

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING ALEX
CHANDLER

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I am honored to highlight an outstanding achievement of a young leader from my congressional district. Mr. Alex Chandler of Heritage High School in Littleton, Colorado was the elected Youth Governor of the YMCA Youth in Government Program and will attend the 2007 Youth Governor's Conference in Washington, DC this June.

Mr. Chandler's road to Washington is not unlike those taken by current Members of Congress. After a vigorous campaign, he was elected Youth Governor of Colorado to represent more than 50,000 of his peers. He was then given the task of executing the duties of his office against those of a mock legislature and judicial system. Due to his outstanding political and leadership abilities, Mr. Chandler will be one of 40 Youth Governors chosen to attend the conference.

The Youth Governor's Conference has been held annually in Washington, DC since 1964, granting high school students a rare and unique opportunity to meet and engage their elected officials in Congress, policy makers, and other prominent political personalities. This exceptional event seeks to provide these young individuals a greater understanding of America's political system, a familiarity of the major players within it, and exposure to the important issues of our era.

Madam Speaker, all of Colorado can take pride in the performance of Mr. Chandler and his great political potential. He is an excellent role model for his peers as well as a symbol of this country's future leadership. Please join me in commending Mr. Chandler for his successes.

SENATOR JOSEPH BIDEN PROPOSES INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR LIBRARY TO THWART NUCLEAR TERRORISM

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues in the House to a recent article by the distinguished Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator JOSEPH BIDEN of Delaware. For the past 34 years that he has served in the Congress, Senator BIDEN has been a steadfast proponent of strong American policies to deal with nuclear non-proliferation.

In a column published last week in the Wall Street Journal Senator BIDEN proposed an

"International Nuclear Library" that would store the nuclear signatures of the stockpiles of nuclear materials of all participating nations. Such a program would allow not only the United States but all participating countries to know that if any nuclear materials were inappropriately used, it would be possible to identify with certainty just where the culprits found their nuclear materials—a very strong deterrence to misuse.

Madam Speaker, Senator BIDEN's proposal would encourage more responsible behavior by countries with nuclear materials. It would provide a strong incentive for close monitoring of nuclear stockpiles. This plan would also give all participating countries a source for any radioactive materials that have entered or exited their borders.

I welcome Senator BIDEN's excellent and progressive proposal. Madam Speaker, I ask that Senator BIDEN's article be placed in the RECORD, and I urge all of my colleagues to give it careful and thoughtful attention.

[From the Wall Street Journal, June 4, 2007]

CSI: NUKES

(By Senator Joseph Biden)

The most dangerous threat America faces is the possibility that one of the world's most extreme groups—like al Qaeda—gets its hands on a nuclear bomb. Luckily, a would-be nuclear terrorist cannot make the ingredients for a modern-day Hiroshima by himself. Either a state will have to give or sell him a bomb or the nuclear material to make one, or the terrorist will have to steal the material.

To bring deterrence into the 21st century and prevent an attack from ever occurring, the United States and other potential targets of nuclear terrorism must take advantage of nuclear terrorists' reliance on states.

The U.S. has long deterred a nuclear attack by states, by clearly and credibly threatening devastating retaliation. Now is the time for a new type of deterrence: We must make clear in advance that we will hold accountable any country that contributes to a terrorist nuclear attack, whether by directly aiding would-be nuclear terrorists or willfully neglecting its responsibility to secure the nuclear weapons or weapons-usable nuclear material within its borders. Deterrence cannot rest on words alone. It must be backed up by capabilities.

Before, we relied on being able to track incoming bombers or missiles to know who had attacked us. Today, because a nuclear bomb might be delivered in a rental van or a boat, the credibility of the new deterrence will rest on our scientific ability to examine the air and ground debris created by an attack to determine the source of the nuclear material.

Building on work from the Cold War, the U.S. is a leader in this new science of nuclear forensics. Any country today that aids a would-be nuclear terrorist, through action or neglect, has to be concerned about getting caught. But we can and must do more to improve our ability in this area, and to make our ability to trace the source of a nuclear explosion widely known. We need more nuclear forensics research, more scientists to analyze nuclear samples, and an assured ability—using our own aircraft or those of

cooperating states—to quickly collect nuclear debris from the site of any attack, in this country or around the world.

While there is a lot the U.S. can do on its own to deter countries from helping nuclear terrorists, there is much more we can do through cooperation with other governments. In the aftermath of an attack—or much better, if terrorists are caught smuggling nuclear material before an attack—scientists would want to compare the samples they collect against what is known about other countries' nuclear material, to figure out the samples' country of origin. To enable such work, the U.S. should take the lead in creating an international nuclear forensics library.

The library could house actual samples of nuclear material contributed by participating countries, validated data about their material, or binding agreements to provide predetermined data in the immediate aftermath of an attack or smuggling incident. A library cannot guarantee that in the wake of an attack the world could assign blame to a country, but it could be a critical tool in narrowing an investigation and debunking wild rumors or allegations. Countries might hesitate to share their nuclear material, but the library could safeguard samples and identify their origin only if they matched smuggled material or nuclear debris. Any country that refused to contribute to a nuclear forensics library would risk condemnation or suspicion in the event of a terrorist nuclear attack.

Working out arrangements—to ensure that samples and data stay in trusted hands and that countries cannot fake the samples or data they submit—won't be easy. That is all the more reason to build on existing data collections in Russia and Germany and work with other countries to craft such a worldwide nuclear forensics library.

Four years ago, I proposed improving our nuclear forensics capabilities, but today funding for critical nuclear analysis by our National Laboratories remains dangerously low. Congress must give the labs the resources that they need—and that America's security demands.

This new form of deterrence must add to, not replace, other efforts to prevent nuclear terrorism. We must devote far more dollars and people to working with Russia and other countries to secure and reduce stockpiles of nuclear weapons and materials and to remove nuclear weapons-usable materials from as many sites as possible. The president must make this effort his or her personal priority.

Deterrence based on strong nuclear forensics is a critical tool to help prevent nuclear terrorism. To prevent a nuclear 9/11, we must use every tool we have.

TRIBUTE TO NOVI MEADOWS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Novi Meadows Elementary School, in Novi, Michigan, for

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

earning the distinguished Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School award.

Since its establishment, Novi Meadows Elementary School has represented a pillar of educational excellence in our community. Characterized by a rigorous academic curriculum and an effective partnership between parents and teachers, Novi Meadows Elementary School offers students a constructive learning environment, caring friendships, and innovative educational opportunities to prepare them for life's challenges. Thanks to the dedicated teachers and staff, each year Novi Meadows Elementary School students graduate prepared for a promising future.

In fact, following an extensive assessment of their academic performance, in February of 2007, the Michigan State Board of Education and the Blue Ribbon committee of educators awarded Novi Meadows Elementary School the distinguished Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School award. Established in 1982, the award recognizes schools demonstrating a strong commitment to educational excellence and significant academic improvement over five years. This year, the selection of Novi Meadows Elementary School demonstrates how dedicated teachers, a stellar learning environment, and an exemplary community benefit students.

Madam Speaker, in honor of its recent selection to receive the 2007 Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School award, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Novi Meadows Elementary School's exceptional efforts to educate students, and its diligent service to our community and country.

RECOGNIZING HSBC BANK USA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the 41st recipient of the Special Presentation Award given by the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce. The chamber of commerce wishes to recognize and honor HSBC Bank USA, NA for its contributions to the western New York community.

The employees of HSBC Bank USA, NA have demonstrated a commitment to service and community by volunteering over 135,000 hours of service for nonprofit organizations. HSBC employees donated their time by painting classrooms, picking up litter, tutoring children, and working to improve local areas such as Riverside Park.

HSBC Bank USA, NA has also contributed to the future of western New York and the country through its "HSBC Scholars" program, which last year boasted 1,800 recipients. In addition, the bank also partners with Junior Achievement, a nonprofit organization that works to educate students in the areas of free enterprise, business, and economics.

Cheektowaga has benefited from the presence and activities of HSBC Bank. HSBC Bank has contributed to the Cheektowaga community by acting as a member of the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce for 50 years, and has also sponsored events hosted by the chamber of commerce. Employees of the bank have continued to be an integral part of the western New York community through

participation in organizations such as the United States Marine Corps Reserve and National Association of Women Business Owners.

Today, Madam Speaker, I would like to join the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce and many others in congratulating HSBC Bank USA, NA for its exceptional contributions to the western New York community and beyond.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHARNISHA BRAZZELL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sharnisha Brazzell as the recipient of the inaugural Tuskegee Scholarship, and to recognize the North Coast Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen for their service to our country.

As a member of the East Technical High School JROTC program, Sharnisha has demonstrated a strong desire to serve her country. As the 2007 Tuskegee Scholarship winner, Sharnisha will have the opportunity to develop her aviation skills as a student at the Summer Flight Academy of the Black Airline Pilots Association. Her hard work and dedication will take her to new and exciting heights, and I wish her luck in all her future endeavors.

Sharnisha will be carrying on a proud tradition of service to the United States started by the original Tuskegee Airmen. In the face of prejudice and segregation, the Tuskegee Airmen flew over 1,500 missions during World War II to help defeat Nazism and the spread of intolerance.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Sharnisha Brazzell as the recipient of the inaugural Tuskegee Scholarship. May she carry on the proud tradition of Black Aviation started by the Tuskegee Airmen.

HONORING DAVIE PIÑA, OF CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Davie Piña who is being honored by the Napa Valley Grapegrowers as their Grower of the Year on Friday, June 1, 2007. Mr. Piña is being recognized for his outstanding contribution both to the wine grape industry, and to the larger community of the Napa Valley.

Mr. Piña is a sixth generation farmer in the Napa Valley, where he was born and raised. After attending California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo, he took over and has substantially expanded the vineyard management business begun by his father, John Piña, Sr., over 40 years ago. Today he operates the thriving vineyard management group and is a partner running Piña Napa Valley winery as well as involving himself in numerous groups in the community.

Piña Vineyard Management has been at the forefront of sustainable farming practices in

the Napa Valley for many years, incorporating ecologically friendly agricultural techniques with sophisticated technology to help clients ensure the long-term quality of their vineyards. Mr. Piña's environmental consciousness extends beyond his work in the vineyards, as he has cochaired a local environmental project referred to as the Rutherford Dust River Restoration Team that is working to restore the watershed of the Napa River as it passes through the Rutherford area. He is part of an excellent leadership team that has brought about significant and ongoing changes to the quality of the habitat along the river.

Mr. Piña has also served as the Assistant Fire Chief for the Rutherford Volunteer Fire Department for the past 18 years. During this time he has taken on numerous responsibilities, including storing the department's fire engine on his own property while spearheading the project for a permanent Silverado Fire Station that opened in 2006. As a professional vineyard manager, he was keenly attuned to problems in the industry, and last year he helped organize local farm managers, and ultimately facilitated the Vineyard Managers Facilities Ordinance. This important work has allowed the legalization of vineyard management operations, and will help ensure regulation and quality in Napa Valley agriculture.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Mr. Davie Piña for the hard work he has done on behalf of the Napa Valley. As a respected manager and now winemaker, he has advanced the reputation of Napa Valley grapes and wine, and he has also been a model citizen and superb steward of the land he lives on.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY E. FOSTER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the memory of Larry E. Foster. Larry passed away Sunday, June 10, at the age of 66, after suffering with cancer for the past several months.

Larry Foster started in public service fighting for the rights of senior citizens after graduating from Mississippi Industrial College with a bachelor of arts degree. He was the director of the Detroit Street Senior Citizen Center and the Hasselbring Senior Center. Elected to the Beecher Board of Education in 1977, Larry has held elected office ever since. He served on the Beecher Board of Education for 14 years.

He went on to be elected as the Mt. Morris Township supervisor in 1992 and has held that position ever since. He was the first African-American ever elected to the supervisor post in the history of the township. He was a devoted servant of the people and worked tirelessly to make Mt. Morris Township a great place to live and work.

Larry was enthusiastic about his community and spent many hours volunteering with Beecher Community Schools. He was the junior high school basketball coach for the past 31 years and a coach for the elementary football and basketball teams. In addition Larry served on the boards of many community organizations and was a member of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church.