

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF NILES,
MICHIGAN

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the City of Niles, Michigan for the dedication of its downtown "streetscape" project. Over the past two years countless individuals tirelessly worked to bring this project to this remarkable pinnacle. With the addition of new streetlights, new planters, new patterned filled sidewalks, new drinking fountains, new benches, and new trash receptacles, the folks of Niles now have a tremendous downtown to be proud of. I had the great privilege of recently visiting the new streetscape and it is terrific.

The finishing of the "streetscape" couldn't have come at a more appropriate or meaningful time as families and friends come together to celebrate the holidays. Volunteers have diligently worked stringing garlands along fences, threading strands of lights into the trees, and placing ribbons and wreaths on the new historic streetlights, all in an effort to make the downtown ready for its holiday celebration.

Southwest Michigan and especially the folks of Niles truly have a magnificent historic downtown to cherish for years to come. On behalf of the Sixth District of Michigan I would like to especially pay tribute and give thanks to everyone who volunteered and worked on preserving and beautifying this great city.

HONORING CIVIL AIR PATROL
CADET 1LT BRIAN M. MOONEY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and contributions of Civil Air Patrol Cadet 1LT Brian M. Mooney. The Civil Air Patrol, an Auxiliary of the United States Air Force, is dedicated to educating the American public on air related topics and providing emergency services and disaster relief efforts.

During First Lieutenant Mooney's extensive tenure as a Suffolk County Cadet, he exemplified what it means to be a dedicated and passionate member of the Civil Air Patrol. After originally joining the Air Patrol as a member of the COL F.S. Gabreski Squadron in 1998, Cadet Mooney worked hard to help that squadron earn a Unit Citation for 1999. In 2001, First Lieutenant Mooney became Commander of Suffolk County Cadet Squadron 5, where he served diligently until his 21st birthday.

Sadly, First Lieutenant Mooney passed away prematurely on October 16, 2004. First Lieutenant Mooney was truly an individual respected by his community and he will continue to be remembered as someone who always had a kind word for friends and strangers alike. Mr. Mooney's loving family, surrogate mother and all of his friends and compatriots in the Air Patrol will miss his dedication to life and to his duties as a Squadron Commander.

In a fitting and lasting tribute to the many contributions First Lieutenant Mooney made to

the Air Patrol organization, I was pleased to learn about a recent decision to rename Squadron 5 after Brian M. Mooney. This will undoubtedly serve as a reminder to young cadets that their unit respects the outstanding works of former Squadron members.

In December of 2000, First Lieutenant Mooney received one of the Air Patrol's highest honors by earning the illustrious General Billy Mitchell Award. Named for BG Billy Mitchell, this commendation represents a significant achievement requiring a strong work ethic and an exhaustive knowledge of aerospace issues.

First Lieutenant Mooney's experience in the Civil Air Patrol could serve as a guide for all young cadets. Early in his tenure, Mooney was elected Vice-Chairperson for the Long Island Group Cadet Advisory Council and following his work there, was elected Chairperson for the LI Group and was named as a Member of the New York Wing Cadet Advisory Council.

First Lieutenant Mooney's work as Commander shows the overwhelming pride that he had in his unit and in his fellow cadets. One year after becoming Commander, Mooney was named Long Island Group's Cadet of Distinction 2002, and during the course of only two years of his service in the Air Patrol, Mooney was responsible for increasing recruitment for his squadron from five to forty-plus cadets.

I can think of few individuals more suitable for recognition by this body. First Lieutenant Mooney's work with the Civil Air Patrol influenced numerous cadets on Long Island and the members of the Squadron now bearing his name will sorely miss him. First Lieutenant Mooney shows that selfless dedication to a cause and dogged pursuit of one's goals reflect positively on the community as a whole.

First Lieutenant Mooney's brief life was filled with extensive contributions to family and fellow cadets alike, and I appreciate the opportunity to commemorate his work in the Civil Air Patrol. I would also urge that the current cadets in the Brian M. Mooney Civil Air Patrol Squadron memorialize First Lieutenant Mooney's achievements by continuing his good works.

A TRIBUTE TO KATHY
TAVOULARIS ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Californian. Kathy Tavoularis is retiring from her position as the Executive Director of the Republican Party of Orange County, where she has directed the day-to-day operations of the county Republican Central Committee for over a decade.

Kathy began her involvement with the county party as a college intern in 1991, and was hired in 1993 as Office Director.

Kathy represents so much of the diversity that makes Orange County such a lively and interesting place. She was born in Montreal, Quebec in 1970 to George and Maria, who had emigrated to Canada 10 years earlier from Greece. She grew up outside of Chicago,

Illinois and became a life-long fan of the Chicago Cubs and the Chicago Bears. Kathy is fluent in Greek and conversational in Quebecois French from her days in Canada. She has also traveled extensively in Europe.

She graduated from California State University, Long Beach, earning a B.A. in Political Science, with an emphasis in Politics and Policy Formation. Kathy worked three jobs at once to pay her way through college and received her degree after only 3 years.

Kathy has been a dedicated member of the Orange County Republican Women Federated, the Orange County Young Republicans, an appointed Member of the California Republican Party, and has worked at the 1996, 2000 and 2004 Republican National Conventions.

Kathy regularly attends St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Anaheim, where she is active in Bible Study and Early Church History Classes.

On behalf of my colleagues, let me join the many friends, co-workers and admirers in wishing Kathy Tavoularis nothing but the best in her future endeavors. She leaves behind an enormously positive legacy for the residents of Orange County, local community leaders, and in helping to make Orange County "the most Republican county" in America.

INTERNET TAX
NONDISCRIMINATION

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, first, I would like to commend the House and Senate for passing the 3 year extension on the moratorium for Internet taxes and the President for signing the bill last Friday. I am pleased that we were able to extend the moratorium, I agree with the gentleman from Wisconsin, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, that the moratorium should be made permanent. I look forward to working with him and others next year to achieve this very important goal.

Second, for clarification purposes on the grandfather of states that tax Internet access, I wish to offer an explanation distinguishing the difference between the pre-October 1998 and pre-November 2003 dates as found in Section 1104.

While both sections use the term "Internet access," Section 1104(a), the provision for pre-October 1998 taxes, applies only to the states that were lawfully taxing Internet access before the original enactment of the Internet Tax Freedom Act in 1998. The definition of "Internet access" that applies to the Section 1104(a) grandfather clause is the definition as set forth in the 1998 Internet Tax Freedom Act, as the amended definition does not take effect until November 1, 2003. Those states that were grandfathered under the Internet Tax Freedom Act from 1998 to 2003 will continue to be grandfathered under Section 1104(a).

Section 1104(b), the provision for pre-November 2003 taxes, applies only to those states that were taxing telecommunication services purchased, used, or sold by an Internet access provider to provide Internet access,

such as Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) access technology, if they were doing it lawfully prior to November 1, 2003. The amended definition of "Internet access" in the Internet Tax Freedom Act is effective November 1, 2003 and applies to section 1104(b). Section 1104(b) expires November 1, 2005 in order to eliminate any "tax on Internet access" (as defined in Section 1104(10)) regarding telecommunications services purchased, used or sold by an Internet access provider for the purpose of providing Internet access.

Finally, in making the Internet Tax Freedom Act technology neutral, this law now protects consumers from taxes on all Internet access technologies, including dial-up, DSL, cable modem, satellite and wireless. A consumer may even purchase Internet access from two Internet access providers without the threat of taxes. He may use one service to browse the Internet and the other service primarily for e-mail and content services. Both Internet access services are protected from state and local taxation under this law. This law is a significant accomplishment on behalf of all American consumers and maximizes consumer choice and access.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
RICHARD E. MEADE

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, the circle and legacy of service to the United States continues every year without end here in Congress.

Members of Congress and our professional staff arrive and depart, and because that departure may seem to go without notice, those who depart may wonder whether their service has in fact made a difference, and in some manner secured the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity.

I cannot bear witness to all that I have encountered in this circle of service, but, I will try for the departure of one very special friend.

Richard E. Meade has served me, the Congress, and the United States of America professionally, effectively, and unselfishly for over fifteen years.

He has served me as my Chief of Staff for both my Iowa Congressional office and the House Budget Committee.

During his tenure, his professional approach was one identified with integrity of purpose,

quality of work product, and sincerity and honesty to every person he encountered, from the Speaker of the House to a citizen from Iowa.

One of the many beauties of America is that our freedom is more precious and important than any one person, and yet, without that "mere person" who is willing to serve freedom, respect freedom, and defend freedom, freedom could not exist.

Richard E. Meade is such a person who during his life has been willing to serve, respect and defend American freedom, and in doing so, has helped secure the blessings of liberty for all of us, and for his lovely wife Elizabeth and their precious daughter Constance.

Soon, memories of that service, like the memories of the service of so many others, may fade, and good people will step forward and continue in the legacy of quality service to the freedom we have all come to expect and too often take for granted. The circle of service continues.

My humble words of appreciation cannot, and will not, equal the quality and quantity of service you provided me and our country, but Rich, I offer them with my ultimate respect and sincere gratitude for your many years of dedication to me and our liberty. Mr. Speaker, I simply say, Rich Meade, thank you for my freedom!