

CENTRAL COUNTY

# CONTRA COSTA TIMES

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# Perspective

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## TB challenge

The theme of World TB Day 2007 is TB Anywhere is TB Everywhere. This disease has become increasingly alarming. I understand an extremely drug-resistant form of tuberculosis (XDR-TB) has developed. In South Africa the deaths from this disease are rising, and it has been detected in at least 28 countries on five continents. XDR-TB requires complete isolation.

In the face of this new challenge to our national health, federal, state and local resources to fight TB are being cut.

We need our representatives in Congress to see that emergency funds are available for this new domestic threat, as well as the threat outside our borders.

In addition, I urge Rep. Ellen Tauscher to support full funding of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria and also to sign on to the Stop TB Act of 2007.

Edna Mass