

HONORING VICE PRESIDENT WALTER MONDALE ON HIS DECORATION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Vice President Walter Mondale as he receives the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Paulownia Flowers from the Government of Japan. This prestigious decoration is the highest honor given to foreign civilians by the Japanese government and is being bestowed to Vice President Mondale for his contribution to enhancing friendship and mutual understanding between Japan and the United States as U.S. Ambassador to Japan from 1993 to 1996.

No public servant is more deserving of this honor than my friend and fellow Minnesotan Walter Mondale. For five decades, Minnesotans have supported the man they warmly call "Fritz" as he served as Vice President of the United States under President Carter, Minnesota's U.S. Senator from 1964 to 1976, and State Attorney General. His contributions in areas including education, social justice and international human rights have forever changed Minnesota, our nation and the world.

Walter Mondale's career in public service is distinguished, however, not by the greatness of his titles, but by the goodness of his heart. He used his positions of authority to tirelessly promote cross-cultural understanding, economic justice and civil rights. While his accomplishments are many, his greatest legacy may be the model of principled and diligent public service that continues to inspire America and fill Minnesotans with quiet pride.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me and all Minnesotans in congratulating Vice President Mondale on this distinct and much-deserved honor.

CONGRATULATING TRAY SMITH FOR BEING NAMED ATMORE'S "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR"

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today to congratulate my friend Tray Smith of Atmore, Alabama, for being named Atmore's 2008 "Citizen of the Year." As evidenced by an outstanding list of accomplishments, he is one of the most exceptional young men I have ever known.

Tray has a love of people and an understanding of politics that is certainly beyond his years. As a freshman in high school, he was given an opportunity to write a weekly political column for The Atmore Advance. He has also been an active member of the Student Government Association, a member of the National Honor Society and helped start a recycling program at Escambia County High School. In addition, Tray is an Eagle Scout and last year helped more than 100 citizens register to vote, most of them being minorities.

Although I have known Tray for years, I have been especially proud of some of his

more recent accomplishments. As you may know, Governor Bob Riley chose Tray to be the first high school intern working in his office in Montgomery. Additionally, as part of the Junior Statesmen of American Summer program at Georgetown University, Tray also attended the 2008 Republican National Convention in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota. During both opportunities, Tray excelled in every way possible.

Last year, however, I was especially proud to nominate Tray to serve as a page in the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, DC. This is an honor that falls on only a select few high school juniors from throughout the nation; needless to say, he made me proud every day that I saw him on the floor of the U.S. Congress, and he has made south Alabama proud countless times as well.

Tray's list of accomplishments reads more like someone who is three or four times his age. Suffice it to say, he truly represents the very best of our young people today. Perhaps the highest compliment I can pay Tray is that as a father of a teenage daughter and an 11-year-old son, I can only hope that my children will one day have the maturity, the value system and the sense of priorities as they continue to grow-up that Tray has. There couldn't be a better role-model for them—or for our other young people—than Tray Smith.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the proud citizens of the First Congressional District and the entire state of Alabama, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Tray Smith on this tremendous achievement. I know I speak for all my colleagues in the House of Representatives when I say we can't wait to see what he accomplishes in the next 18 years of his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am respectfully writing to you so that it is acknowledged, had I been present to vote on H. Res. 153 "Commending the University of Southern California Trojan football team for its victory in the 2009 Rose Bowl" my vote would have been cast in support of this resolution.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Republican Conference standards, I am submitting the following information for publication concerning a project included at my request in the Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus.

Requesting Member: JIM JORDAN (Fourth Ohio District)

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009

Account: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Section 205 (Flood Damage Reduction)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District

Address of Requesting Entity: 1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, New York 14207

Description of Request: The City of Findlay, Ohio, saw three of its worst floods in history in just a 13-month period in 2007–8. These floods devastated the city, causing significant damage to the downtown business district and displacing hundreds of residents. The Army Corps of Engineers has worked diligently since the January 2007 flood toward developing flood damage reduction plans; the feasibility study is on schedule for completion in 2010.

I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

HONORING THE GOOD DEEDS OF BEVERLY YOUNG

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the valor of someone who is no stranger to good deeds and heroic actions. For those of us who have the pleasure of knowing her, Beverly Young is an activist at heart, and a go-getter by reputation.

Beverly, wife of our good friend and colleague BILL YOUNG, has never backed down from an obstacle or challenge standing in her way. She is universally recognized for getting things done.

On a US Airways flight from Tampa, FL to Washington, DC this week, an elderly woman collapsed in the airplane lavatory and lost consciousness. When no one with medical training stepped forward to help, Beverly, a former firefighter and medic, rushed to her side. Using her skills in CPR, Beverly revived the woman and remained with her to make sure she kept awake and alert.

Others on the flight that day probably thought that this was just the one-time act of a Good Samaritan. But for those of us who know her, her quick action to help someone in need was far from ordinary.

Madam Speaker, since the beginning of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Beverly Young has been a fixture in the halls of our nation's military medical centers. She's not there to receive fanfare or to seek recognition; she's there to support the thousands of our nation's best and brightest who have been injured serving our great country.

Beverly is not an occasional visitor; she is there constantly for these young men and women and their families, becoming as familiar to them as anyone else they encounter during their recovery. She listens to each and every one of them, and she makes sure that they get what they need, whether it's food or supplies or fighting the Washington bureaucracy on their behalf.

Madam Speaker, our country is a better place because of people like Beverly Young. Her selfless service has earned her the respect and gratitude of all those she has helped, and all those who have witnessed her good deeds in action.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 6, 2009

Mrs. SCHMIDT. 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. 1105, "Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009."

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Ohio Riverfront, Cincinnati, Ohio

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Construction General

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "The City of Cincinnati"

Address of Requesting Entity: 950 Eden Park Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$2,871,000 to begin construction of Phase I of the project, including a flood-tolerant, stabilized river bank that will become a riverfront park linking central riverfront attractions to Downtown Cincinnati. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Army Corps of Engineers, Construction account [PL 110-114, Section 5116 (WRDA 2007)]. The City of Cincinnati will match this funding 50-50 and has thus far provided \$11.97 million toward this project. The State of Ohio has also appropriated \$1.75 million for the project.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Metropolitan Region of Cincinnati, Duck Creek, Ohio

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Construction General

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "The City of Cincinnati" and "Village of Fairfax"

Address of Requesting Entity: 950 Eden Park Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio and 5903 Hawthorne Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$3,828,000 to continue construction of 100-year level of flood protection to existing commercial, industrial, and residential areas along Duck Creek. This request is consistent with the authority provided by WRDA 2000 (PL 106-541) and the intended and authorized purpose of the Army Corps of Engineers, Construction account.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Ohio Environmental Infrastructure, OH: Village of St. Martin, Ohio

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Construction, Section 594, Ohio Environmental Infrastructure

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "Village of St. Martin"

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 213, Fayetteville, Ohio 45118

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$200,000 to replace the wastewater treatment plant serving the Brown County Ursuline School for Girls, Chatfield College and 27 neighboring residences. The treatment plant is mandated by the EPA to be replaced by June 1, 2010. This request is consistent with the

authorized purpose of the Ohio Environmental Infrastructure account (Section 594). The Village is prepared to provide 50 percent of the total project cost. Funds will be used for engineering (\$48,000); preliminary engineering (\$5,000); design (\$22,500); and construction (\$326,000).

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Rankin House State Memorial

Account: National Park Service, Save America's Treasures

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "Ohio Historical Society"

Address of Requesting Entity: 1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$150,000 to preserve and restore the Rankin House. Funds will be used for exterior trim and brick repair (\$28,000); restoration of dining room and bedroom woodwork (\$43,000); conserve parlor mural (\$50,000); interior painting (\$30,000); new HVAC system (\$25,000); upgrade electrical system (\$12,000); plumbing repair (\$3,000); security system upgrades (\$9,000); relocate utilities to house underground (\$30,000); reproduction floor coverings, wallpapers, drapes, bed coverings (\$75,000); and conservation of furniture and painting (\$60,000). This request is consistent with the authorized purpose of the Save America's Treasures account.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati, Eastern/Delta Sewer Separation Project

Account: STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati"

Address of Requesting Entity: 1600 Gest Street, Cincinnati, OH 45204

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 to separate sanitary sewage from storm water flows in order to reduce the amount of combined sewer overflow (CSO) volume discharged to the Ohio River. \$1 million authorization in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007. This is part of MSD's Wet Weather Improvement Plan (WWIP) to comply with the federally-mandated consent decree for combined sewer overflows (CSO) and sanitary sewer overflows (SSO). The agreement between MSD and various regulatory authorities, including the United States Environmental Protection Agency, was codified into two Consent Decrees entered in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio on June 9, 2004. The total cost of the WWIP is estimated to be nearly \$2.0B (in 2006 dollars) and has been funded thus far by the MSD rate payers. Implementation of this project would reduce the volume of untreated combined sewage entering the Ohio River by 13 million gallons per year. This request is consistent with the authorized purpose of the STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure account.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Shawnee State University for an Immersive Technology and Arts Center

Account: Small Business Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "Shawnee State University"

Address of Requesting Entity: 940 Second Street, Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$300,000 for an Immersive Technology and Arts Center at Shawnee State University (ITAC). ITAC will house a motion capture lab and advanced video and sound editing studios to create a fully-realized virtual environment. ITAC will play a prominent role in attracting national and international professionals and businesses to the area, fostering the development of locally owned companies and supplementing a strong high-tech education at the University. ITAC emphasizes local partnerships and will be part of a regional collaboration of businesses and institutions of higher education working to cultivate the intellectual and financial capital to create a high-tech economic base in the Southern Ohio region. Funding will be used for 30 computer workstations, proprietary software, and furniture (\$270,000) and staffing for one year (\$100,000). This request is consistent with the authorized purpose of the Small Business Administration account.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Clermont County Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "Clermont County Sheriff's Office"

Address of Requesting Entity: 4470 State Route 222, Batavia, Ohio 45103-9777

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$230,000 for the Clermont County Drug Unit, a multi-jurisdictional narcotics task force formed in 1988. Funds will supplement local resources to provide for personnel and operations. The mission of the unit is to identify, investigate and arrest mid and upper echelon narcotics violators who otherwise would operate across jurisdictional boundaries with impunity. Funds will support personnel (\$289,646) and operations (\$77,008). This request is consistent with the authorized purpose of the OJP, Byrne Discretionary Grants account.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Project Name: Cincinnati Communications Equipment

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: "City of Cincinnati"

Address of Requesting Entity: Regional Computer Center/Communications Technology Services, 805 Central Avenue, Suite 310, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$1,270,000 to implement 800MHz radios for non-public safety agencies in the City of Cincinnati so they can communicate with public safety agencies, and to eliminate the need to replace aging (20+ years old) UHF/VHF equipment because of federal (FCC) mandates related to narrowbanding. Total project cost is \$2.5 million, including \$100,000 personnel, engineering, and design and \$2.4 million for equipment. This request is consistent with the authorized purpose of the COPS Law Enforcement Technology account.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JEAN SCHMIDT