

know it. We may now run the most humane prison in the most scenic location in the world. But it is still a prison. Many prisoners have been kept in cells for more than 3 years without being charged and without a meaningful process to evaluate or challenge their detention. Regardless of how well the detainees are treated, it is not the American way to detain them indefinitely without an adequate hearing. These policies are not only beneath us, but they have radicalized an untold number of Muslims around the world. Even Secretary Rumsfeld had to admit last year that he did not know whether we were "capturing, killing or dissuading more terrorists every day than the madrassas and radical clerics are recruiting, training and deploying against us."

This is important because it is the ideals of the American people and of our great and good country, and our longstanding commitment to the rule of law, that are being compromised. These are not the policies of a great nation like ours, and this is not the American system of justice that has been a beacon to the entire world. We need not trade away our values and the principles that have guided us in order to feel safer or to be safer. And if we do that, we give those who would harm us a victory they could not win on any battlefield, and we cede leverage to them that they will never deserve.

Everyone in Congress agrees that we must capture and detain terrorist suspects, but it can and should be done in accordance with the laws of war and in a manner that upholds our commitment to the rule of law. In our recent hearing on detainees, Senator GRAHAM, a former Air Force lawyer who still serves in the Reserves, said that once enemy combatant status has been conferred upon someone, "it is almost impossible not to envision that some form of prosecution would follow." He continued, "We can do this and be a rule of law nation. We can prove to the world that even among the worst people in the world, the rule of law is not an inconsistent concept."

We know that some of the detainees have been wrongly detained. And many suspect there are others who have not yet been released, against whom the evidence is weak at best. In a January 8, 2005, New York Times article, a senior American official claimed "that the vast majority of the 550 prisoners now held at the American detention center at Guantanamo no longer had any intelligence value and were no longer being regularly interrogated." The article also quotes a veteran interrogator at Guantanamo who told the New York Times that it "became clear over time that most of the detainees had little useful to say and that they were just swept up during the Afghanistan war with little evidence they played any significant role."

The administration says these detainees are the "worst of the worst" and pose a continuing threat to the

safety of Americans. If that is true, there must be at least basic evidence to support it. No one advocates releasing terrorists. But it is the American way to provide a fair process to ensure that the detainees at Guantanamo really are a threat to our Nation. In a break with military tradition and regulations, the administration denied detainees even the limited process contemplated by Article 5 of the Third Geneva Convention, and established the Combatant Status Review Tribunal, CSRT, only after being rebuked by the Supreme Court in *Rasul v. Bush*. The CSRT affirmed the "enemy combatant" status of the Guantanamo detainees based on secret evidence to which the detainees were denied access, raising serious questions about the fairness of the process.

It is time for Congress to focus on the real issue, which is defending American ideals and our commitment to the rule of law. The chicken at Guantanamo may be wonderful, but this matters little to America's core values if we are imprisoning some people who may have been wrongly accused of supporting terrorism and who have no way to challenge their detention.

The administration is trumpeting the humane treatment of detainees at Guantanamo as a diversion. Guantanamo is a symbol of the needless problems created by the unilateral ways this administration has chosen to proceed since 9/11. It is being used to deflect attention from this administration's deliberate rejection of the rule of law.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CBR YOUTH CONNECT

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise to make a few remarks concerning CBR Youth Connect.

"Youth are our focus and our future, connecting is our job." This statement represents the newly expanded vision of Colorado Boys Ranch, CBR, Youth Connect, a foundation with a 45-year history of helping troubled young men become productive citizens in their communities and throughout the world. CBR Youth Connect offers more than 200 applied learning opportunities and nontraditional programs and therapies, each one designed to help youth enhance their skills, attitudes, and relations with others. Programs and services range from animal-assisted programs to family therapy to an accredited school system. Each program and service offered by CBRYC is designed to contribute to a boy's overall treatment plan, helping him learn, grow, and develop as an individual.

The roots for CBR Youth Connect were planted in 1958 when county judges, from various districts in the State of Colorado, envisioned a rural orphanage that would be an ideal setting for dependant and neglected boys.

They found their setting in the agrarian community of La Junta, located in Colorado's southeast corner. And with the admittance of the first boys in 1961, the Colorado Boys Ranch was born.

From the moment of conception, the mission of the Colorado Boys Ranch has been to do whatever is necessary to help each troubled boy. Over the last 45 years, CBR has developed from a Colorado orphanage into a highly accredited national mental health treatment and education organization serving youth with severe mental health needs. Due to the hard work and dedication of their highly experienced staff, CBR has garnered various accomplishments, including a customer satisfaction rating of 96 percent from parents, youth, and referral services. CBR Youth Connect has recently been rated as "one of the best in the nation" by the rigorous Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care, and it features one of the largest, most comprehensive data bases in the Nation for analysis and research of adolescent mental health.

In 2003, with a decrease in public funding, the Colorado Boys Ranch Board felt confident that the ranch could evolve into a new organizational structure. Recognizing the commitment of their dedicated staff and CBR's extraordinary success rate, the board believed that they could transform into an organization that would reach many more youth, families, and advocates. Their new vision statement was based on the notion that: "Youth are our focus and our future, connecting is our job." Their goal is to connect youth and their families with knowledge, relationships, and resources; and out of this fresh outlook came with it a new name: CBR Youth Connect.

Currently more than 120 youth, ages 10-21, from all ethnic, cultural, geographic, and socioeconomic backgrounds are admitted to CBR Youth Connect each year. With the advent of their new organizational structure and expanded vision, CBR Youth Connect hopes to expand their reach to troubled youth around the world with the hopes of becoming recognized as the foremost leader in psychiatric residential treatment and education. To accomplish this goal, staff members are traveling to countries around the world, providing the latest in research, treatment, and education to help troubled youth and their families.

I salute CBR Youth Connect.●

HONORING THE CAREER OF CHARLES W. PHILLIPS

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the great achievements of Charles W. Phillips, director of the Indiana Department of Financial Institutions. After 16 years serving the citizens of our State, Charlie Phillips is entering into a well-deserved retirement. Over the years, he has contributed to the safety and soundness of Indiana's banking industry, and I am honored to have the opportunity to

thank him for his leadership and commitment to the people of Indiana.

Charlie Phillips began his distinguished career in 1950 as an examiner with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, FDIC, where he dedicated himself to banking and bank supervision. In 1958, Charlie Phillips moved to New Albany to work as president of Floyd County Bank. As a leader in his community for more than 25 years, he helped acquire land to establish the Indiana University Southeast campus in New Albany. For this achievement, Charlie Phillips was recognized with the Chancellor's Medallion for Distinguished Service.

In 1989, after a brief retirement, Charlie agreed to become the director of the Department of Financial Institution for Indiana. I am proud to have been able to appoint him to that post. During his tenure as director, he served three other Governors besides myself.

As director, Charlie Phillips was responsible for promoting the modernization of the Indiana Financial Institutions Act, which addressed corporate governance, interstate branching, and payday lending reform. His commitment to encouraging employees to pursue continued professional development is among one of his greatest accomplishments. As a result, one of his legacies will be a well-trained staff, important to the health of Indiana's banking system and economy.

The people of Indiana have benefited from Charlie's hard work and dedication. I am proud to have appointed him to a position that made use of his many talents and to be able to honor him today. I wish him all the best in his retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO ALBUQUERQUE VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I stand before you today to recognize Albuquerque Vocational Technical Institute (TVI), a community college in New Mexico that is celebrating its 40th year of service to the community.

Since TVI's humble beginnings in an old vacated school building serving only 150 students, the school has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of students and has grown to serve about 27,000 students each year across four campuses. Considering the enriching education and workforce opportunities TVI provides it is no surprise that TVI is a "crown jewel" of the city of Albuquerque.

In a community noted for cultural diversity, TVI is a model technical education institution which provides high quality instruction and training in a variety of technical careers, trades, and professions. TVI delivers innovative, customized training and skill development to develop a highly skilled workforce for business, professional organizations, and government agencies. TVI wisely collaborates with business and industry to ensure that their students, as future workers, meet the de-

mands of the high-tech 21 century workforce. TVI graduates provide needed technical assistance and services to a variety of industries including our National Labs. TVI's dedication to their students' professional growth has positively impacted the economic development of the community and of the State.

For its leadership in educational advancement and for its invaluable contributions, I commend the students, the teachers, and the administration of the Albuquerque Technical Vocational Institute for 40 years of exceptional service to the community and to the State of New Mexico.●

HONORING THE CITIZENS OF DEXTER, NEW MEXICO

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the citizens of Dexter in the Pecos Valley of southeastern New Mexico, who will soon be celebrating the centennial of their community.

In its early years, the settlement that would become Dexter was located near the large body of water known as Lake Van in Chaves County. With the rise of the railroad and the construction of an irrigation canal a few miles away, a new town was necessary. Three men selected the townsite, and the only married man of the bunch, Albert Macey, was given the privilege of choosing the name of the town. He chose the name Dexter in honor of his hometown of Dexter, IA.

Dexter served an important role as a railroad depot in its early years. The depot contributed greatly to the economic and social life of the town. Dexter also became part of the historic Ozark Trails highway system and still has remnants of this fabled roadway, now known as State Highway Two. Agriculture, with cotton and alfalfa being the chief crops, has been and continues to be important for Dexter and the Pecos Valley.

These days, Dexter is also known for its fish hatchery, where advanced biological research takes place and endangered species are protected and propagated. The Dexter National Fish Hatchery is currently working with 17 species of fish native to New Mexico and neighboring States. If something should happen to devastate an original fish species in the wild, the hatchery could use the fish it holds in refuge to help replace the damaged population.

Given the long history of settlement in New Mexico, turning 100 barely qualifies a town as middle aged. But Dexter and its 1,200 residents have done a great deal in that short amount of time. I congratulate the town of Dexter on its centennial and offer my best wishes for the next 100 years.●

IN MEMORIAM TO ASSEMBLYMAN MIKE GORDON

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to honor the memory

of a most dedicated public servant, California Assemblyman Mike Gordon. Assemblyman Gordon passed away on June 25, 2005. He was 47 years old.

Assemblyman Gordon began his political career at the young age of 18 as a voter registration coordinator for Assembly Speaker Leo McCarthy and later joined the staff of Assemblyman Bruce Young (D-Downey). In 1982, Gordon began his 3-year tenure as executive director of the California Democratic Party and in 1995 co-founded Gordon and Schwenkmeyer, Inc., a successful polling and fundraising firm that is still operating today.

Mike Gordon was elected to the El Segundo City Council in 1996 and as the city's mayor in 1998, 2000, and 2002. During this time, he focused on revitalizing El Segundo's downtown and helped increase funding for police, fire and recreation. As cofounder of the Los Angeles Air Force Base Alliance, he fought against the closure of the base and focused his attention on finding a solution for regional air and road traffic. Of all his great work as councilman and mayor, Mike's focus on education and funding for the El Segundo Unified School District made him a hero in the community.

In 2004, Mike Gordon ran successfully for the 53rd California Assembly seat in the South Bay of Los Angeles County. Assemblyman Gordon introduced 22 bills during his first 2 months in the assembly and was appointed chair of the Assembly Committee on Veterans Affairs and as the body's representative to California's Milton Marks Little Hoover Commission. His strong leadership skills and passion for public service were instrumental in his early success in the assembly.

Assemblyman Mike Gordon knew firsthand the concerns and needs of his community and dedicated his life to serving the citizens of Southern California. He grew up in La Mirada, CA where he attended Neff High School and in 1979 graduated from California State University, Fullerton with a bachelor's degree in political science. Whether as mayor or assemblyman, he used his knowledge, influence, and skills to better the lives of his constituents.

Assemblyman Gordon is survived by his wife Denise and children, Ryan, Erika, Amanda, and Gordy. He was a deeply loved member of both the California State Legislature and the South Bay community for his willingness to champion the causes of those he represented. He will be missed by all who knew him.●

CONGRATULATING MISS KENNEDY WOMACK

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I rise to congratulate Miss Kennedy Womack, a 10-year-old student of Russell-McDowell Intermediate School in Flatwoods, KY.

The Kentucky Association for Gifted Education in cooperation with the National Association for Gifted Children