

CONGRESSIONAL REPUBLICAN SUPPORT FOR THE RECOVERY ACT AT HOME

HOUSE REPUBLICANS

Rep. Phil Gingrey Presented \$625,000 In Stimulus Funding For Georgia Town, Posed With Giant Check.

“U.S. Rep. Phil Gingrey presented a \$625,000 check to the City of Cedartown Monday. The money comes from federal stimulus funds and will fund the second phase of Cedartown's Streetscape project, with new sidewalks, landscaping and other improvements to the downtown area. ‘This is a very exciting day for Cedartown,’ Cedartown City Commission Chairman Larry Odom said after the check presentation ceremony, held at 12:30 p.m. at Cedartown City Hall. ‘People should soon see significant improvements in downtown Cedartown ... both aesthetically and business growth as well.’ ...Believing that the project qualified for federal stimulus funds as a "shovel-ready" project, Gingrey presented the proposal at the federal level, his spokesperson, Linda Liles, explained.” [[Cedartown Standard](#), 10/5/09]



Rep. Jack Kingston Announced Recovery Act-Funded COPS Grant For Alma Police Department Without Mentioning It Came From The Recovery Act, Praised It As A “Local Initiative.”

“Congressman Jack Kingston (GA-1) today announced a \$106,901 grant for the Alma Police Department. The funding will be administered by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). ‘We’ve seen from experience that local initiatives go a lot further toward solving local problems that policies set in Washington,’ Congressman Kingston said. ‘This funding will provide tax relief by savings local tax dollars and, under the stewardship of Chief Livingston, will go a long way to fight crime more effectively through community policing.’ The grant will provide 100 percent of the approved salary and benefits for an entry level officer over a three year period.” [[Kingston Press Release](#), 7/28/09]

- **Vice President’s Press Release Announcing COPS Grants Included \$106,901 For Alma.**
[[Recovery Act Will Fund Georgia Officer Salaries](#)]

Rep. Jack Kingston Announced Recovery Act-Funded COPS Grant For Jesup Police Department Without Mentioning It Came From The Recovery Act, Praised It As A “Local Initiative.” “Congressman Jack Kingston (GA-1) today announced a \$138,286 grant for the Jesup Police Department. The funding will be administered by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). ‘We’ve seen from experience that local initiatives go a lot further toward solving local problems that policies set in Washington,’ Congressman Kingston said. ‘This funding will provide tax relief by savings local tax dollars and, under the stewardship of Chief Takaki, will go a long way to fight crime more effectively through community policing.’ The grant will provide 100 percent of the approved salary and benefits for an entry level officer over a three year period.” [[Kingston Press Release](#), 7/28/09]

- **Vice President’s Press Release Announcing COPS Grants Included \$138,286 For Jesup.** [[Recovery Act Will Fund Georgia Officer Salaries](#)]

Rep. Jack Kingston Announced \$2.7M In Grants For Savannah To Help Low-Income Families, Said Monies Were “Even More Important During This Tough Economic Period.” “Congressman Jack Kingston (R-GA/01) announced today that the City of Savannah is the recipient of a series of grants from U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The city will receive a community development block grant (CDBG), an emergency shelter grant (ESG) and a HOME grant to support affordable housing. ‘This series of funding is essential in helping the city strengthen its low-income communities,’ Congressman Kingston said. ‘The money enables the city to give continued support to the agencies in the area that support that mission which is even more important during this tough economic period.’ The CDBG grant is \$2,707,777 and will cover an umbrella of community wide projects to aid poverty reduction, youth services and funding for agencies that support low income families. The ESG grant is \$120,231 and will fund agencies within the city that provide services for the homeless. The HOME grant is \$1,252,597 and will assist the city in creating affordable housing for low-income families.” [[Kingston Press Release](#), 6/25/09]

- **Recovery Act Provided Over \$1.1M In Homeless Prevention Funding For Savannah.** “The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (PDF) (Recovery Act) was signed into law by President Obama on February 17th, 2009. The Recovery Act authorized a \$1.5 billion dollar Homelessness Prevention Fund (WORD). The Homelessness Prevention Fund will be administered at the Federal level by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Homeless Prevention Funds are expected to be granted on or before September 1, 2009 to eleven (11) local governments (a/k/a "Entitlements") in Georgia. Those local governments (select name to link to additional information), amounts, and preliminary contact phone numbers are as follows: ...Savannah, City of, \$1,121,523.” [[Georgia Department of Community Affairs](#), accessed 8/6/09]
- **Savannah Received \$733,133 From The Recovery Act In Community Development Block Grants.** “Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan today approved plans in 20 Georgia communities to use over \$10.7 million federal grant to help stabilize and revive local neighborhoods, rehabilitate affordable housing, and improve key public facilities. Funded through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program will support state and local community development while stimulating employment.” [[HUD](#), 7/8/09]

Rep. Jack Kingston Said \$108,652 In Recovery Act Funding For Blackshear Would Create Jobs For Those Hit By The Recession. “Congressman Jack Kingston (R-GA) announced today that the Housing Authority of the City of Blackshear has been named as the recipient of a grant from the 2009 Recovery Act Capital Fund Formula Program. ‘These funds should help save or create local jobs by employing roofing and paving contractors who have been especially hard hit by the recession,’ said Congressman Kingston. ‘Hopefully the money will turn over many times in Pierce County and give a small boost to the economy.’ The amount of the grant is \$108,652 and the funds will be used to modernize and make improvements to rental units and other parts of the properties such as parking lots and driveways.” [Kingston Press Release, 3/2/09]

Nearly Half Of The Organizations Participating In A Job Fair Held By Rep. Eric Cantor In November Were Recipients Of Stimulus Funds. “Nearly half of the 30 organizations participating in a job fair Cantor is holding Monday in Culpeper were recipients of the stimulus. The list includes a slew of government agencies and schools that have directly benefited from the package and may be using stimulus money to hire people (as the money was originally designed to do), including the Orange County public schools, the Transportation Security Administration and Virginia Department of Labor, and some companies that may have indirectly benefited such as Comcast and Terremark. Cantor, a Richmond area congressman and the No. 2 Republican in the House, was one of the most vocal critics of the \$787 billion economic stimulus bill that Congress passed in February. He has since said the package was a failure. Cantor's spokesman John Murray said it's ludicrous to call his boss a hypocrite when the congressman is trying to find jobs for his constituents. The job fair is designed ‘to help people get back to work,’ he said.” [[Virginia Politics Blog, The Washington Post](#), 11/18/09]

- **At The Job Fair Rep. Cantor Hosted In August, There Were Fliers Advertising Stimulus-Enabled Employment Aid.** “On Monday, Cantor hosted a job fair in Midlothian, VA, to demonstrate how he — and not the Obama administration — is working on ‘long-term solutions that will put Virginia businesses and Virginia workers back on the path to financial stability.’ ... ThinkProgress found ... that many jobs represented by employers at the job fair were a direct result of those funds... It’s worth noting that among the job fair participants, more than half were from the public sector, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, the CIA, FBI, Army and the Department of Motor Vehicles — even though Cantor previously has criticized the stimulus plan for placing too great an emphasis on ‘preserving jobs in the public sector.’ Over the next two years, Chesterfield County will receive more than \$38 million in stimulus funding. Fliers were also displayed at the job fair advertising stimulus-enabled unemployment aid. Sixty two million dollars in stimulus funding is headed to Virginia that will extend unemployment benefits, providing many at the job fair with a lifeline.” [[ThinkProgress](#), 8/20/069]

Photos of the Nov. 23rd 7th District Job Fair From Rep. Cantor's [Flickr Account](#):







Rep. John Boehner Issued A Statement Saying, “I’m Pleased That Federal Officials Have Stepped In To Order Ohio To Use All Of Its [Stimulus] Construction Dollars For Shovel-Ready Projects That Will Create Much Needed Jobs.” “Congressman John Boehner (R-West Chester) issued the following after federal officials ordered Ohio transportation officials to kill a \$57 million slush-fund to study projects and put the money into shovel-ready projects: ‘The stated intent of the so-called stimulus package was to create jobs, and certainly a \$57 million slush-fund studying projects did nothing to achieve that goal. With Ohio’s unemployment rate the highest it’s been in 25 years, I’m pleased that federal officials stepped in to order Ohio to use all of its construction dollars for shovel-ready projects that will create much-needed jobs.’ NOTE: Ohio’s Republican congressional delegation wrote to U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood in April asking him to investigate Ohio’s plans to create the slush fund after media reports disclosed the fund’s existence. U.S. House Republicans also wrote to Gov. Strickland expressing their frustration that Ohio would spend money to study projects that may never get built while denying shovel-ready jobs that would create jobs immediately.” [Boehner.House.gov, 6/15/09]

Just Hours After Voting Against the Stimulus, Rep. John Mica Issued Press Releases Praising the Inclusion of Funding for High Speed Rail and for a Commuter Train Project in His District. “Just hours after voting against the bill on the House floor last week, Representative John L. Mica, of Florida issued one press releases lauding the inclusion of \$8 billion for investment in high-speed rail around the country and another for financing a commuter train project in his central Florida district. ‘If we could put a man on the moon, we should be able to move people from city to city quickly instead of wasting time on a congested highway,’ said Mr. Mica, who is the ranking Republican on the House transportation and infrastructure committee. ‘I applaud President Obama’s recognition that high-speed rail should be part of America’s future.’” [NY Times Blog, 2/19/09]

Rep. John Carter Voted Against ARRA, Yet Hailed The \$621 Million In Stimulus Funds To A Military Hospital In His District As A “Victory For The Economy In Central Texas.” “About \$1.2 billion is for new

hospitals at Fort Hood, an Army base in Texas Republican John Carter's district, and Camp Pendleton, a Marine Corps base in California Republican Darrell Issa's district. The two hospitals are the largest individual projects to be paid for with defense stimulus dollars. Carter voted against the bill, saying the stimulus would pile debt on future generations. But he hailed the \$621 million hospital project as a victory for the economy in central Texas, where Fort Hood occupies more than 217,000 acres. Construction of the Fort Hood hospital is scheduled to begin in September 2010. Also planned for the base is \$100 million more in stimulus money for work ranging from road repairs to replacing heating and cooling systems. John Stone, Carter's spokesman, said the congressman has been pushing for several years to get a new hospital at Fort Hood. The new hospital is also supported by Rep. Chet Edwards, a Texas Democrat who chairs the House subcommittee that controls military construction spending. Carter is also on the subcommittee." [The Associated Press, 8/27/09]

Rep. Steve King Claimed He Had "Secured" Highway Funding From Stimulus Bill He Voted Against.

"Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa, announced today that \$570,000 for the U.S. Highway 20 widening project has been included in the federal stimulus bill signed by President Barack Obama earlier in the week. The money will be used to continue to widen the highway from two to four lanes from the county lines of Sac and Calhoun counties to Merville, Iowa, where the highway becomes four lanes again. 'This funding brings total federal funding secured for Highway 20 construction in western Iowa to more than \$26 million,' King said in a prepared statement. 'The four-lane project will increase traveler safety and economic development and stem population loss in one of Iowa's most productive regions.'" [Sioux City Journal, 3/13/09]

Rep. Pete Olson Said Space Investments Would Be Well Worth The Return On Investment. Olson said, "The stated purpose of the stimulus package was to secure good jobs and stabilize our economy. Investing in space is well worth the return on investment. The national security, technology and aerospace benefits have been substantially proven and will continue to improve the quality of life and security the world over." [Olson Press Release, 10/5/09]

Rep. Mary Bono Mack Touted a \$4.2 Million Recovery Act Grant to Prevent Families in Her District from Becoming Homeless. "Rep. Mary Bono Mack (R., Calif.), who denounced the stimulus bill as wasteful, soon announced that it provided a \$4.2 million grant for her district to prevent families from becoming homeless. 'This funding will provide much-needed assistance,' she said." [Wall Street Journal, 3/21/09]

Rep. Zach Wamp Praised Stimulus Funding For Oak Ridge Lab Upgrades and Renovations. "The Oak Ridge National Laboratory will use a portion of its \$71.2 million in federal economic stimulus funding to replace a half-century-old research building, managers said Monday. 'There is an emphasis on moving quickly,' Lab Director Thom Mason said. Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced the award as part of \$1.2 billion being distributed to national laboratories for major construction projects and infrastructure improvements. The Oak Ridge lab, located about 20 miles west of Knoxville, has been planning for some time to build a 160,000-square-foot chemicals and materials research facility to replace a badly aging 1952 structure with leaking pipes and high heating costs. The new building will house some 200 researchers studying solar batteries, corrosion-resistant materials and superconducting electric transmission lines. Building designs are nearly complete and contractors have been selected. With Recovery Act funding, officials hope to complete the project a year early in 2011. 'This modernization effort will help keep ORNL as one of our nation's premier laboratories,' said U.S. Rep. Zach Wamp, R-Tenn. It also will mean about 170 construction jobs. Other Oak Ridge stimulus-funded projects will

include additions to the Spallation Neutron Source research facility and upgrades to the lab's nanophase materials science center." [\[AP, 3/24/09\]](#)

Rep. Randy Borrer Touted The \$1.5 Million In Federal Stimulus Money That Will Pay For A Massive Project To Keep Raw Sewage Out Of His District's Rivers. "Rep. Randy Borrer, R-Fort Wayne, announced Thursday the city would get \$1.5 million in federal stimulus money to pay for its massive project to keep raw sewage out of area rivers. The state will also provide a \$3.5 million loan, although city officials were unsure whether there would be interest on the loan. City Utilities leaders told the City Council on Tuesday they expected between \$5 million and \$6 million from the state in loans but no grant money because the city's sewer rates were relatively inexpensive. Frank Suarez, City Utilities spokesman, said the city didn't think it was eligible for a grant but is happy to accept. "Obviously we're thrilled by the news," he said." [\[Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette, 4/18/09\]](#)

Rep. Glenn Thompson Touted a \$525,000 Grant to the Keystone Rural Health Consortia Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. "U.S. Representative Glenn 'GT' Thompson, R-Howard, today announced the Department of Health and Human Services has awarded \$525,170 to Keystone Rural Health Consortia for renovation of the Cameron County Health Care Center. 'I welcome this bricks and mortar project coming to the 5th Congressional District,' said Thompson. 'I understand most of the contracting will be done right in Emporium, which will be great for employment in the area. This facility hasn't been renovated in more than 30 years and the changes will be a significant improvement'... The grant is made under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 through the Health Resources and Services Administration of the federal Department of Health and Human Services." [Rep. Thompson Press Release, 7/7/09]

In a Michigan Delegation Letter to the Director of Recovery of Auto Workers and Communities, Representatives Upton, Ehlers, Hoekstra, Camp, McCotter, Miller, and Rogers who Voted Against the Stimulus, Wrote that ARRA Provisions Expanding Employment Insurance, Health Care, Training, Weatherization and Education Were "Important First Steps for Individuals and Their Families." "The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provisions expanding unemployment insurance, health care, training, weatherization and education are important first steps for individuals and their families." [Letter from Michigan Delegation to Ed Montgomery, 5/6/09]

Rep. Bob Inglis And Other GOP Elected Officials "Greeted Enthusiastically" The News That A Greenville County Facility Will Receive Stimulus Funding To Manufacture Capacitors For Electric-Drive Vehicles And Alternative Energy Markets, Creating Up To 113 New Full-Time Jobs. "Kemet Corp., which is battling its way back from the depths of the worldwide recession, said Monday a federal stimulus grant will help it expand its Greenville County facility to manufacture capacitors for electric-drive vehicles and alternative energy markets. The expansion, made possible by a \$15.1 million Department of Energy grant that will be matched by the company, will add 113 jobs that average \$50,000 a year in salary and benefits, Kemet officials said. That's a welcome development in a county where the unemployment rate was 10.2 percent in September. News of the expansion was greeted enthusiastically at a gathering of company and elected officials, including Gov. Mark Sanford and U.S. Rep. Bob Inglis, who have opposed federal stimulus spending ... 'Was I categorically against stimulus funding? Absolutely,' Sanford said. 'Do I think it'll bring with it horrible dividends over time? Absolutely.' He added, 'We ultimately took that to the Supreme Court of South Carolina. We lost in the Supreme Court. We said at that time we were going to adhere to the decision that was made with regard to the Supreme Court and stimulus dollars, and that's where we are' He said state officials worked on Kemet's behalf 'because given it was the law of

the land, we were going to work as hard as we could to try and make sure that South Carolina was not a double loser in the process, that hopefully there were dividends.” [[The Greenville News](#), 10/27/09]

Rep. John Mica Touted a \$2.5 Million Stimulus Grant for the St. Augustine Airport “U.S. Rep. John L. Mica (FL-07), announced today that the St. Augustine Airport will receive \$2.5 million in Federal funding to improve its facilities including rehabilitating and widening a taxiway and other airport enhancements. ‘These funds will help improve one of our key economic generators in St. Johns County,’ Mica said of the award. ‘Both business and civilian aircraft are locating at this facility which also services Northrop Grumman, one of our community’s largest employers. I am pleased to see at least a portion of the Federal stimulus funds make their way back into our local community. However, I wish infrastructure projects made up more than only 6 percent of \$787 billion bill passed by Congress.’” [Rep. Mica Press Release, 5/19/09]

Rep. Pete Hoekstra Twittered “Stimulus Incentive Is Very Generous! Up to 8k! Check It Out!” “And now Rep. Pete Hoekstra (R-Mich.), who also voted against the bill, just posted this on his Twitter page: ‘petehoekstra If you know of someone thinking of buying first home, now may be the time. Stimulus incentive is very generous! Up to 8k! Check it out.’” [The Hill’s Briefing Room, [2/18/09](#)]

Despite Voting Against ARRA, Rep. Frank Wolf Blamed Gov. Tim Kaine For Not Spending Enough Stimulus Funding: “We Could Use That Money Desperately.” “Republicans continued to blame Gov. Tim Kaine -- and his would-be successor Creigh Deeds -- for being slow in spending the state’s share of federal stimulus money for transportation. U.S. Frank Wolf and Fairfax Supervisor Pat Herrity, among others, criticized Kaine this morning on a conference call for not using the money for much-needed existing projects in congested Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads. ‘We could use that money desperately,’ Wolf told reporters. ‘We’re in a critical situation. The economic growth and the opportunities here depend on improving transportation. There are a lot of things up here that that money could be used for.’” [[Washington Post](#), 10/5/09]

Rep. Don Young Touting Winning “a Victory for the Alaska Native Contracting Program and Other Alaska Small Business Owners” in the Stimulus, Then Criticized the Bill. “Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska, also had nice things to say in a press release. Young boasted that he ‘won a victory for the Alaska Native contracting program and other Alaska small business owners last night in H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.’ One provision would have made it harder for minority businesses to win contracts, and Young explained that he ‘worked with members on the other side of the aisle to make the case for these programs, and was able to get the provision pulled from the bill.’ Yet later in the day Young — who recently told McClatchy that he would’ve included earmarks, or local projects, in the bill if it had been permitted — issued another statement blasting the overall measure.” [McClatchy, [2/13/09](#)]

March: GOP Chief Deputy Whip Kevin McCarthy Praised Stimulus Funding For Bakersfield Courthouse: “One Of The Last Hurdles That Remained Was The Funding.” “Today, Congressman Kevin McCarthy and Congressman Jim Costa announced that funding would be made available by the U.S. General Services Administration for the Federal courthouse project in the Central Park location of Bakersfield. Congressman Kevin McCarthy (CA-22) [said] ‘I applaud this funding for the Bakersfield Federal courthouse. Over the years, we have faced many obstacles related to this project, but worked together as a community to ensure that this project remained a high priority and would come to fruition. The case was made about the courthouse’s necessity, and one of the last hurdles that remained was the funding. Finally, we are about to jump over that hurdle and bring a Federal courthouse to Bakersfield. I

look forward to the day that the courthouse can open its doors to serve our growing region.”[[McCarthy Press Release](#), 3/31/09]

- **Recovery Act Provided \$31M For Courthouse Through The GSA.** “The funding hurdle to building a federal courthouse downtown has apparently been overcome, thanks to the federal stimulus package. In a proposal by the General Services Administration to the House Appropriations Committee released to the public Tuesday, \$31 million will be allocated to build the Bakersfield federal courthouse on the eastern edge of Central Park.” [[KERO-TV](#), 4/1/09]
- **February: McCarthy Opposed Recovery Act Because It Lacking Republican Input And Focused On “More Spending For Washington Programs.”** “The President was sincere when he said he wanted bipartisan input and cooperation to stimulate our economy. Unfortunately, Speaker Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Reid crafted their \$1.1 trillion spending bill behind closed doors without bipartisan input...Instead of focusing on creating jobs, the bill unfortunately seems to focus on creating more spending for Washington programs.” [[McCarthy Press Release](#), 2/13/09]

SENATE REPUBLICANS

Senators Mike Crapo And Jim Risch Touted Their Securing Of Stimulus Funding To Clean Up Department Of Energy Facilities At The Idaho National Laboratory. “Idaho Senators Mike Crapo and Jim Risch helped to secure new federal funding that will create hundreds of new jobs and accelerate cleanup at Department of Energy (DOE) facilities at the Idaho National Laboratory. DOE announced today that Idaho will receive \$468 million. Crapo and Risch successfully inserted language calling for the funding into the economic stimulus bill passed earlier this year by Congress. During negotiations on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Crapo and Risch, in a letter to Senate appropriators, noted the importance of including environmental management cleanup funding in the stimulus plan, notably the job creation potential and environmental improvements. The Idaho funds announced today will be used to retrieve buried waste at the site per the agreement reached between the State of Idaho and DOE last year, demolish out-of-date nuclear and radiological facilities to reduce the site’s footprint and relieve the Laboratory of some its cleanup liabilities, which will free up future R&D funding for the Laboratory.” [[Senator Crapo Press Release](#), 3/31/09]

Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison And John Cornyn Were Involved In Securing A Stimulus Grant For A Veterans Affairs Extended Care Facility. “U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison announced Friday that Tyler has secured an \$8.6 million grant for a 160-bed Veterans Affairs extended care facility. The grant is part of the stimulus expenditure plan, worth more than \$17 million. Houston is the other site to receive funds for an extended care facility...Dr. Kirk Calhoun, UTHSC president, said he was thrilled about the announcement as well, after fighting for several years to bring the project into fruition. He received the news after meeting with legislators in Austin. ‘We are very excited to have this veterans’ nursing home near the health center,’ he said. ‘It gives us an opportunity to serve the community.’ Calhoun said several local, state and federal legislators were involved, including State Rep. Leo Berman, State Rep. Tommy Merritt, Sen. Hutchison, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn and county officials...‘I’m pleased that this funding will help improve and expand health care services for our wounded heroes and spur growth in Texas communities,’ Sen. Hutchison said in a prepared statement. ‘The stimulus bill that Congress passed in February should have focused on more projects like these, which our government had already

planned to do and that are in fact stimulative.’ According to officials at Sen. Hutchison's office, there is not yet a timeline for the project.” [Tyler Morning Telegraph, 3/21/09]

Sen. John Cornyn Co-Signed Letter Calling For \$3 Billion In Stimulus Funding For NASA While Simultaneously Claiming Stimulus Was “Clearly Not Working.” Cornyn said, “With the stimulus money that has already been spent clearly not working, it is my hope that the Administration will use a portion of the remaining, authorized, unspent stimulus dollars to safeguard our nation’s space program. The Augustine Commission’s recent report revealed that NASA faces serious financial and operational hurdles if it continues on its current course without additional federal resources. I hope the President will agree to our request and invest these stimulus dollars in a program that is central to America’s competitiveness and national and economic security.” [[Olson Press Release](#), 10/5/09]

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison Co-Signed Letter Calling For \$3 Billion In Stimulus Funding For NASA While Warning A Lack Of Resources Could Jeopardize National Security. Hutchison said, “America has always been at the forefront of aerospace engineering and technological accomplishment. Without additional, appropriate resources, we could lose ground in our dominance, jeopardizing our national security and threatening our ability to retain the brightest technological minds in the world. By investing in NASA, we will be investing in America’s future and ensuring our place as the leader in human space exploration.” [[Olson Press Release](#), 10/5/09]

Despite Voting Against Recovery Act, Sen. Richard Burr Praised \$2M In Stimulus Funds For Bethlehem Fire Department. “The Bethlehem community's population has been growing for years, but its volunteer fire department is still working out of the 1962 fire station, built when the Bethlehem Community Volunteer Fire Department was founded. This summer, the department applied for and won a \$2,008,515 federal grant that will pay for a new 19,000-square-foot fire station. On Friday, U.S. Sen. Richard Burr was in Bethlehem to present the grant to the department. ‘This is a great thing for this county,’ he said. ‘We're not accustomed to federal dollars in that magnitude finding their way to North Carolina.’” [[Hickory Daily Record](#), 4/16/09]