



Congressman Bud Cramer

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Earlier this month, Hurricane Ivan struck the gulf coast of Alabama and wrecked havoc across the entire state. All of us should commend the tremendous work being conducted by emergency management officials and countless volunteers in the aftermath of the storm. As we assess the damage caused by the hurricane, it is important that we do what we can to support those affected by the storm. Congress is currently working with FEMA and the Alabama EMA to appropriate funding to help aid in the cleanup and rebuilding efforts. All of us can support the victims of the hurricane by donating to the American Red Cross. Under the National Emergency Response plan, the Red Cross is responsible for providing immediate assistance to victims after an emergency. Donations to accounts specifically established for the State of Alabama can be made directly to the Red Cross at one of its local chapter offices.

Bud Cramer

Washington Update

On September 9th, Representative Cramer and his colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives paid tribute to the innocent victims of the September 11th terrorist attacks and the service men and women who have sacrificed their lives in the ongoing War Against Terrorism with a moment of silence on the House floor. Additionally, the House passed a resolution remembering the victims and honoring the heroic actions of the first responders and service men and women in response to the terrorist attacks. "It has been three years since terrorists cowardly attacked our nation and attempted to destroy our way of life," said Cramer. "However, the events of September 11th and the ongoing War Against Terrorism have made us stronger as we have refused to let our enemies dictate how we live our daily lives."

This month, The U.S. House of Representatives approved \$11 million in funding for the construction of the new air traffic control tower at the Huntsville International Airport. This funding is part of the Fiscal Year 2005 Transportation-Treasury Appropriations Bill. Last year, Representative Cramer secured \$8 million dollars in the FY 2004 Consolidated Appropriations Act for the air traffic control tower. "I'm excited about the tower's completion and the enhanced role the airport will play in our region's economic growth," said Cramer.



Representative Cramer nominated Lee Marshall of Huntsville this month to be named an "Angel in Adoption." Lee, a well-known journalist in North Alabama, was in foster care as a child. Cramer nominated Lee because of her strong advocacy on behalf of children in foster care and her work in promoting adoption. Lee's "Kids to Love" segment on WAFF-48 news has profiled over 165 children in the community and has helped many of them find homes. Lee is also the founder of the "Kids to Love" Foundation, a non-profit organization that is dedicated to meeting the needs of foster and adoptive families in Alabama. Lee and other honorees from across the United States were recognized at a national ceremony in Washington, D.C. on September 23rd. (Pictured to the left.)

On September 23rd, the House approved the conference report for the All-American Tax Relief Act of 2003 by a vote of 339 to 65. The All-American Tax Relief Act extends tax relief for individuals and businesses that is due to expire, or has already expired. This legislation extends the \$1,000 per child tax credit for five years and would effectively extend relief for married couples from the marriage tax penalty through 2010. Additionally, this legislation extends the expansion of the 10 percent tax bracket through 2010 and provides a one-year extension of current income exemptions for the alternative minimum tax.



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District Update

Representative Cramer joined U.S. Senator Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) and officials from the U.S. Army and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the dedication and ribbon cutting of the FBI's new Hazardous Devices School at Redstone Arsenal. The Hazardous Devices School is the only formal program in the United States where state and local bomb technicians learn to locate, identify, render safe, and dispose of improvised explosive devices. The Hazardous Devices School has been in operation at Redstone since 1971. Cramer played a key role in securing \$23 million in Fiscal Year 2002 for the construction of the new facility through his seat on the Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Appropriations Subcommittee, which oversees the FBI's budget. (Pictured to the right.)



Representative Cramer and Alabama Governor Bob Riley (R-Ala.) joined officials from the Toyota Motor Company this month to announce a \$250 million expansion of Toyota's motor manufacturing plant in Alabama. Toyota is doubling its production of the V-8 engines it uses for the Tundra and Sequoia models. This expansion will bring the total employment of the North Alabama plant to over 800 employees.



Also this month, Representative Cramer hosted his annual Military Academy Day for all high school students in Alabama's Fifth Congressional District. Cramer discussed with students, families, and guidance counselors the requirements and procedures for attending one of the U.S. military academies. At Cramer's invitation, representatives from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy were also in attendance to answer questions about each academy. (Pictured to the left: Representative Cramer and Retired Captain Bob Greeman from the U.S. Naval Academy talk with an interested student.)

The National Space Science and Technology Center (NSSTC) honored Representative Cramer this month by dedicating its Huntsville facility as Robert (Bud) Cramer Research Hall. NSSTC is a partnership between the government, NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, the state's educational research institutions, and private industry. The NSSTC building opened office, meeting, and classroom space in 200. In 2003, an annex, which included state-of-the-art lab space, was also opened. The annex is also home to Huntsville's Weather Forecasting Office. Representative Cramer played a key role in securing \$4 million in 1999, \$5 million in 2000, and \$7.5 million in 2001 for the construction of the NSSTC building and annex through his seat on the VA-HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee. (Pictured to the right.)

