

do better to care for the least of these among us.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING BENEFITS OF MUSIC EDUCATION

SPEECH OF

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support of H. Con. Res. 266, expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the benefits of music education.

Music education has a long history, dating back to Ancient Greece. As part of a standard education, music was used to teach math and deemed equally important to forming a balanced individual. As a former educator, I know that an important component to youth development and a key solution to youth violence is access to art and music education in our schools. College Board studies have shown that students who play an instrument score significantly higher on their Scholastic Aptitude Tests than those who do not. High risk elementary students who participated in an arts program for one year gained eight percentile points on standardized language arts tests. Those who have exposure to music and art are less likely to have discipline problems. If we are serious about improving student achievement and curtailing youth violence in our schools, we must find adequate funding to bring music and art education to our children.

Missouri's fifth district has taken major steps toward integrating arts education into the daily routine in schools. Magnet schools such as the Paseo Academy of Visual and Performing Arts and the Kansas City Middle School of the Arts teach children more than just reading, writing, and arithmetic. Students also learn how to create and appreciate music, painting, and dancing through hands-on experience. The Kansas City Symphony established an orchestral residency at the Paseo Academy to provide professional mentors to aspiring musicians. The results of programs like this are astounding. These schools have improved student test scores well above the district average and greatly increased parental satisfaction. Students enjoy attending school more than ever because of personal interest with the subject matter. I urge my distinguished colleagues to support this measure.

Because of the vast amount of research proving the benefits of music education, we need to invest in more programs which will spark student interest in music such as the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) sponsored "Challenge America" initiative which would provide \$50 million to more than 1,100 communities, bringing the arts and music to regions previously underserved by cultural programming.

Music and art education remains important in the lives of children. From infants listening to classical music to facilitate brain development, to elementary students learning about music related careers from their favorite musicians, to high school instrument students who achieve above average SAT scores, the importance of music education cannot be de-

nied. I urge my distinguished colleagues to continue to support music and art education programs such as "Challenge America" which contribute to the success of students as they become members of our democracy.

IN TRIBUTE TO EARL T. SHINHOSTER

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to express my condolences to the family of Mr. Earl T. Shinhoster, whose tragic and untimely passing we mourn. His wife, Ruby, and his son, Michael Omar, should know, that while their grief is heavy, comfort may be found in those close to them, friends and family, who will gather on Friday morning, June 16th, to acclaim his life. This husband and father was indeed an American hero, the Wind beneath the Wings of a reborn and revitalized NAACP.

For more than 30 years, Earl T. Shinhoster gave of himself to the NAACP, serving in a range of roles and assuming the highest staff position when that organization was at its lowest. With the same dedication and determination that typified his tenure, in 1996, he grabbed the reins of the NAACP and, as Executive Director, brought it from the brink of bankruptcy to a bastion of brightness. Whether in Africa, his birth state of Georgia or across the Nation, he reminded us that voting is the most important because all other rights grow from that right.

Earl has now been called to rest and to reside in a place of total peace. God's finger has gently touched him and he now sleeps. I am confident that he has left a lasting impression on those who came to know him, and the principles that guided him will now serve as guideposts for those he leaves behind. I am also certain that throughout his life, he remained a caring friend, a devoted and loving family member, and a committed and dedicated father and husband. He shall surely be missed. I feel certain, however, that he would want all of us to rejoice in his life and the time he spent on this earth.

The passing of a loved one is always very hard to understand, but God has the situation in-hand. Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3, Verses 1 through 8 is instructive. It reads in part, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. . . . A time to be born, and a time to die." And while his friends and family will greatly miss Earl, I want to remind them that strength can be found in their continued support of one another. That is what he worked for all of his life. That is what he would want.

And, a special word for Ruby and Michael Omar. It is my hope that your family will be comforted by the fact that God in His infinite wisdom does not make mistakes. Your husband and father will live on forever in your hearts and minds through your cherished memories of his life and the time you had with him. Please continue to support one another, and I will pray for God's rich blessings on each of you. May God comfort and help your family and friends and help all of you to hold on to treasured yesterdays; and reach out with

courage and hope to tomorrow, knowing that your beloved is with God. Death is not the end of life. It is the beginning of an eternal sleep. Earl T. Shinhoster lived his life in sacrifice so that millions of us could live our lives in pride. He has labored long. He now rests.

A RESOLUTION HONORING CHRISTOPHER AEMISEGGER, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER OF HILLSDALE, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Christopher Aemisegger, winner of the 2000 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Christopher is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Christopher is an exceptional student at Hillsdale High School and possesses an impressive high school record.

Christopher has received numerous awards for his excellence in academics as well as his participation in school sports. Outside of school, he is an active member of his church community.

Therefore, I am proud to join with his many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Christopher Aemisegger for his selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his endeavors.

HONORING CLAUDIA SCHROTH

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to bring your attention to Claudia Schroth, a 12-year-old student at Wilson Middle School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Claudia created a slogan for our local Campus Crime Stoppers: "See Something Out of Line? Take the Time . . . Call Campus Crime Stoppers!!!" This slogan, though short and simple, will help direct young children to report a crime if they see one. I have the Campus Crime Stoppers poster with the slogan hanging in my Albuquerque office.

Claudia proves that people of all ages can make a difference in their community, changing things for the better. It is because of Claudia and people like her that schools can be made safer.

Mr. Speaker, the Congress is working hard on school safety. Claudia Schroth is working hard in my home of Albuquerque in this very issue also. Please join me in honoring the commitment to a safer world displayed by Claudia Schroth.

TRIBUTE TO THE ROUND TOP,
TEXAS, INDEPENDENCE DAY PA-
RADE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the citizens of Round Top, Texas. The bark of the old cannon on the town square in Round Top, Texas, on July 4, 2000, will announce the city's famous Independence Day Parade. Each year, the small town of Round Top, deep in the heart of Fayette County in Texas' Congressional District 14, swells to accommodate a crowd of 8,000 Fourth of July visitors that come to celebrate our nation's freedom.

In 1851, on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of United States, Round Top celebrated its first Fourth of July. The celebration of this most important date in United States history continues to be the longest held observance of Independence Day west of the Mississippi.

According to historical accounts, early stagecoach lines operating along the Old Bahia Road between Houston and Austin traveled near the center of today's town. When the drivers crossed Rocky Creek along the route and spotted the octagonal-shaped roof of the stage stand, they called out "Round Top!"

Things are slow to change in Round Top. Its citizens appreciate their traditions and have adopted ordinances that are designed to project, enrich and promote the old historic landmarks for the enjoyment and edification of future generations.

On the occasion of over 150 years of celebrations, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the people of Round Top, Texas, who, on Independence Day, proudly proclaim, "God Bless America!"

CELEBRATING MEN'S HEALTH
WEEK

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, over the past 20 years Congress has devoted a great deal of time and money toward addressing the important issues facing women's health. We created an Office of Women's Health at the NIH and we have taken great strides to increase the number of women included in health studies. We have undoubtedly saved hundreds of thousands of women's lives, improved the quality of many millions more, and we have every reason to be proud.

However, we must now begin to focus on the crisis in men's health too. The simple fact is that every year hundreds of men suffer and

die needless—and entirely preventable—deaths.

In 1994, Congress established National Men's Health Week, the week leading up to and including Father's Day. Unfortunately, men's health is not getting any better.

I believe it is time for us to establish an Office of Men's Health. For that reason, I am introducing legislation today that will establish an Office of Men's Health at the Department of Health and Human Services to monitor, coordinate and improve men's health in America.

America needs a concerted effort to combat the problems facing men's health. This year, almost 200,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and almost 32,000 of these men will die. Of course, we cannot save all these men. Nevertheless, we could save a lot of them. While mammograms and Pap smears have dramatically reduced the death rate from breast and cervical cancers, the death rate from prostate cancer could be reduced by widespread use of a simple test called the PSA, which most of us have never heard of.

I am one of the thousands of men who have been saved by a simple PSA test. Just a little over a year ago, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. During my annual examination, my doctor noticed a slight elevation in the readings of a Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test. However, it was only after a prostate biopsy that it was determined that I had cancer. Following the diagnosis, with my family, we decided that I should go ahead and have surgery. I am fortunate that my cancer was detected early, that I had a doctor who was familiar with PSA test results, and that I had healthcare coverage for my treatments. In my case, and in the cases of thousands of men, early detection and treatment have meant the difference between life and death.

However, prostate cancer is only a small component of the men's health crisis: men have a higher death rate than women do for every single one of the ten leading causes of death in this country. We're twice as likely to die of heart disease—the number one killer—40% more likely to die of cancer, and 20% more likely to die of a stroke. At the turn of the last century, men and women had equal life expectancies. At the turn of this one, women outlive men by 7 years.

Admittedly, the largest part of the problem is that men do not take particularly good care of themselves. Only about half as many men as women have a regular physician, for example, and overall, men make about a 30% fewer doctor visits every year than women—and that's even factoring out women's prenatal visits.

So if we got men to start going to the doctor will men start living longer? Well, it could not hurt. However, in a study published earlier this year by the Commonwealth Fund, nearly 70% of men over 40 who visited the doctor were not even asked whether they had a family history of prostate cancer. Men making less than \$50,000 a year were even less likely to be asked. And 40% of men over 50—who should be getting a prostate exam every single year—were not even screened by their doctors. And going to the doctor won't do anything about the fact that four times as many men commit suicide as women, that the victims of violent crime are 75% male, that 98% of the people who work in the most dangerous jobs in this country are men, and that 94% of people who die in the workplace are men.

What can we do about this? First, we can make men's health a public priority. Just as we support public service announcements aimed at getting women to get regular mammograms and do routine self exams, we must support the same kind of campaign to get men to get regular health checkups and do routine self exams. Testicular cancer, which is the most common cancer in men under 35, is curable if caught early enough. In addition, one of the best ways to do that is to teach boys and young men to check themselves at least once a month.

As precious as life is, men—just like women—should have the benefit of as much of it as they possibly can. And because they live so much longer, women are in the unenviable position of seeing their husbands, fathers, and even their sons suffer and die prematurely.

So this year, as we approach Father's Day, let's spend some time figuring out what we can do to help men be better healthcare consumers and what we can do to give men the support and encouragement and resources they need to be the kind of fathers their kids need them to be and that they truly want to be.

Congress is taking the lead in this endeavor. Over 50 members of Congress have joined with me to cosponsor the annual Men's Health Screenings being conducted this week by the Men's Health Network. Informational brochures are provided by Pfizer Inc, American Cancer Society, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Screenings are available in the Rayburn First Aid station Tuesday and Wednesday and on Thursday in the Hart First Aid station. I encourage my colleagues to take this opportunity to be screened for prostate and colorectal cancer, diabetes, cholesterol, and other significant health indicators.

I also hope that all my colleagues will help me by supporting my legislation to establish an Office of Men's Health.

HONORING DEBI BARRETT-HAYES,
EDUCATOR FROM FLORIDA

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the dedicated work of my constituents and one of Florida's finest educators. Debi Barrett-Hayes, has spent the past twenty years of her life working to enrich the minds of our youth by teaching Art to students from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Today, June 14, 2000, Debi Barrett-Hayes will be inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. It is her invaluable commitment and dedication that we honor today.

Ms. Barrett-Hayes is currently the Chair of the Visual Arts Department K-12 and a teacher of Visual Arts grades 9-12 with Florida State University School in Tallahassee, Florida. She has spent her entire career committed to the arts. Debi began as a graphic designer and freelance artist, then moved into the education field where she has stayed for the past twenty years. She has been teaching art to students of all levels, including the Primary, Secondary and University levels. Throughout her career, Ms. Barrett-Hayes has