

the finest diplomats that both of us have come to know, Mr. Luca Ferrari, the Minister Counselor for Public and Legislative Affairs at the Embassy of the Republic of Italy. Minister Ferrari, who has been at the Italian Embassy here in Washington since October 8, 2005, is also the Official Spokesman at the Embassy as well. It has been recently announced that Minister Ferrari will leave Washington later this summer to become the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Italy in Madrid, Spain.

Minister Ferrari, whose father was a career diplomat, was born in Rome and lived all over the world while growing up. As a result, he can speak five languages fluently. He received a degree in political science from the University of Rome in 1984. He joined the Italian Diplomatic Service in 1986 and served in a number of positions in Rome, including Executive Assistant to the Foreign Minister and Special Assistant in the Office of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 1991, he was sent to Moscow where, as First Secretary, he held the position of Head of the Ambassador's Secretariat and Chief of the Consular Section until 1995. Then he began his first assignment in Washington, where he was Counselor and Chief of Staff of the Ambassador of Italy to the United States until 1999. After returning to Rome, he served as the Director for Middle Eastern Affairs of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs until his return to Washington in 2005.

Given the enormous amount of diplomatic and consular activity between the United States and our critical NATO ally Italy over the years, Washington, D.C. is one of the most challenging posts for Italian diplomats. I think that you will agree with my belief that Minister Ferrari has performed superbly both as a diplomat and as a friend to both of us. Whether it has been his tireless efforts on your historic trip to Italy as the highest ranking Italian-American official, his facilitation of the recent visit of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi to Washington, and the numerous visits of other high-level officials in recent years, his work to provide relief in the wake of the devastating earthquake in Abruzzo, his preparations for the upcoming July G-8 Summit in L'Aquila, or the energy he brought to the numerous other projects to which he was assigned; I think that you will agree with me that Luca has set an example of what it means to be a model diplomat. Many of our colleagues are aware of the historic role that the model of Italian diplomacy has played in the creation of the current worldwide diplomatic system and international law. We can easily see how Luca fits into the fine tradition of envoys that Italy has sent to other nations down through the ages.

On a personal level, Madam Speaker, Luca has been a true friend to both of us, as well as to your husband Paul and to my wife Leslie. As you have on so many occasions, Luca travelled to Hartford to participate in my annual charity Bocce Tournament, which Leslie and I host at our home to raise money for the St. Patrick/St. Anthony Church in Hartford and the East Hartford Interfaith Ministries. Although he has yet to join you in the elite group of Italian Celebrity Night trophy winners, I am sure that, with a little more practice, he will be awarded that honor at some future tournament.

Madam Speaker, I would like to conclude by urging all of our colleagues to join us in saluting Minister Luca Ferrari for all he has done

to further relations between our two countries and to wish him, his wife Mariachiara Pastore Ferrari, and their 13 year-old son Alessandro Ferrari all the best as they begin their new duties in Spain.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the new House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information.

Bill Number: H.R. 2647, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010

Project Name: Readiness Center Addition/Alteration, Iowa Falls, Iowa.

Amount: \$2,000,000

Account: Army National Guard

Recipient: Construction and Facilities Management Office (CFMO), Iowa Army National Guard

Recipient's Street Address: Camp Dodge, Building B-61, 7105 NW 70th Avenue Johnston, Iowa 50131

Description: The purpose of this project is to renovate and provide an addition to the Iowa Falls National Guard Readiness Center (armory). The project is a complete renovation of the existing facility to modernize administrative and training areas to meet new Department of Defense force structure requirements. The addition to the building will address deficiencies in supply space, vault space, classroom space, the electrical system, HVAC system, Anti-terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) measures, information technology/telecom systems and military parking space.

Bill Number: Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Garner Wastewater Treatment Plant/Trunk Sewer Reconstruction

Amount: \$500,000

Account: STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Recipient: City of Garner

Recipient's Street Address: 135 West 5th Street Garner, IA 50438

Description: Construct improvements, including upgrading current aerated lagoon system to sequencing batch reactor mechanical plant and reconstruction of approximately 3000 feet of undersized trunk sewer line. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has mandated construction of wastewater plants to meet ammonia nitrogen standards. Trunk sewer carrying 70% of the community's flow needs to be upgraded from 12" diameter pipe to 24". The City's aerated lagoon system is no longer capable of meeting standards for ammonia nitrogen, and the DNR has mandated construction of a new plant. The project is extremely significant locally. Without securing outside funding, sewer rates will be triple what they were in 2005 for at least the next 20-25 years. This is a major expense for families in economic times that have hit Hancock County's employment base harder than the national average.

Bill Number: H.R. 2849, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Iowa Central Law Enforcement Training Center

Amount: \$500,000

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Recipient: Iowa Central Community College

Recipient's Street Address: One Triton Circle Fort. Dodge, IA 50501

Description: The Center provides an economical and efficient platform for multi-discipline training programs for first-responder law enforcement personnel from across the state of Iowa. Thus far about 26,000 personnel have been trained.

Bill Number: H.R. 2849, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Internet Scale Event and Attack Generation Environment

Amount: \$400,000

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Recipient: Iowa State University

Recipient's Street Address: 1750 Beardshear Hall Ames, IA 50011

Description: The funding will be used to continue the program, which simulates technology cyber attacks on a virtual internet for the purpose of researching cyber defense mechanisms and analyzing attacks.

Bill Number: H.R. 2849, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Iowa State Forensic Testing Lab

Amount: \$1,300,000

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Recipient: Iowa State University

Recipient's Street Address: 1750 Beardshear Hall Ames, IA 50011

Description: The funding will continue this project, which involves cutting edge developments in forensic analysis and evaluation techniques, and the conduct of training and lab management programs for state and local (and some federal) entities.

Bill Number: H.R. 2849, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Project Name: Law Enforcement Visual Intelligence Tool

Amount: \$200,000

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Recipient: Pocahontas County Iowa Sheriff

Recipient's Street Address: 99 Court Square Pocahontas, IA 50574

Description: The purpose of the technology is to aid local sheriffs in North Central Iowa by providing a special aerial imagery and geospatial visual intelligence tool that can help law enforcement personnel view and analyze an enforcement target location, building, intersection, etc.

HONORING THE SAMARITAN INN

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2009

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The Samaritan Inn, which took its first resident in 1989. Since it began, the Inn has served over 400 men through outreach or residential housing.

The Samaritan Inn is transitional residential living with supportive services for up to 12