



Congressman Bud Cramer

December 2004

E-Newsletter

The holiday season is a special time of year for us all. I hope that you and your family have a safe and wonderful holiday season. I wish you all the best in the new year.

Bud Cramer

Washington Update

On December 8, President George Bush signed into law the Fiscal Year 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Act. This legislation expands the TVA Board of Directors from three full-time members to nine part-time members. Earlier this month, Representative Cramer and the North Alabama federal delegation authored a letter to President Bush asking him to appoint at least two Alabamians to the expanded board. The letter was also signed by Senator Richard Shelby, Senator Jeff Sessions, and Representative Robert Aderholt. "This letter sends a strong message to the President that the North Alabama federal delegation is unified and committed to seeing an Alabamian on the board," said Cramer.

Also in December, the 108th Congress came to a close. During the past two years, Congress streamlined the nation's intelligence capabilities, overhauled the country's Medicare system, extended expiring tax credits, and provided over \$100 million dollars for vital projects and programs in North Alabama.

District Update



Earlier this month, Representative Cramer addressed Marshall Space Flight Center employees during an "All-Hands" briefing. Cramer discussed the passage of the FY 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Act, which included a \$16.2 billion budget for NASA. Cramer played a key role in securing the \$800 million budget increase from last year. Cramer is one of NASA's strongest supporters on Capitol Hill and is a member of the VA-HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, the subcommittee that allocates NASA's funding.

Also in December, Representative Cramer presented officials in Jackson County with four checks totaling over \$1.6 million in funding for water and wastewater system infrastructure improvements. Cramer awarded officials with funding for the following infrastructure improvements: \$500,000 to the Scottsboro Waterworks, Sewer, and Gas Board for construction and rehabilitation of a sanitary sewer collection system; \$500,000 for DeKalb-Jackson Water Supply District for water system improvements; \$400,000 to the Waterworks Board for the Towns of Section and Dutton for water system improvements; and \$250,000 to the Jackson County Commission for water and wastewater system improvements at the Jackson County Industrial Park. Cramer secured this funding in the recently passed Fiscal Year 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Bill.