



# Congressman Bud Cramer

June 2008 E-Newsletter

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The House of Representatives this month approved NASA Authorization for Fiscal Year 2009. The bill authorizes \$19.2 billion for NASA programs, and an additional \$1 billion for research and development of NASA's new space exploration vehicles, the Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle and the Ares I Crew Launch Vehicle. The Marshall Space Flight Center will continue to have a critical role in NASA's future.

*Bud Cramer*

## News From Washington

This month, the House of Representatives passed the ADA Restoration Act of 2007, which restores the intent and protections of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The legislation is a response to recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions that have significantly narrowed the applicability of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and makes it clear that the ADA is intended to protect anyone who faces discrimination on the basis of disability.

## News From the Fifth District

On June 16, Representative Cramer and Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) co-hosted a TVA Caucus hearing to discuss the use of plug-in electric and hybrid vehicles in response to increasing gas prices. Cramer heard testimony from the Valley's automotive industry, energy research and manufacturing companies and questioned the panel about the role of the federal government in private sector research and development. Panelists spoke of the importance of buyer incentives and educating the public on new technology.

**"With the rising cost of gasoline, it is important that we explore ways to conserve energy and natural resources," Cramer said. "Not only do high fuel prices harm the economy, but they also jeopardize our national security as foreign oil profits sometimes find their way into the hands of those around the globe who wish to do our country harm."**

## Huntsville International Airport Air Traffic Control Tower Dedication



On June 3, 2008, Representative Cramer helped dedicate the Huntsville International Airport's new Air Traffic Control Tower. Congressman Cramer secured more than \$20.7 million for the 254-foot tower which offers air traffic controllers an unobstructed view of the entire airfield, which will include future expansions.

**"Our airport has always been a big selling point for our area for new industries, and now this tower adds greatly to the value of our airport. It is going to make our airport even more exceptional, and even more attractive, to businesses looking at North Alabama for expansion or relocation."**

**For more information on these and other news items, please visit:**  
<http://cramer.house.gov>