2008.

This celebration will recognize and honor the service and sacrifices of the 1st Battalion of the 509th Airborne Infantry, currently based at Fort Polk, La., which saw action in World War II.

In addition, this event will honor the service of Dr. H. Rouse Caffey, former Chancellor of LSU Alexandria and Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, as well as a veteran of the 82nd Airborne Division.

The National World War II Museum in New Orleans, La., which is dedicated to preserving and studying the history of the war, is also collaborating with LSU Alexandria in celebrating this historic event with other organizations including the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Louisiana National Guard, the Don F. Pratt Memorial Museum at Fort Campbell, Ky., the Louisiana Military Maneuvers Museum, the Kent Plantation House, the Arts Council of Louisiana, the Mississippi Armed Forces Museum, the Alexandria/Pineville Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Chennault Aviation and Military Museum and the Alexandria Museum of Art.

Distinguished speakers of the event include Thomas Czokanski, Director of Collections at the National World War II museum in New Orleans, La., and Dr. Jerry Sanson, Professor of History and Political Science at LSU Alexandria.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the historic celebration of Central Louisiana's rich military heritage and specifically the 66th anniversary of the creation of the Airborne at Camp Claiborne, La., in 1942.

RECOGNIZING THE SAVANNAH DRAMA CLUB

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Savannah Drama Club for their excellence in the arts. The Savannah Drama Club is a youth based ministry that presents youthful styles of praise and performance. Founded by Pastor Carl Gilliard and his wife, Lashawanda, thirteen years ago, the Savannah Drama Club is now known for its polite and respectful youth members as well as their amazing talents.

The Savannah Drama Club is visiting Washington DC this coming October and will be making their fifth performance at the White House. The group has also performed on the steps of the Capitol, the Nation's monuments, as well as local jails, community centers, Christian camps, and family shelters. Through their use of theater, poetry, music, dance, spoken word, and even miming, the group is able to spread the Word of God to all.

Since its inception, it's estimated that about 900 children have been involved with the program and currently has 42 active participants. This revolutionary drama club has not only touched the thousands who have bore witness to their show, but has also had a great influence on the children involved. This program has kept students off the streets, shown them the rewards of strong discipline, and most importantly, how important it is to serve a higher power than themselves.

I would like to take this time to recognize their accomplishments in the arts and ministry, and also to wish them a warm welcome to Washington.

HONORING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DOWNINGTOWN LIONS CLUB

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Downingtown Lions Club on its 80th Anniversary and to honor the service organization for its commitment to serving the community.

Founded in 1928, the Downingtown Lions Club is part of the largest service organization in the world with approximately 1.3 million members in 202 nations.

National Lions Club founder and Chicago businessman Melvin Jones said in 1917 that the organization was created to give something back to their communities. And the Downingtown Lions Club has certainly carried out that mission admirably.

Thanks to the dedication and work of its members and volunteers, the Club built the Kerr Park Pavilion and installed a drinking fountain along the Struble Trail. Hundreds of people in the community have benefited from the Club's distribution of free eyeglasses and