

an executive summary from the field hearing as part of my statement.

The panelists at the Pittsburgh Steel Showcase field hearing described the role of steel in the United States economy at the beginning of the 21st century. In compelling detail, Robert Riederer, CEO and President of Weirton Steel, fleshed out the struggle to surmount challenges to the continued viability of an industry that remains as vital today to our national security and American manufacturing as it has in the past. Paul Wilhelm of U.S. Steel spoke candidly of the need to protect the environment without adversely affecting the industry. Collectively, from the panelists' testimony emerged a vision of a bedrock industry competitive in world markets, environmentally and technically advanced, but threatened on two fronts: waves of imports dumped by countries reeling from constricted domestic markets, desperate to prop up exports, and heightened environmental standards at home. In response to this discussion, members of Congress and panelists explored the following solutions: tighter enforcement of anti-dumping provisions, close monitoring of steel scrap to ensure the purity of recycled steel, increased funding for various offices within the U.S. Department of Energy for research and development of new steel production technologies, and tax credits for investment, research, and development.

It is my hope that all House members will take time to read the full report as it contains a host of important information. And as always, I stand ready to work with my colleagues on issues in support of the steel industry.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The panelists at the Congressional field hearing at the Pittsburgh steel showcase described the role of steel in the United States economy at the beginning of the 21st century. In compelling detail panelists like Robert Riederer, CEO and President of Weirton Steel, fleshed out the struggle to surmount challenges to the continued viability of an industry that remains as vital today to national security and American manufacturing as it has been in the past. Candidly Paul Wilhelm of U.S. Steel spoke of the need to protect the environment without killing the industry. From the panelists' testimony emerged a vision of a bedrock industry competitive in world markets, environmentally and technically advanced but threatened on two fronts: by waves of imports dumped by countries reeling from constricted domestic markets, desperate to prop up exports, and by ever tightening environmental standards at home. Panelists and Members of Congress explored the solutions: increased funding for U.S. Department of Energy Office of Industrial Technologies' Industries of the Future research and development of new steel production technologies, tighter enforcement of anti-dumping provisions, close monitoring of imported steel scrap to ensure the purity of recycled steel, and tax credits for investment and research and development.

HONORING REDWOOD COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 20th Anniversary of Redwood Community Action Agency in Eureka, California. Since its establishment in 1980, RCAA has lead the way in serving Humboldt County's low- and moderate-income residents. The agency has developed programs to help people become more self-sufficient and to improve their own lives. Over the years tens of thousands of individuals have received assistance and in return given back to our community.

Redwood Community Action Agency has successfully competed for grant funds to create jobs, provide affordable housing, assist with housing rehabilitation and improve the environment. They have provided emergency shelter for the homeless, job training and employment readiness programs, as well as crisis intervention for Humboldt County youth and their families. Through their commitment, expertise, and diligence, they have brought over \$75 million into our community over the past twenty years.

Redwood Community Action Agency is an extraordinary example of success. Through their collaboration with other organizations and governmental entities they identify human and environmental needs, work to improve current services, and seize every opportunity to serve low and moderate-income people in our region.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we honor the accomplishments of the Redwood Community Action Agency and their success in improving the lives of so many in Humboldt County, California.

IN TRIBUTE TO JACK F. PARR

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has been described as "The newsman other newsmen listened to". Jack F. Parr, a long-time resident of Monterey County in California, passed away on Monday August 7, 2000, at the age of 77.

Born on August 15, 1922, Jack Parr was a veteran of World War II, where he received the Purple Heart for injuries received on D-Day. After serving his nation, he returned to the Central Coast and began working in radio. In all, he worked for three separate radio stations in Monterey County at different times—KMRL, KIDD and KNRY—ensuring that his distinctive voice and thorough reporting would be well-known and loved on the Monterey Peninsula and beyond. He could be found at any event where news was happening, and was a central figure for many people in the county. Print news and T.V. news reporters would listen to Jack's morning news report and use his leads as the agenda for news stories. Before the internet, he was the wireless wire for news. Asked how he did it, he would reply "I

get up at 4:00 A.M. and cover the nightly police reports—everything evolved from there."

Jack Parr was "a jolly soul who never seemed to see the depressing side of things," as Joe Fitzpatrick, a former local reporter, put it. His humor and voice will be sorely missed by his daughters, Jacquelyn Parr Pitcher of St. Charles, Illinois and Karen Parr of Burbank, California, as well as the radio audiences of the Central Coast.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF DEPUTY CHIEF CHARLES L. BIDWELL OF THE BRIGHTON AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, today I pay special tribute to Deputy Chief Charles L. Bidwell for his 50 years of outstanding service to the Brighton Area Fire Department. His colleagues and friends will be hosting a dinner on September 19 in recognition of his wonderful career.

Deputy Chief Bidwell has been an active, on-call firefighter with the City of Brighton Fire Department and the merged Brighton Area Fire Department since September 14, 1950. He retired from General Motors Proving Grounds in Milford, Michigan and served as Deputy Chief since 1988. Deputy Chief Bidwell was recognized by the City of Brighton Fire Department as Firefighter of the Year in 1987 and most recently, by the Michigan State Firemen's Association, as Firefighter of the Year for 2000.

Mr. Speaker, the Brighton area is very fortunate to have benefitted from the leadership, dedication, sacrifice and hard work of Deputy Chief Bidwell throughout his 50 years of service. As the leader in alarm response for the past decade, he has certainly contributed significantly to the safety and well-being of the citizens he has served. It is my honor, and indeed great pleasure, to stand in recognition of a man who has given so selflessly of his time and energy.

On behalf of the 8th district of Michigan, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for Deputy Chief Bidwell's many immeasurable contributions.

LIVIO PALLA, KERN COUNTY'S 2000 AGRICULTURIST OF THE YEAR

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my friends in the Kern County farm community in honoring Mr. Livio Palla, this year's recipient of the Agriculturist of the Year 2000.

One of the primary reasons California has been the nation's premier farm state for decades is its people. Today, many outside California are surprised to learn California is the nation's top dairy state, the nation's second largest producer of cotton and the primary source of almonds, pistachios, table grapes and other fruits and vegetables. Americans

know Californians have been innovators in trying new industries, in exporting, in creating efficient ways to use land and resources and in marketing new products. Often overlooked is a key part of the development process: the hard work and dedication of California farmers themselves. This year, Kern County agriculture honors Livio Palla because we understand how hard people have had to work to make California what it is today.

Livio Palla has spent over a half century building dairy and livestock businesses in the San Joaquin Valley. Starting with 40 cows and 120 acres, he built a family operation that now includes a family full of farmers, dairy and livestock operations and almonds, cotton, corn, alfalfa and apples. He has served on industry panels that have built infrastructure Kern County farmers have been able to use to make even more progress.

By giving recognition to the lifetime of work and achievement of Mr. Palla, the Kern County farm community recognizes how important individual efforts can be. It is an important message and one I join with many others in acknowledging by extending congratulations to Livio Palla as this year's recipient of the Kern County Agriculturist of the Year.

SPENDING FOR ARTS PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding work done by participants in my Student Congressional Town Meeting held this summer. These participants were part of a group of high school students from around Vermont who testified about the concerns they have as teenagers, and about what they would like to see the government do regarding these concerns.

I am submitting these statements for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as I believe that the views of these young persons will benefit my colleagues.

HON. BERNARD SANDERS IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

ON BEHALF OF TOM CHICCARELLI, JOHANNES
GAMBA AND JAMES GREENOUGH

REGARDING INCREASED SPENDING FOR ARTS
PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS—MAY 26, 2000

JAMES GREENOUGH: I would like to start off by saying my partners and I are very happy to be here today to present our topic. It is on art spending in schools. In experiment after experiment educators reported of high school seniors who follow instructions to perform a task, only about one-quarter wrote instructions clear enough for someone else to follow them successfully. In most instances, students left out pertinent details or key information.

Students are currently lacking in arts education. Search Institute and the asset approach giving children what they need to succeed has identified building blocks of healthy development that help young people grow up healthy, caring and responsible. Out of 100,000 6th to 12th grade youth surveyed, only 19 percent spend three or more hours per week in lessons or practicing music, theater or other arts. This is the lowest percentage of the 40 developmental assets surveyed. It reveals the absence of arts in the nation's

schools and the need for improved fine arts programs.

With this in mind we recommend that the United States Government institute a fine arts framework and curriculum. The Federal Government should provide resources to schools to encourage the development of effective fine arts programs.

The arts convey knowledge and meaning not learned through the study of other subjects. They represent a form of thinking and a way of knowing that is based in human imagination and judgment. Recent statistics show of students who have taken a fine art credit for four years score 59 points higher in verbal and 44 points higher on the math sections of the SATs, significant increases.

Research also addresses examples of young people who are considered classroom failures, perhaps acting out because these students often become the high achievers in arts learning settings. Success in the arts becomes a bridge to learning and eventual success in other areas of learning.

The world of adult work has changed and the arts learning experience has shown remarkable consistency with the evolving workplace. Ideas are what matter and the ability to generate ideas. To bring ideas to life and communicate them is what matters to workplace success. Working in a classroom or a studio as an artist, the young person is learning, practicing future workplace behaviors. These quotes came from Arts Ed's Webpage. "Art in all its distinct forms defines in many ways those qualities that are at the heart of education formed in the 1990s: Creativity, perseverance, a sense of standards, and above all striving for excellence," and the quote came from Richard Reilly, U.S. Secretary of Education.

HON. BERNARD SANDERS IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

ON BEHALF OF REMEMBRANCE (REMY) HENRY
REGARDING GRADUATED LICENSES—MAY 26, 2000

REMEMBRANCE HENRY: My name is Remembrance Henry. The State of Vermont has passed graduated licenses for teenagers. Last week I went to the Chelsea prom. Under this law my girlfriend would not have been allowed to ride in a car with me and I think this is discrimination against teenagers. Although teens are 8 percent of the population, they account for 15 percent of the motor vehicle accidents. This is a disturbing statistic, but I do not think legislation that will not allow your friends to ride in the car with me will bring down this number. It is underage drinking and peer pressure that cause the accidents.

We need to address this issue as a social, not a licensing problem. We do not empower our teenagers as a society. Of course some do go crazy and do stupid things when finally given a license, but they are in the minority. What about the majority of us that do not speed, do not get in accidents and do not drink and drive?

I lost friends last winter because of peer pressure while driving. The driver lost a dare to outrun a truck through a traffic light. Two of my friends died because of that accident, yet graduated licensing would not have prevented it. The teenager had stolen the car from his parents, and this number is reflected in the statistics. I think drunk driving laws for all citizens of Vermont should be restricted, not just teens.

Empower us as teens. We need more of a voice in our lives. Making good decisions behind the wheel begins by allowing us to make decisions within our communities. Teenagers should sit on school boards, we should have a voice at town meetings and should have the opportunity to practice citizenship before we hit a magic arbitrary age.

I thank you, Representative Sanders, for empowering me for these few minutes. I would like the legislative body of Vermont to rethink graduated licenses.

HON. BERNARD SANDERS IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

ON BEHALF OF CASEY HUIZENGA AND LUCAS
SMITH

REGARDING SCHOOL DRESS CODE—MAY 26, 2000

LUCAS SMITH: Our topic is school dress codes and in our age legality class that we have in high school we have kind of talked about this topic quite a bit lately. We have been talking about it quite a bit; discussing it and everything. Casey and I both feel that we should not have dress codes because we just think that it is better for children to wear what they want to wear. It is kind of a statement for them to wear their clothes. They chose them, they wear them, so I think it is a good thing that we can chose our own clothes.

CASEY HUIZENGA: I agree with Lucas. It kind of tells us about the person, what they wear, it expresses how they feel. Like baggy pants, if they want to wear them, let them. And hats and stuff.

HON. BERNARD SANDERS IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

ON BEHALF OF BRYCE JAMES, WILL W. GUSAKOV
AND JEREMIAH H. SPOFFORD

REGARDING MARIJUANA LEGISLATION—MAY 26,
2000

JEREMIAH SPOFFORD: I will begin. Our group is in favor of legalizing the cannabis plant in the United States, okay? We have some extensive research to back it up, but pretty much we have some main points.

Industrial hemp has an insane number of uses. It would be very beneficial for the environment to use industrial hemp. And marijuana as a drug is on an equal plane with alcohol, so we do not see why it shouldn't be under the same jurisdiction as alcohol.

WILL GUSAKOV: About industrial hemp, it is classified as having less than point three percent THC while marijuana has three to ten percent THC, so it is easily distinguishable. It produces four times as much pulp per acre as trees and it has longer fibers than cotton, so it is more easily recyclable. Trees require decades to grow while hemp matures in about a hundred days. And hemp helps the soil it is planted in, instead of cotton which leaches it. There are a lot of ecological values of hemp as an agricultural product.

BRYCE JAMES: To talk about marijuana as the drug, one of the common myths that is presented about marijuana as a drug is that marijuana is a gateway drug. People say that even if marijuana itself causes minimal harm, it is a dangerous substance because it leads to the use of harder drugs like heroine or LSD, where the fact is that marijuana does not cause people to use hard drugs. This is a spurious correlation based upon the theory that presents marijuana as being a causal explanation of statistical association with these other drugs, that it comes about by an increase and decrease in which drug is prevalent for the time.

Another myth brought about is that marijuana has no medical value where it has been proved that marijuana has been shown to be effective in reducing nausea in cancer chemotherapy, and it also stimulates hunger in AIDS patients and reduces interocular pressure on people with glaucoma.

There is also evidence that marijuana reduces muscle spasticity in patients with neurological disorders, and it has been proven back in 1937 by the presidential administration of the time that marijuana has no physical addiction.