

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MEKONG PLAZA AND ITS CELEBRATION OF THE VIETNAMESE TET NEW YEAR

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many contributions that the Mekong Plaza has made to the City of Mesa and surrounding communities. In just over a year since its Grand Opening, Mekong Plaza has proven to be a distinctive and uniquely wonderful element of Mesa's community. The grocery store and many shops and restaurants serve as a window into the Southeast Asian culture, showcasing Vietnamese food, clothing, culture and hospitality.

I especially want to recognize that, this year, all of the proceeds from Mekong Plaza's annual Vietnamese Tet New Year Celebration—the largest such event in Arizona—will be donated to provide services to the needy and to assist public safety through the non-profit CARE Partnership and the Mesa Public Safety Foundation.

I am truly privileged to represent such a strong cultural fixture in our district and will continue to treasure the plaza's addition to Mesa's diversity. As many in the Vietnamese community decorate their homes with flowers and share special cuisine to start the New Year, I am honored to share in their celebration. Again, I am proud to serve the Mekong Plaza and am eager to see its continued success and growth.

I urge you, Madam Speaker, to join me in rising to congratulate the tenants and management team at Mekong Plaza for their tremendous service and contributions to Mesa and the surrounding community.

RECOGNIZING OF THE COLUMBUS DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Columbus Downtown Lions Club for its dedication to the improvement of the Columbus area. The Columbus Downtown Lions Club, which was officially re-chartered by Lions Club International on December 9, 2009, is committed to building a safer, healthier, and stronger community through volunteerism and support for local initiatives.

The Lions Club International was founded in 1917 and today is the world's largest service club organization. The club, originally known for fighting blindness, continues that legacy today by conducting vision screenings, equipping hospitals and clinics, distributing medicine and raising awareness of eye disease. Lions Club International also supports community

projects for children and schools through scholarships, recreation programs and mentoring.

The Columbus Downtown Lions Club was originally chartered on June 17, 1920, and served the local community for over eighty years until it was disbanded in 2007 due to insufficient membership. I am proud of the individuals who have restarted this organization and committed themselves to continuing its legacy of volunteerism and generosity. I am excited and thankful in anticipation of the valuable service that this club will provide to our community.

In the long-standing tradition of Lions Club involvement in central Ohio, the Columbus Downtown Lions Club has already begun to build relationships that will foster future volunteer activities. This Saturday, during the Downtown club's official charter celebration, the Downtown club will make a contribution to Honor Flight, an organization that pays for and organizes trips for our World War II veterans so that they can see firsthand our Nation's capital and their monuments. The members of the Columbus Downtown Lions Club are building a valuable network of service-minded individuals who will serve as role models and leaders in our community for decades to come.

With the re-chartering of the Columbus Downtown Lions Club, the Lions community has once again demonstrated its generosity, compassion, and commitment to making a difference in the city of Columbus. I am proud to recognize and honor this organization and all of its dedicated volunteers for their exemplary record of service and their future contributions to the betterment of central Ohio.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE'S WORK OF SARAH D. "SALLY" STEWART

HON. JACKIE SPEIER-

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, it is with an abundance of appreciation and admiration that I pay tribute to the life's work of Dr. Sarah D. "Sally" Stewart, who recently retired—after 26 years—from the Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees. She leaves the district having served longer than any other trustee in the district's history and, prior to her service there, served eight years on the Board of the Portola Valley School District.

During her impressive tenure, Sally became known as a thoughtful and energetic board member who always saw the big picture. Educational opportunities, principles and challenges have evolved quite a bit over the past three-plus decades and Sally always kept one step ahead, urging her colleagues to embrace new ideas and ever striving to serve the myriad needs of students, parents, educators and the community.

Sally distinguished herself through her passionate contributions to the underserved youth

of East Palo Alto. She provided leadership and guidance to the Youth Court and was instrumental in the founding of two nonprofit organizations, including what eventually became EdSource, a foundation dedicated to providing access to quality education for all children and encouraging an informed and involved citizenry to strengthen California's schools.

Dr. Stewart's commitment to education transcended the boundaries of her own community. She served on the San Mateo County School Boards Association, where she instituted the J. Russell Kent Awards to recognize the work of area teachers. She served as President of the California School Boards Association and the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing and has given her time, energy and intellect to numerous charities, causes and campaigns that benefit children and education at all levels.

Next month, Sally will be duly honored with her induction into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Sally was born in Albany, New York in 1932 and received her Bachelor of Arts from New York's Smith College. She also received a Ph.D. in Medical Microbiology from Stanford University.

Madam Speaker, Sally Stewart is one of those rare public servants whose quiet and competent leadership gives others something to aspire to. For decades I have stood in awe of her capacity to understand the intricacies of school finance and the subtleties of achieving district-wide academic excellence. While I regret to see her go, she has certainly earned her retirement. No doubt she will spend her newly-found free time doing more reading, walking her beloved dog and continually pushing for reforms that improve California's educational system.

Our nation owes Sally Stewart a debt of gratitude. I would also like to extend my thanks to her sons—Ed and Willie—and her two grandchildren—Teddy and Sam—for sharing this remarkable woman with the greater community for so many years.

Imagine how much better our nation's schools would be if every community had a Sally Stewart. But since there is only one, I am selfishly grateful that she chose the San Francisco Peninsula to call home.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE ORGANIZATION OF CHINESE-AMERICANS

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I would like to wish the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Organization of Chinese-Americans a happy and healthy New Year for the year 4708, the year of the Tiger.

I hope this New Year brings the Chinese-American community of Pittsburgh much joy

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and thanksgiving. I am thankful for the positive impact this organization has had on the lives of Chinese-Americans and Pittsburgh as a whole. Chinese-Americans have greatly contributed to the progress of Pittsburgh as well as the entire nation. I am very honored for this opportunity to wish them a very happy 4708.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in wishing the members of the Organization of Chinese-Americans a very happy and prosperous New Year.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3326—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOE WILSON

Bill Number: H.R. 3326—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: O&M, Air National Guard

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: South Carolina Air National Guard

Address of Requesting Entity: McEntire JNGB, 1325 South Carolina Rd., Eastover, SC 29044

Description of Request: I have secured \$2,160,000 for the South Carolina Air National Guard Controlled Humidity Protection. CHP will be used to control humidity in aviation support facilities that house spare parts, tools, support and test equipment, munitions, and weapons. Traditional methods of corrosion control primarily mitigate the effect of moisture by employing corrective technologies to counteract existing corrosion damage. Such corrective methods are expensive, time consuming, and create additional serious challenges such as excess hazardous materials and hazardous waste. The most cost effective solution to the corrosion problem is through prevention, not correction. Matching funds are not applicable. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOE WILSON

Bill Number: H.R. 3326—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Army

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: AGY Holding Corporation

Address of Requesting Entity: 2556 Wagener Rd., Aiken, SC 29801

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,600,000 for the AGY Holding Corporation's Next Generation High Strength Glass Fibers for Ballistic Armor Applications. This program accelerates the development of next generation high strength glass fibers used in composite armoring materials. This means lighter, stronger composite vehicle armor without sacrificing the ballistic protection needed to maximize soldier survivability. Additionally, this program supports the domestic industrial base for armor materials production. Some of the glass fiber used in composite vehicle armors is man-

ufactured outside the U.S. Developing the next generation high strength glass fibers at AGY will reduce dependency on foreign sources for a critical material, and also save U.S. jobs. Next generation high strength glass fibers can also be utilized by the commercial sector to lighten and improve armoring used on law enforcement vehicles and armored bank cars, resulting in better protection for personnel, improved fuel economy, and reduced emissions. Matching funds are not applicable. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOE WILSON

Bill Number: H.R. 3326—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Army

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: XRD Inc. (XRD_i)

Address of Requesting Entity: 103 Industrial Village Rd., Beaufort, SC 29906

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,600,000 for XRD_i's Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Heavy Fuel Engine. Funding would be used for implementing XRD_i's lightweight military fuel engine for a Tactical UAV Heavy Fuel Engine program. The scope would include building sufficient engines to flight test and evaluate this technology for use in the U.S. Military environment. The funding would support economic development in the region and create more jobs for Beaufort, South Carolina by replacing an engine that is currently purchased from a foreign entity and is not heavy fuel capable. The funds would also support further development, design, and implementation of the manufacturing process to build this engine to military standards and support criteria. Matching funds are not applicable. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

THE MORE MEMORIALS TO OUR MILITARY THE BETTER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, as I mentioned yesterday, Corporal Frank Buckles is the last surviving doughboy that served in World War I. He is 109 years old this week. To put things in perspective, he has lived half of America's history since the signing of the Constitution.

At the age of 16, he enlisted to serve in World War I. He lied to be able to serve his country. He was a corporal in the U.S. Army in Europe.

After the war was over he later found himself in the Philippines at the start of WWII. The day after the attack on Pearl Harbor Frank Buckles was captured by the Japanese and became a prisoner of war. He was a POW for 39 months. After WWII was over he went to West Virginia where he lives on his farm to this day.

The United States has memorials, museums, and tributes to the Americans who have served in all of our wars. There are even WWI memorials in other places in the country such as the one in Kansas City.

However, there is not one on the National Mall in the Nation's Capitol for all WWI Veterans. On the National Mall there are memorials that pay tribute to 3 of the great wars in the past century. They were built in reverse order to honor those who sacrificed to protect America's freedom and liberty. They are the Vietnam Memorial, the Korean War Memorial and WWII memorial.

I do not believe we can build too many monuments in honor of our Veterans. We need to build a memorial on the National Mall commemorating the World War I Veterans and thus complete the tribute to those who have served in all 4 of the major wars of the last century. This memorial will be built using private donations not taxpayer's money.

We owe it to all those who gave their lives to protect ours; we owe it to those who served in WWI and to the last surviving doughboy of that war, Corporal Frank Buckles, to build this memorial on the national mall.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICAN AND THE NORTHEAST ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA ON THE 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. MELISSA L. BEAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Ms. BEAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Boy Scouts of America and all current and former Scouts across the world, on the occasion of the organization's 100 year anniversary. This Sunday, I will join the Northeast Illinois Council of the Boy Scouts of America as they celebrate with a Centennial Concert and Talent Show in Lake Villa located in Illinois' Eighth Congressional District.

Partnering with local churches, schools, businesses, and other community organizations, the Boy Scouts have touched the lives of tens of millions of young people throughout the past century. Young men involved in Scouting are taught valuable skills in the areas of personal leadership, career development, and outdoor survival. In addition, Scouting offers participants the opportunity to form life-long friendships and benefit from the guidance of positive adult role models serving as troop leaders.

The Boy Scouts program teaches young men the values of responsible citizenship and community service. Year after year, I am impressed by the number of projects benefiting my district undertaken by area Scouts. It is especially inspiring to see those young men hoping to become Eagle Scouts take it upon themselves to develop a service project and organize their peers to carry it out. It comes as no surprise that such a high number of former Scouts go on to serve as leaders in our armed forces, government, businesses and community organizations across the country.

Once again, I congratulate the Boy Scouts on reaching such an impressive milestone and the Northeast Illinois Council for organizing Sunday's celebration. I look forward to watching today's Scouts become tomorrow's leaders.