

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING DR. MARION
DOWNS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable woman, Dr. Marion Downs, who has dedicated her life to the service of caring for disabled children.

Marion Downs is a Professor Emerita at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Her laborious efforts and dedication have led her to publish numerous articles and lecture on the topic of hearing loss within infants. She has received copious awards including two gold medals of achievement, one from the University of Colorado and one from the University of Minnesota. In addition, her name adorns The Marion Downs National Center for Infant Hearing which was established to honor Dr. Downs and provide a venue for the continuation of her research and work.

In appreciation of her accomplishments, Dr. Downs has been awarded with the Highest Recognition Award from the Department of Health and Human Services. This award is given to distinguished citizens who have made substantial life-changing advances to the physically handicapped within society. Dr. Downs has made considerable contributions towards the national screening of newborns with real or potential hearing disabilities through early detection methods.

Madam Speaker, we are truly privileged to have individuals who dedicate their lives to others. Dr. Marion Downs is one such individual. It is with great pleasure that I acknowledge her and all of her outstanding achievements.

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF
HIGHLAND VILLAGE, TEXAS FOR
BEING NAMED THE SAFEST CITY
IN TEXAS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the city of Highland Village, Texas for being named the safest city in Texas.

Highland Village has been named the safest community in north Texas for the past 5 years straight and is now also the safest city in the entire State of Texas. A report by the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Reports shows that Highland Village has the lowest index crime rate and the lowest violent and property crime rate for 2006.

Mayor Dianne Costa attributes this award to the outstanding work of the Highland Village police officers and the citizens of Highland Village and their efforts to keep the city safe.

The police department utilizes a community-policing model, which focuses on a proactive approach through crime prevention and education.

I extend my sincere congratulations to the city of Highland Village, Texas for their great achievement. I thank Mayor Costa and the Highland Village police officers in their continued effort to keep the community of Highland Village as safe as possible. It is an honor to have such a great city in the 26th district of Texas.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MRS. GINI
BRITTON

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise with Representative MIKE ROGERS of Michigan to honor and acknowledge the distinguished life of Gini Britton, who entered God's eternal paradise far too soon for those of us she leaves behind.

A devoted wife, mother, and friend, Gini dedicated her life to her family and her community. She married her husband Dick on September 4, 1976, and the couple bore their first child, Michelle, in 1980. In 1985, their second daughter, Bridget, was born. The family would soon move to Northville Township, Michigan and Gini decided to enter public service.

In the early 1990s, she was elected to the Northville Township Board of Trustees. As a member of the board of trustees she developed a legendary reputation for the promotion of effective governance and constituent service.

Gini continued her selfless service to her community as a community liaison and assistant to several Members of Congress, including myself and Representative MIKE ROGERS. Her moral and compassionate character made her not only an exceptional employee, but a great friend and a genuine blessing to the State of Michigan.

In 2005, Gini battled breast cancer, and Dick, Michelle and Bridget stood by her side through chemotherapy and at every major consultation or procedure as she fought to defeat the disease. Her unfaltering bravery is an example for all of us.

Madam Speaker, on Thursday, October 4, 2007, Gini Britton passed away. For 56 years, Gini enriched the lives of everyone she met; and, by her absence, we are all diminished. I ask my colleagues to join me and Representative ROGERS in mourning her passing; extending our deepest sorrow to all she loved and all who loved her; and commemorating her lifetime of bringing joy to those whose lives she touched.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, on October 10, 2007, due to a personal obligation, I missed the following recorded votes: Roll No. 959, on the Motion to Recommit on H.R. 3056—Tax Collection Responsibility Act—Motion to Recommit; had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; and Roll No. 960, on H.R. 3056—Tax Collection Responsibility Act; had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

COMMEMORATING JERI
MILSTEAD'S RECEIPT OF CA-
REER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the distinguished career of Dr. Jeri A. Milstead, professor and dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Toledo in Ohio. Dr. Milstead is to be honored by her peers at the University of Toledo Medical Center with a Career Achievement Award. The Career Achievement Award is bestowed upon senior faculty who are well respected for exceptional academic achievements, strong leadership and who have established prominence in their area of expertise. Recipients are also recognized for outstanding citizenship and the tremendous impact they have had on the institution and the community throughout their career. Dr. Milstead epitomizes these criteria.

Jeri Milstead is internationally known as an expert in public policy and the politics of health care and serves as a health policy expert to the International Council of Nurses in Geneva, Switzerland. She is the editor and senior author of Health Policy and Politics, A Nurse's Guide, 3rd ed. that is sold on three continents and Handbook of Nursing Leadership: Creative Skills for a Culture of Safety. Dr. Milstead was a policy advisor in the Washington, DC office of Senator DANIEL K. INOUE, was president of the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina, and held leadership positions in the State Nurses Associations in Ohio, Pennsylvania and South Carolina. Her research focused on needle exchange programs in the United States and the Netherlands. She has published in national and international journals, is a reviewer for several refereed nursing journals and was editor-in-chief of *The International Nurse* from 1995 to 2006 when the publication was retired.

Dr. Milstead holds a PhD in Political Science with majors in health policy and comparative politics from the University of Georgia, an MS and BS, cum laude, in nursing

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

from The Ohio State University and a diploma from Mt. Carmel Hospital School of Nursing. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (1600 invited members out of 2.9 million RNs). She is a member of Zeta Theta At-Large chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (the international honor society of nursing) and in 2002 became a charter member of Rho Chi, the first European chapter. She also is a founding member of the Nightingale Policy Institute, a virtual gathering of experienced nurses in the U.S. policy arena. Dr. Milstead received the Gamma Mu Chapter Award for Excellence in Nursing. She also received the first Search for Excellence Award from the American Nurses Association/South Carolina Nurses Association and was honored by the South Carolina General Assembly for her leadership and service. She was awarded a Duquesne University Creative Teaching Award in 1998 for her pioneering work in designing and implementing the first online course taught in the first PhD in Nursing program in the world that is offered completely online. Dr. Milstead served three terms on the AACN Government Affairs Committee, is serving a second term on the Health Policy Council of ONA, and is a member of the Expert Panel on Global Health for the American Academy of Nursing. She was appointed in 2005 to the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority and was a member of a trade delegation to China in April 2006. She and a team of educators evaluated BSN programs in Jordan in November 2006.

Many in our community have sought Dr. Milstead's counsel and leadership, particularly in nursing and psychiatric nursing, but also in matters of health care policy. She is a compassionate and gifted leader who guides people by her own example. She has a deep understanding of the nuances of health care delivery from all perspectives, and is skilled at negotiating the complex system. Her sterling talents, dedication to our community and its health, and commitment to health worldwide have earned her this well-deserved recognition. I am pleased to offer my personal congratulations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately today, October 10, 2007, I was unable to cast my votes on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions on H.R. 3056 and passage of H.R. 3056 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for Rollcall No. 959 on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions on H.R. 3056, the Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for Rollcall No. 960 on passage of H.R. 3056, the Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007, I would have voted "aye."

RESOLVING THE OFFICIAL NAME OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV RE- PUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, finding an internationally-acknowledged name for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) is an issue that threatens the peace of the Balkans and the stability of the region.

Particularly troubling is the ongoing insensitivity displayed by officials of FYROM with respect to provocative propaganda and rhetoric that is offensive to Greece.

The latest example of this occurred on September 25, when Dr. Srgjan Kerim, President of the United Nations General Assembly and a native of FYROM, introduced to the Assembly, FYROM's President as "President of the Republic of Macedonia."

Resolution of this issue could bring substantial stability to the region and pave the way for further integration of FYROM into the international community.

I would therefore like to bring to the House's attention excerpts from the following article that appeared in the September 27, 2007 issue of *The National Interest* by His Excellency Alexandros P. Mallias, Ambassador of Greece to the United States.

When U.N. General Assembly president H.E. Dr. Srgjan Kerim, a native of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), introduced on September 25 the president of his home country, Mr. Branko Crvenkovski, he implied that the national interest of FYROM prevails over his duties to the UN body. He therefore addressed Mr. Crvenkovski as the "President of the Republic of Macedonia."

Some people may think that what happened in the UN constitutes a minor or isolated incident. Nevertheless, this is not the case—this has deeper roots both on a regional and international level. Challenging UN resolutions and decisions and ignoring commitments undertaken through international agreements, as FYROM has systematically done by violating the US-brokered Interim Accord with Greece, is a bad precedent. This is a violation of the principle of good-neighborly relations and puts sustained regional stability in jeopardy.

Dr. Kerim, obviously acting under instructions from his government, has irreparably damaged his standing and credibility as president of the General Assembly. He did not respect the resolutions of the body over which he is presiding nor of the Security Council of the United Nations, the organization he has been called upon to serve.

The actions of Dr. Kerim and FYROM are a clear indication of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's lack of respect for international law and international institutions. They are also a blunt violation of the US-brokered Interim Accord.

Many Americans may think this is a minor issue. But the history of the region, not to mention of Europe as a whole, demonstrates that whenever irredentist claims are left unaddressed, the seeds of future conflicts are sown. Europe today is governed by the rule of law; the completion of the European project in the Balkans—and the extension of a zone of peace and prosperity—rest upon the willingness of governments to live up to their international commitments. Obligations are like a tapestry; even pulling on

what might appear to outsiders to be a small and insignificant thread can end up unraveling the entire work. We have too much invested in the stability of the region to allow this to happen.

TAX COLLECTION RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. BOYD of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss H.R. 3056, the Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007. I find myself in the awkward position of opposing the distinguished Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, but we are being asked to eliminate the Internal Revenue Service, IRS, program to collect past-due income taxes without an alternative. This program involves the collection of millions of tax dollars, and there are no plans in place to collect this money if the program were to be killed. There are no plans to collect the millions of dollars needed to close the tax gap. Additionally, there is also no alternative to finding employment for the countless disabled veterans and severely disabled Americans.

Before we eliminate this program, there should be an alternative in place. Our colleague in the other body, Senator BEN NELSON of Nebraska, has introduced an initiative that would take the IRS program and use it to create meaningful employment for persons with disabilities and disabled veterans. The Disability Preference Program for Tax Collection Contracts would give an incentive to private third-party collection companies to hire people with severe disabilities and provide them with quality jobs.

Mr. Speaker, one in ten Americans has a disability. While the current unemployment rate in the Nation stood at 4.7 percent in September, the low employment rate of persons with disabilities continues to hover at 70–80 percent. The high number of returning disabled American veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan will only serve to compound this problem.

Currently, there are not enough jobs to provide gainful employment for the severely disabled veterans with only a high school GED. The Disability Preference Program would serve to alleviate the lack of meaningful employment opportunities for these young men and women. Jobs with third-party debt collection agencies can translate to high-paying careers. These jobs pay anywhere from \$25,000 to \$150,000 including health and 401(k) benefits.

Under the provisions of the Disability Preference Program, an initial hire of 750 persons with disabilities would save the Federal Government close to \$350 million over ten years in Supplemental Security Income, SSI, and Disability Insurance, DI, benefits alone. This figure does not include the additional benefits associated with the hiring of people in the \$40,000 salary range. This landmark program would not only create well-paying jobs for our severely disabled Americans, it would save the Federal Government millions of dollars at no cost.

This legislation is necessary because the IRS stated that “under existing GSA Federal Supply Schedule, FSS, contracting procedures, it cannot set a specific number of awards aside for contractors employing significant numbers of persons with disabilities,” only for the one disabled employer who may never hire another disabled person.

This is an oversight in our law which needs to be corrected. It makes no sense that current law provides an employment opportunity for ONE disabled person, while this initiative would create opportunities for hundreds—if not thousands—of people who are disabled and without a college education.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned previously, there is particular concern over the group of young, disabled veterans who have few employment options. Most able-bodied soldiers without formal education, upon leaving service, take positions as bus drivers, cafeteria workers, janitorial services, or security personnel. If the Disability Preference Program is not enacted soon, a viable opportunity will be lost.

This initiative is supported by the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the American Association of People With Disabilities, the One Percent Coalition, and the National Rehabilitation Association. In addition, the language has been passed by the other body on numerous occasions.

I ask my colleagues in the House to join with me in supporting the Disability Preference Program for Tax Collection Contracts. I ask them to join me in providing meaningful employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and for our returning soldiers who have been disabled in the line of duty.

IN HONOR OF CALDWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Caldwell Public Library, serving the Borough of Caldwell, Essex County, NJ, a vibrant community that I am proud to represent! On October 12th, the good citizens of the borough will celebrate their library's 90th anniversary with a rededication and the dedication of the Gene and Kathryn Collerd Local History Resource Room. The Caldwell Public Library, an Andrew Carnegie Library dedicated in 1917, is situated on Bloomfield Avenue, diagonally across from President Grover Cleveland's Birthplace Memorial, a national historic site.

On October 1, 1906, at a regular meeting of the Borough Council, a communication was received from the Caldwell Borough Improvement Association, requesting the Borough to assume the responsibility of operating and supporting a public library.

The following year, 1907, Professor Hedden, Superintendent of Schools, requested the Caldwell Borough Council submit to the voters a referendum to establish a free public library under the State Library Act. The councilmen endorsed the necessary requirements, and at the November elections, the Act was passed by the voters. The State Library Com-

mission accepted and approved the proposed charter.

On June 8, 1908 a letter from the Carnegie Library Foundation offered a sum of \$7,500 to construct a library. To meet the grant's specifications, the town was required to provide an appropriate lot, plus \$750 or 10 percent of the grant annually to sustain the library.

For the next 9 years, the library board was confronted with problems which hindered the construction of a new edifice. Acquiring a suitable location was the principal issue. West Caldwell resident Mr. George W. Canfield generously donated \$2,000 toward the purchase of a site for the library. With this contribution, and donations from other interested persons, a total of \$3,000 was raised to purchase a site.

On October 12, 1917, the Caldwell Library was formally dedicated by Mayor Peck, who was also President of the Library Board of Trustees.

Gene Collerd recorded much of the history of this area over the course of his life (1913–2004), and this Collerd Collection, to be housed in the Gene and Kathryn Collerd Local History Resource Room, will be an invaluable resource to not just the Caldwell, but beyond.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Caldwell Library on the celebration of its 90th anniversary!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 958, Final Passage of H.R. 2895, the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007, I was not present. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MARIN CONSERVATION CORPS ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute the Marin Conservation Corps, MCC, on its 25th anniversary of helping young people to a brighter future by providing jobs and learning opportunities, at the same time protecting and conserving our natural resources.

MCC began more than 25 years ago when founder Richard Hammond was out jogging along one of the many gorgeous trails of the Marin Headlands. The father of teenage sons at the time, he had been seeking something productive to keep them occupied during summer vacation and came up with the idea to combine trail maintenance with young people's need for work. But it wasn't until devastating floods hit Marin in 1982 that the corps took shape.

The first local conservation corps in the country, MCC literally blazed the trail for others to follow. Workers have put in more than

3 million hours to maintain and conserve Marin County's 150,000 acres of public land. In association with AmeriCorps, MCC has partnered with the National Park Service to create a one-on-one mentoring program. MCC also provides young people with summer jobs through a combination of outdoor education, community service and recreational activities through its Project ReGeneration.

Under the leadership of Marilee Eckert since 1992, the nonprofit has grown to provide year-round employment to 116 people, operating under a budget of more than \$5 million and helping more than 3,000 young men and women gain job skills along with an education. Marilee also holds leadership roles in many local and national organizations. Her efforts have earned her recognition and awards from the county and the Sierra Club, as well as the gratitude of the many corps members who have benefited from her hard work.

Many of those who have benefited come from underserved populations. One such corpsman is Matthew Rainey, a 21-year-old convicted felon. “I didn't have an opportunity to work anywhere else,” he says. “Honestly, I was living in my car, didn't have anything going for myself, but every single day, I would come to work.”

Because of MCC, Rainey has earned his GED, saved enough to rent an apartment, and is considering following the trade he learned through his work at MCC.

“He has so totally blossomed,” notes Deborah Schoenbaum, MCC's deputy director. “He has won just about every award you can get in the corps. It's been a life-changing experience for him.”

Working at MCC has been a life-changing experience for many others, as well. An average of 300 young people go through the various MCC programs each year. In fact, some of MCC's sponsors and greatest supporters were previously in the corps program.

Corpsmembers not only arrive at work at 7 a.m. for a full day of work each day, but must put in 10 hours of education each week, as well. Marvin was one such young man willing to work this hard for a better future. Marvin came to the corps speaking absolutely no English, Schoenbaum remembers. “He now speaks English and has gotten a job with a top landscaping firm because he went through a landscaping program we have with College of Marin.”

Such success stories, Madam Speaker, is why the Marin Conservation Corps deserves to be congratulated for its past 25 years of service. May it have an equally successful future.

GREG SMITH: EDUCATOR, HUMANITARIAN, SCHOLAR AND CHAMPION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, October 20, 2007, California State University Dominguez Hills, CSUDH, will celebrate the dedication of the Greg Smith Memorial Garden on its campus. Inspired by the late

Professor Smith's appreciation of nature, commitment to the preservation of the environment, and love for CSUDH, the Memorial Garden will serve as a lasting legacy to this extraordinary father, husband, activist, scholar, and teacher. Supported by his widow, June Smith, her family, and many friends, this garden will provide, as June says, "a place where people can have quiet contemplation and appreciate nature."

Greg Smith was a city of San Pedro resident, a leader in my district who became a faculty member at CSUDH in 1968 because he wanted to give back to his community. He taught with intelligence and passion, but most importantly he taught from the heart.

A noted scholar and educator, Greg took his students all over Los Angeles so that they could better understand the demographics and issues of the different communities within LA County. Greg was a political geographer who not only studied how the shifting political landscape affected the world, he became actively involved in organizations such as the California Coastal Commission and Los Angeles Tree Commission in order to influence the preservation of the environment in California.

Greg retired from CSUDH in 1992 after having inspired and touched thousands of students, staff and faculty colleagues. It was 5 years after his retirement, while hiking in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, that Greg died of an apparent heart attack at the age of 66.

Greg was a role model to those who knew him and inspired many to continue his efforts to preserve the environment. His research on environmental stability, preservation of mountain tops, land surface design and river water containment contributed greatly to the Nation's knowledge base and ability to preserve agricultural and natural resources.

Greg met his wife June, a professor of English at Harbor Community College, while they were undergraduates at Reed College in Portland, OR. They have been residents and active members of the San Pedro community since the late 1960s and have two children, Gillia and Cyrus, and a grandson, Hudson Gregory.

I am proud that Greg Smith was my constituent. I am delighted that his family and CSUDH will be honoring the memory of this extraordinary individual with the Greg Smith Memorial Garden.

CONGRATULATING PATIENCE ANN DAVIS ON HER ADMISSION TO THE NORTH CAROLINA BAR

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Patience Ann Davis on her admission to the North Carolina Bar. After years of hard work and dedication to her studies, Ms. Davis will now begin pursuing a career in the legal field.

Ms. Davis attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as an undergraduate. During her time at UNC, Ms. Davis was active in campus activities and academic life. Upon graduation from UNC, Ms. Davis enrolled in classes at the Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law at Campbell University to pursue her Juris Doctor degree.

She completed this program in the spring of this year, and successfully passed the bar exam soon after graduation.

As a Member of Congress, I have seen firsthand how the law can be used as a force for good. I look forward to following the career of Ms. Davis, as she uses her knowledge and expertise in the law to serve others and to pursue legal and social justice.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Patience Ann Davis.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.
ROLAND R. PINEAU

HON. THADDEUS. G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the extraordinary life of aviation electronics technician Chief Roland R. Pineau, and to mourn his passing upon the 40th anniversary of his death.

Born on July 6, 1929, Chief Pineau devoted his life to God, family and our country in the U.S. Navy. In 1946, at the age of 17, Chief Pineau embarked on a 21-year naval career, which included service in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. After more than 20 years of service, Chief Pineau volunteered for a third tour of duty in Vietnam where he was stationed as an aviation technician chief on an E-1B aircraft commonly known as "Willy Fudd." On October 8, 1967, during a combat support flight mission the "Willy Fudd" went down 14 miles south of DaNang, South Vietnam on a steep mountain slope. Chief Pineau and 4 other crew members were listed as Prisoners of War/Missing in Action. For his courage and bravery, Chief Pineau was awarded 3 Air Medals, 2 Gold Stars, 2 National Defense Awards, a Korean Service Medal, China Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and a Navy Commendation Ribbon.

And there his story remained, until November 2006, when communist Vietnam announced its recovery of Chief Pineau's remains from the Willy Fudd's crash site. After 40 years, on October 9, 2007, having finally returned home, Chief Pineau was formally laid to rest by his loved ones, who never succumbed to their grief and faithfully fought for this day on his behalf. Chief Pineau is survived by his parents, Robert and Elizabeth Pineau, his brother, Dennis Pineau, and his beloved wife, Jackie Pineau. A beloved and noble man—an American—Chief Pineau will be sorely missed.

Madam Speaker, Chief Roland Pineau is remembered as a brave soldier, a loyal friend, and a dedicated husband. Today, as we bid him farewell, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his unwavering patriotism and eternal sacrifice to our community and country.

CONGRATULATING KIRSTIE E.
WADE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miss Kirstie E. Wade of Argyle High School in Argyle, Texas, for being chosen as a semifinalist in the 44th Annual National Achievement Scholarship Program. It is an honor to have such a qualified student in the 26th District of Texas.

The National Achievement Scholarship Program began in 1964 as a way to provide scholarships to promising black students. Since 1964, almost 28,000 students have been provided with scholarships totaling more than \$88 million.

Miss Wade was one of 114 semifinalists from the State of Texas. She was chosen based on her Preliminary SAT scores. Finalists will be chosen based on abilities, achievements, and potential for success. The scholarship winners will be announced in April of 2008.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Miss Kirstie E. Wade and her family for her academic achievements at Argyle High School. Her dedication and commitment to her education will lead her to great things. I wish her the best of luck with the remainder of the National Achievement Scholarship Program.

IN HONOR OF MONTEREY-SALINAS
TRANSIT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I have the distinct honor and privilege of representing California's 17th congressional district and, on behalf of all the residents of the central coast, I would like to commend to my colleagues' attention the 35th Anniversary of Monterey-Salinas Transit.

The Monterey Peninsula Public Transit System Joint Powers Agency was formed by the cities of Carmel, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside and the county of Monterey on October 1, 1972. As the predecessor of Monterey-Salinas Transit, it served the Monterey Peninsula area, and later expanded to provide service to the cities of Marina, Salinas, and Watsonville, now serving all of northern Monterey County with new connections into Santa Clara County, including downtown San Jose. It is the foresight of the MST member jurisdictions that has enabled the transit service to be on the cutting edge of technology and service, with ridership of nearly five million passengers each year, including a paratransit van service for disabled customers, a Waterfront Area Visitor Express service for tourists, and the innovative Carmel Valley Grapevine Express.

Not only does MST play a significant role in the transportation system of the Monterey Bay region, but it helps meet the basic transportation needs of thousands of constituents. A majority of MST passengers are either elderly or low-income. More than two out of every five

MST passengers live in a household without an automobile. For the more than four thousand riders who depend on public transportation every day to get to work, the safe and reliable bus system that MST operates is a necessity for their economic independence.

In addition, MST is at the forefront of mixed-use TOD—transit oriented development—promoting community livability and sustainable development along bus routes. Connecting housing and transportation will be the key to retaining the unique quality of life for residents and visitors to the beautiful Monterey Peninsula. It was my privilege earlier this month to help MST mark a milestone in its history and operations with the opening of the new Marina Transit Exchange. The first phase offers customers and staff expanded amenities, electronic signage, and other customer information services and the second phase will provide MST developed housing.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to commend Monterey-Salinas Transit for providing 35 years of exemplary public service to the central coast of California, and ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to wish them well on the next 35 years.

TORTURE POLICIES UNDERCUT
U.S. LEADERSHIP ON HUMAN
RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND THE
RULE OF LAW

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, as Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, I would like to draw the attention of my colleagues to two events last week that, taken together, illustrate the damaging effect that this administration's policies have had on America's credibility as a global leader on human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

First of all, on Friday, the 56 OSCE participating States concluded their annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw, Poland. This meeting is Europe's largest regional human rights forum where governments and nongovernmental organizations gather to take stock of how countries are implementing the commitments they have undertaken in the Helsinki process relating to human rights and democracy. As such, this meeting provides an important opportunity for the United States to raise and express concern about serious instances of noncompliance and negative trends in the expansive OSCE region stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

Separately, on Thursday of last week—just as the Warsaw meeting was drawing to a close—the New York Times ran an article revealing the existence of two classified legal memos authorizing the use of interrogation techniques that, to many reasonable minds, rise to the level of torture, or at least cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment—both categories of treatment prohibited under the United Nations Convention Against Torture, to which the United States is a party. These memos have already been dubbed by some as “torture memo 2.0” and “torture memo 3.0,” and were reportedly authored by

Steven G. Bradbury, who has headed the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel since 2005.

Madam Speaker, 3 years ago the world was shocked—and the United States was shamed—by pictures showing detainees standing on boxes with hoods over their heads and electrical wires attached to their fingers. But perhaps even more shocking and more shameful was the surfacing of the so-called “torture memo,” adopted by the Department of Justice in 2002 and leaked to the public in 2004. The very existence of such a memo was rightly and widely understood to mean that abuses did not just occur by rogue elements or as an aberration, but stemmed from a government policy to effectively authorize the use of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The 2002 memo was so scandalous that shortly after it was leaked, it was disavowed by the Department of Justice itself.

For many people, the existence of “torture memo 2.0” and “torture memo 3.0” will not come as a surprise but rather as a confirmation of what they suspected to be the case. Certainly, when one looks at the statements issued by the President when he signed into law the 2005 Detainee Treatment Act and the 2006 Military Commissions Act, there was every indication that he considered himself in no way bound by those laws as passed by Congress.

There are, of course, enormous implications for the United States when the President considers himself beyond the reach of the Congress and outside the scope of the Constitution. The President's policies on torture have seriously undercut American credibility on the very issues this administration purports to hold dear—human rights and democracy promotion.

Can you imagine being at a meeting—like the one that has just concluded in Warsaw—where the United States is supposed to express its concern about a whole range of human rights issues, including the issue of protecting human rights while combating terrorism, when this latest revelation about this administration's torture policies hits the front pages?

Regrettably, American credibility as an advocate for human rights and democracy has continued in free fall in the face of this latest revelation and attendant implausible denials. Beyond the victims of abuse themselves, U.S. interests are being seriously undermined, including the campaign to win hearts and minds around the globe.

Not surprisingly, the administration's dissembling denials cannot repair the damage that has been done. It will take considerable time to restore the good name of our country—time, and concrete action by this body.

In such circumstances, actions speak louder than words, and two steps must be taken to help restore America's tarnished reputation, help clear out the thicket of legal cases created by the President's disastrous policies, and position the United States to build more effective alliances in our counterterrorism operations.

First, I urge my colleagues to restore *habeas corpus*—and the sooner, the better. The Military Commissions Act of 2006 was a travesty of justice, but perhaps no part of that legislation departed so sharply from our legal heritage as the decision to deny individuals the

most basic right recognized since the Magna Carta: the right to challenge their detention. If we are to convince the world that we do not routinely torture terrorism suspects, providing these detainees one of the most basic legal safeguards is a good place to start.

Second, we must close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay—a measure I called for at a hearing on Guantanamo I chaired in June. To this end, the United States should release or transfer detainees elsewhere and, for those whom we believe we must hold and try, detainees should be transferred to the United States. Terror suspects can be tried by our Federal courts; they might be tried by military commissions under the Uniform Code of Military Justice; I'd even consider the establishment of special domestic terror courts, as in Spain. But it is time for the President to listen to his own senior officials, including Secretaries Gates and Rice, and close the GTMO camp.

Madam Speaker, while these two steps are not the only ones necessary to fully restore America's credibility and respect for the values we proclaim abroad, they would represent an important start. It is time for this great country to resume its rightful leadership role on human rights, democracy and rule of law, but first, it will need to lead by example.

HONORING DR. ALVAN E. FISHER

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Dr. Alvan E. Fisher, a pioneer in treating those affected by AIDS in Rhode Island, who distinguished himself with an extraordinary career as a courageous physician and leader in my home state and throughout the Nation. Dr. Fisher passed away on September 28, 2007, after dedicating over 25 years of service to the treatment of people with AIDS.

As a man with deep conviction and tremendous spirit of public service, Dr. Fisher in the early 1980s ventured into the care of patients who other doctors feared, and I am deeply honored to pay tribute to this outstanding Rhode Island native who spent 22 years in clinical practice in Rhode Island treating and advocating for patients with HIV/AIDS. AIDS Project Rhode Island recognized him with its first “Red Ribbon Community Service Award” in 2002, among many accolades he had received in his lifetime.

Dr. Fisher was a specialist in infectious diseases and a founding member of AIDS Project Rhode Island, where he was instrumental in establishing standards of care for patients with HIV and helping patients find doctors who would treat them. He served as chairman of the AIDS task force at Rhode Island Hospital and helped start the Brown University AIDS Program. More recently, Dr. Fisher continued his work in the field of HIV/AIDS treatment as senior director of medical affairs for Gilead Sciences, a biotech company in Foster City, California.

Dr. Fisher was ahead of the times and was someone who understood very well that through acts of bravery and by deeply caring, he worked every day to ensure that patients in

our State of Rhode Island and nationally would have a chance to maintain dignity and live a full and healthy life with HIV/AIDS.

Today, I praise Dr. Fisher and thank him for all of his contributions to our country and I assure his family that we are inspired and sustained by his example.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DISCOVERY MUSEUM'S CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the 10-year anniversary of the Challenger Learning Center at the Discovery Museum of Sacramento's Science and Space Center. For a decade, the Challenger Learning Center has been a vital educational resource for the Sacramento community. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in acknowledging the 10 successful years of the Discovery Museum's Challenger Learning Center.

On January 28, 1986, the United States lost seven astronauts aboard the Challenger Space Shuttle. It was a tragedy that we will never forget. To memorialize the lives and the commitment to education of the astronauts aboard the Challenger, their families founded a nonprofit known as the Challenger Center for Space Science Education. Utilizing realistic and interactive mission scenarios, Challenger Learning Centers aim to give students an educational experience that incorporates the importance of math and science. The simulated space missions offered at the Discovery Museum's Challenger Learning Center combine the joy of learning with the unbridled enthusiasm of space travel. Whether students want to "Voyage to Mars" or "Rendezvous with Comet Halley," the missions allow them to experience the excitement of discovery that the astronauts aboard the Challenger surely would have felt.

Since 1997, the Discovery Museum's Challenger Learning Center has been the premier

field trip destination in Sacramento and has proved to be a vital resource tool for teachers. Increasingly, the Challenger Learning Center's space missions have become a favorite of local businesses; as the center offers a unique team-building opportunity and allows employees to enhance their communication skills.

In July, the Smithsonian Institution, our Nation's premier museum and research organization, named the Discovery Museum as a Smithsonian Affiliate. Under the leadership of the Discovery Museum's Executive Director Evangeline Higginbotham, this designation will allow their Science and Space Center, as well as the Gold Rush History Center, to share in the Smithsonian's unmatched wealth of resources and artifacts. It was a distinct honor, as the Discovery Museum was the first museum in California's Central Valley to be named as an Affiliate.

Madam Speaker, as the Sacramento community and the Discovery Museum's supporters gather tomorrow, I am honored to recognize the 10 years of educational insight provided by the Challenger Learning Center. Their work has inspired countless Sacramento residents over the last decade to embrace the wonders of science. As the Challenger Learning Center embarks on 10 more successful years, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing them continued successes.

RECOGNIZING THE MODERNIZATION OF T.C. WILLIAMS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the grand reopening of T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, VA. T.C. Williams, which serves Alexandria City Public Schools students in grades ten through twelve, recently completed a massive renovation and modernization project in time to open for the start of the 2007–2008 school year.

The modernization of T.C. Williams High School has brought a state-of-the art, 21st-

century learning experience to 1,997 Alexandria City high school students. The entirely new building includes computers in more classrooms, a fully-integrated fiber optic network, a new media center, and a completely automated library, making T.C. Williams among the best technologically equipped schools in the country.

In addition to vastly improving the educational experience of Alexandria's high school students, the T.C. Williams school modernization project has won awards for architectural excellence and environmentally-friendly building features. The school was honored by an independent jury of architects, engineers and general contractors in the local building community as Educational Project of the Year in Mid-Atlantic Construction magazine's Best of 2007 awards program. This year, Mid-Atlantic Construction had a record number of entries for its Best of 2007 awards, and honored T.C. Williams along with 45 other projects in 16 categories.

The T.C. Williams reconstruction was also honored with a Green Innovation Award from the Virginia Sustainable Building Network, which named it the Best Institutional Project of the year. The building, which adheres to the standards and principles of the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED 2.1 Green Building Rating System, includes a number of environmentally innovative features, such as an advanced storm water management and reuse system, water conservation measures and energy-saving air conditioning operations, and a permanent measurement and verification system to track water and energy usage at the facility.

Madam Speaker, I commend the leadership of the Alexandria City Public Schools and T.C. Williams High School, along with the architects and builders involved, for all their work to make the modernization of T.C. Williams a reality, and for their dedication to renovating the school in a way that was both architecturally and environmentally innovative. I am proud to have such a state-of-the-art facility available to educate the students of Virginia's 8th Congressional District.