

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.

These attacks are a stark and all too common reminder that the Global War on Terrorism is truly worldwide and requires a coordinated and vigilant effort by our Nation and our allies to protect our families and our freedoms. I want to thank the people of Algeria for their efforts and the tremendous cooperation we have shared since the terrorist attacks of September 11th.

I am also constantly reminded of the extraordinary efforts being done by our troops and their families. Their sacrifice is a testament to their courage, their dedication, and their love for our Nation. At this time, our thoughts are with those who have lost their lives in this great struggle against violent extremism and those who continue to stand for our freedoms and for the development of a civil, peaceful society in Algeria for Algerian families to prosper.

WHO ANSWERS TO WOMEN? GENDER AND ACCOUNTABILITY

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit into the RECORD, an article expressing why it is important for governments throughout the world to stay committed to achieving gender equality. The article, published by the UN News Service, cites critical information from a newly released report from the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

The report, entitled "Who Answers to Women? Gender and Accountability," alarmed us about the enormous gaps between men and women when it comes to responsibility in official segments of society. Ms. Hanny Cueva-Beteta, Data and Statistics Specialist with the UNIFEM, stated that women's priorities are non-existent when it comes to conflict resolutions and war crimes committed against them are often not prosecuted.

The article poignantly points out that women are outnumbered 4 to 1 in legislatures around the world; almost 2/3 of all unpaid family workers are women; and approximately 1/3 of all women suffer gender-based violence during their lives.

Madam Speaker, I want to commend the UNIFEM for their exceptional and vital research and I urge my colleagues to support efforts to alleviate gender disparities throughout the world.

ACCOUNTABILITY KEY TO MEETING NATIONAL GENDER EQUALITY GOALS, SAYS UN REPORT

20 February 2009—Strengthening accountability for commitments made by governments will be vital to achieving gender equality and women's rights, according to a new report released today by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

"The actions of those in power need to be reviewed and made accountable to women," Hanny Cueva-Beteta, Data and Statistics Specialist with UNIFEM, stressed today at the launch in Monrovia, Liberia, of the agency's flagship publication, *Progress of the World's Women 2008/2009*.

The report, entitled "Who Answers to Women? Gender and Accountability," pointed to vast gaps in accountability between men and women, which lead to weakened

participation of women in the formal sector, according to a news release issued by UNIFEM.

Ms. Cueva-Beteta said that in areas such as conflict mediation, women's priorities are silenced and war crimes committed against them are often not prosecuted.

In both national governments and multi-lateral organizations, accountability systems need to be changed and oriented to answer to women, if commitments to gender equality are to move from rhetoric to results, she stated.

"It is time to move from lip-service to real results," she said, adding that commitments made by governments should be accompanied by funding and planning.

There is still a long way to go in that regard, she noted, given that women are outnumbered 4 to 1 in legislatures around the world; over 60 per cent of all unpaid family workers globally are women; and about one-third of women suffer gender-based violence during their lives.

Also speaking at the launch, Liberia's President, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, highlighted some of achievements made in her country towards women's empowerment. They include the establishment of a special "Criminal Court E," dedicated to gender-based violence crimes with an emphasis on rape, and an empowerment programme, funded by the Nike Foundation, for 1,500 adolescent girls.

There is also the Sirleaf Market Women's Fund, which the President set up to support girls' education and improving markets for women.

Ms. Johnson-Sirleaf thanked UNIFEM for its efforts in getting countries to make greater commitments towards the empowerment of women and implored those at the launch to "join hands at all levels and work together for the enhancement of women as a means of acting towards the development of society as a whole."

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, Pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105;

Requesting Member: Congressman SAM GRAVES

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Projects expected to be included in the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Missouri River Levee System (MRLS) Units L-455 and R 471-460 project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to advance design. Located in the Flood Control account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Blacksnake Creek Feasibility Study project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to initiate design work. Located in section 205 account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Missouri River Degradation, KS

and MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to investigate progressive streambed degradation in the KC reach and other areas of the MO River. Located in the Investigations account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Kansas City Levees, MO and KS project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used for the evaluation of the Metropolitan flood protection system on the MO and KS Rivers in KC. Located in the Investigations account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Line Creek Watershed project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to conduct watershed and floodplain management planning. Located in the Investigations account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Smithville Lake Repairs project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to paint emergency, service and water supply gates and address erosion along most of its main body. Located in the Operations and Maintenance account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Interoperable Mobile Data Communications System project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the St. Joseph Police Department located at 501 Faraon Street, St. Joseph, MO. This funding will integrate multiple data systems into one. Located in the COPS account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Synergy Domestic Violence Program in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is Synergy Services Inc located at 400 E. 6th Street, Parkville, MO 64152. This funding will allow Synergy to increase its capacity to serve children who have been impacted by the cycle of violence and allow for psychological assessments, testing, and increased therapy. Located in the BYRNE-OJP account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Community Hospital Association, Inc., Fairfax, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is Community Hospital Association, Inc located at 405 E. Main Po Box 107, Fairfax, MO 64446. The funding would be used to help fund the building of a new hospital that will better serve the two county areas in NW Missouri. Located in the Health Facilities and Services account in HRSA.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the William Jewell College, Liberty, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is William Jewell College located at 500 College Hill, Liberty, MO, 64068. The funding would be used funding to strengthen the interdepartmental undergraduate research program in the life sciences. Located in the FIPSE Higher Education account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Water Transmission Line Construction, City of Plattsburg, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Plattsburg located at