

# Congressman Jerry F. Costello

## 12th District, Illinois

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### **COSTELLO ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES**

**Washington** - U.S. Congressman Jerry Costello (D-IL) announced today that nine students in the 12th Congressional District with a parent or spouse serving in the Air Force, seven of which are stationed at Scott Air Force Base, have been selected to receive ThanksUSA academic scholarships.

ThanksUSA is a unique national effort to thank the men and women of our armed forces and their families. Founded in the fall of 2005, ThanksUSA provides educational scholarships to the children and spouses of active duty U.S. military personnel. Endorsed and funded in part by the U.S. Congress, ThanksUSA recently awarded 1,000 scholarships valued at \$3.5 million to the children and spouses of active duty military personnel, many of whom are serving overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“This is a great way for us to honor the commitment of the brave men and women that protect our country,” said Costello, whose oldest son is a veteran of the first Gulf War. “Helping the children and spouses of our soldiers pursue higher education is a way to help take care of those that are taking care of us.”

ThanksUSA's primary vehicle for fundraising and awareness is the ThanksUSA American History Treasure Hunt, a nationwide contest in which Americans of all ages compete to win fabulous prizes. Players are tested on their knowledge of American history, culture, geography and trivia through 12 challenging puzzles, each based on a U.S. state. Players can sign up at [www.ThanksUSA.org](http://www.ThanksUSA.org).

A 501(c)(3) organization, founded in the fall of 2005, ThanksUSA encourages kids of all ages to learn and appreciate American history and the contributions and sacrifices of America's heroes in the armed forces. ThanksUSA is an acronym for Treasure Hunt Aiding Needs of Kids (and spouses) of those Serving the United States of America.

<b>Recipients</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Mercede Savala	Shiloh	\$5,000
Rebecca Jeffries	Lebanon	\$4,200
Robert Santos	Mascoutah	\$5,000
Jared McCoy	Mascoutah	\$1,600
Stephanie Peebles	Mascoutah	\$4,800
Kara Moeller	O'Fallon	\$1,200
Andrea Moeller	O'Fallon	\$1,200
Amy Stutzman	O'Fallon	\$3,400
Michelle Reeves	O'Fallon	\$3,800