

KEEP CLASSICAL MUSIC ALIVE IN ST. LOUIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today joining with my friend and colleague, Congressman LACY CLAY, to speak out on an issue that is very important to both of us and our constituents, the continued existence of an over-the-air classical music station.

The sale of KFUE-FM by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is currently pending before the Media Bureau at the FCC, and both myself and Congressman CLAY have been contacted by our constituents concerned that the purchaser of the station may cease the classical programming, which so many residents of the St. Louis and Metro East communities have benefited from over the years.

KFUE-FM has been a proud partner with almost every cultural organization in the St. Louis area. It is also heard internationally through live streaming on the Internet. Classic 99, as KFUE is also known, features a large amount of programming for the fine arts institutions of St. Louis, including the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the Opera Theater of St. Louis, the Repertory Theater of St. Louis, the St. Louis Art Museum, the Missouri History Museum and Historical Society, the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Touhill Performing Arts Center of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, the Metropolitan Opera, the Bach Society of St. Louis, the St. Louis Chamber Chorus, the American Kantorei, the St. Louis Public Library, the St. Louis Children's Choir, along with many others.

KFUE is in a virtual partnership with these institutions, as many hours are given to these and other organizations for live broadcasting, education, and information programming, as well as for promotion. The loss of Classic 99 and its limitless contribution to the area's community may have a negative impact on many, and to the quality of life in the Metro East.

As many of my colleagues know, I am married to a classical musician. I met Karen while she was working as the director of Christian Education and Music at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Monterey, California. When I started my life with Karen, I also began my life with classical music. Karen has worked as a youth minister, church music director, elementary music teacher, and private music instructor of many different instruments. She has also guided each of our children musically. All three of our boys are Suzuki-trained violinists. My sons, David and Josh, have sung with the prestigious St. Louis Children's Chorus. I credit their musical talents not only with my wife's teaching, but also with exposure to classical music from an early age. KFUE provides that critical early ex-

posure to families all over the St. Louis area that may not have a family member with a music background.

To remove that sphere of influence I feel would be detrimental to many children in our communities. Without Classic 99, I don't know if many of the music institutions in the St. Louis area that rely on this station would be able to get their music heard. Even our local high school students have a chance to play on KFUE, an experience I'm sure that is a highlight of their musical education.

Mr. Speaker, I felt this issue was especially important for me to weigh in on today because, as a devoted Lutheran, I am concerned that the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod does not realize how important these classical broadcasts are to the Christian faithful in the St. Louis area.

In most cases, Christian broadcasting and classical broadcasting are synonymous. The loss of this classical programming eliminates the witness to the Gospel through the broadcast of the words and music of Bach, such as broadcast of "Bach at the Sem." Also, the St. Louis area would no longer be able to hear other Lutheran and Christian composers as well through programs devoted specifically to the Christian musical heritage, such as "Joy" and broadcasts of St. Louis Bach Society programs and overt Lutheran Christian programming such as "Sing for Joy" and the Sunday morning service from Chapel of the Cross in North County, St. Louis.

Music is an important part of Christianity and was an integral part in the start of the Lutheran church. One of my favorite Martin Luther quotes deals with the importance of music in the church, and I quote, "Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us."

From Bach to Mendelssohn, these talented musicians helped form the Lutheran church that we know today. I cannot imagine a church service without music, just as I cannot imagine St. Louis without KFUE-FM. It is just as important part to the St. Louis and Metro East residents as music is to Sunday mornings spent in worship. It is my sincere hope that the Lutheran church will realize this before this station changes its programming. It would be a loss to both the Christian community and the music community, a loss which I hope will be prevented.

Let us remember the words from Psalm 27:5-6 "For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of His tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at His tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord."

Mr. Speaker, I am not here to say that the FCC should be dictating programming choice when considering a sale of a station. Rather, I would argue that the impact on cultural organizations and the impact on local jobs should

be considered when deciding on these sales. I would like to enter for the record a petition to the LCMS Board of Directors, which both myself and former Senator Conrad Burns has signed, in addition to letters from musicians from all over the country that have enjoyed Classic 99's live internet broadcasts.

GERALD KIESCHNICK,

President, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, St. Louis, MO.

DEAR PRESIDENT KIESCHNICK: The Musicians' Association of St. Louis, Local 2-197 AFM, is opposed to the sale of KFUE-FM, the only classical music radio station in the St. Louis metropolitan area, into a different format. This valuable resource is one of the main venues for arts organizations and has been a great tool in audience-building through live broadcasts and advertising.

The loss of our beloved radio station will have a huge impact on the arts in St. Louis:

Bach at the Sem, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, and At The Garden, Live!, will lose their broadcasts, which are heard nationally through live streaming.

SLSO will lose a major advertising venue, which may hinder ticket sales and fundraising efforts. They are now moving forward after years of paycuts and freezes. Losing KFUE makes recovery more difficult.

Many arts organizations in the greater metropolitan area of St. Louis will lose a central advertising location in KFUE-FM. The loss of KFUE makes advertising much more difficult especially in these economic times.

President Kieschnick, Local 2-197 respectfully asks that you reconsider and direct your Board to stop the sale now.

Respectfully,

VICKY SMOLIK, President,
Musicians' Association of St. Louis,
Local 2-197, AFM.

CLEVELAND FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS, LOCAL 4 OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS

Cleveland, OH, January 29, 2010.

U.S. Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS,
Springfield, IL.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN SHIMKUS, I am writing in support of the effort to prevent the sale of KFUE 99.1 FM.

One of the oldest radio stations west of the Mississippi River, and the longest continually-owned FM station in the Saint Louis area, KFUE not only programs classical, opera and jazz music, it is also a strong partner with the area's cultural institutions. The sale of KFUE, from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LC-MS) to Gateway Creative Broadcasting, Inc., would negatively impact those musical genres in the Saint Louis local and regional community.

In addition, KFUE programming targets school-aged children, and this sale would eliminate regular programming that allows high school orchestral musicians and choral singers the opportunity to perform for a radio audience, certainly a unique chance for these young musicians.

I understand a petition has been filed with the Federal Communications Commission alleging LC-MS did not properly open up a competitive bidding process to the public. An FCC investigation of this proposed transaction may deny the sale, or subject the LC-MS to further conditions including an open selection process.

In the wake of these allegations, and the potential loss of the crown jewel of cultural radio programming in the Saint Louis region, I sincerely urge you to join me in the fight to save KFUE 99.1 FM.

Very Truly Yours,

LEONARD DICOSIMO.

APPROVED KFUFM LETTERS FOR RELEASE TO PRESS

NOTE: THE MUSICIANS COUNCIL HAS LETTERS REPRESENTING ORCHESTRAL MUSICIANS FROM CALIFORNIA, OHIO, MISSOURI, NORTH CAROLINA, ILLINOIS, TEXAS, TENNESSEE, WISCONSIN, AND NEVADA.

To: The Trustees and Management of KFUFM

From: Paul R. Frankenfeld, President, Local 1, AF of M

Subject: The Preservation of Classical Music on KFUFM

DEAR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: In an age when arts organizations are struggling for survival, the continuation of classical music on a radio station is vital to maintain the ongoing community interest in symphony orchestras, chamber music, and opera. The long and proud tradition of service of this station to the broadcast of St. Louis Symphony concerts is to be applauded. I strongly urge you to continue this relationship by retaining the classical music format of KFUFM so that current and future generations will have this resource to experience great art music.

Sincerely yours,

PAUL R. FRANKENFELD,
President, Local 1,
American Federation
of Musicians, Acting
Principal Viola, Cin-
cinnati Symphony
Orchestra.

DECEMBER 31, 1969.

TO WHOM IT CONCERNS: Sometimes you don't realize how important something is until it isn't there any more.

Milwaukee has been without a classical station since WFMR abruptly changed 106.9 from classical to "cool jazz" (I think) over two years ago—and every day since I've heard at least one person mourn its loss.

It is not just the loss of hearing classical music on the air-waves, though that is a great loss in itself—it is the loss of announcers who were keenly interested in the musical scene in Milwaukee, who brought Symphony and other musicians in for interviews, who did feature stories about concerts coming up, and who raised awareness about classical music in greater Milwaukee.

My husband and I lived in St. Louis for a few months in 1990-91, and greatly enjoyed (among other things) our opportunity to perform with David Halen on "From the Garden Live." We were amazed at how much excitement about local music was generated by that program, and have spoken enviously of it since, wishing that such an opportunity were available to us here.

I am awed by KFUFM's long-standing commitment to sharing the fine arts and music which supports and enriches the significant cultural community of the St. Louis area. I earnestly hope that this honorable tradition will continue—that the citizens of St. Louis will not be bereft of a classical station, as we are, and that your great city will continue to have the fine classical station that it deserves.

Respectfully,

STEFANIE JACOB,
Pianist, Prometheus
Trio Piano faculty,
Wisconsin Conserv-
atory of Music, Mil-
waukee, WI.

JANUARY 11, 2010.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: I have been a member of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra for 29 years. Our local classical music station, WQED-FM, went on the air for the first time in 1973. It has been informing and

enriching the city of Pittsburgh and a large extended community on radio, and the entire world streaming on the internet. In addition to their extensive programming, our PSO concerts are regularly broadcast on WQED as are over 100 local concerts by other artists each year. It would be a great loss both to Pittsburgh and the greater Pittsburgh area if we were to lose our station. (By the way, WQED-TV was this country's first community supported TV station).

I would like to see KFUFM maintained as a classical music radio station for St. Louis, and through live streaming, the entire United States. I applaud KFUFM's long-standing commitment to sharing the fine arts and music which supports and enriches the significant cultural community of the St. Louis area. KFUFM has not only been responsible for promoting arts events in Missouri and Illinois, but is also steward of the countless contributors and listeners who have made KFUFM possible for the past 62 years. Please continue that trust by preserving KFUFM as a classical station.

You have a wonderful symphony orchestra and not only would they be affected by this, St. Louis would be diminished in the eyes of the educated public, and children will certainly miss out on the joy of discovering classical music on the radio.

Sincerely,

CYNTHIA BUSCH,
Violist, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

AUSTIN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS,
Austin, TX.

TO WHOM IT CONCERNS: KFUFM has been partnering with the cultural community in St. Louis for over 60 years. KFUFM's participation in the fine arts enriches the greater metropolitan area, including Eastern Missouri and parts of Illinois. Through live streaming, KFUFM is also heard throughout the United States and the world, proclaiming St. Louis as a major cultural community. Losing KFUFM adversely impacts all cultural institutions in the St. Louis area.

Please stop this sale. Thank you for your assistance.

In solidarity,

TERRY HALE,
President AFM33, Austin, TX.

Note: this petition is comprised of 41 prominent Lutheran Church-Missourians, including a United States Senator, who are opposed to the sale of KFUFM because of the adverse impact on the cultural community in the Greater St. Louis Metropolitan Area, especially the many world-class fine arts institutions.

KFUFM/LCMS PETITION TO THE LCMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MAY 8, 2009.

(List of names augmented June 29, 2009)

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Not unmindful of your responsibilities, and aware of the challenges presented Synod by current economic conditions, we ask you, nevertheless, to reconsider your decision on behalf of our Synod that authorized the sale of KFUFM-FM. A sale, in our view and that of many others, would be very unfortunate. We are convinced that:

A vital mission of proclamation, nurture, outreach, and community relations is being conducted by KFUFM-FM and these missions can be expanded and enhanced in the future;

A sale would damage the good name and reputation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in its headquarters city and around the world;

A sale would disenfranchise and severely disappoint many thousands of individuals

and organizations that have provided virtually all the financial and volunteer support for the station throughout its history;

KFUFM-FM is the source sustaining KFUFM-AM. Its sale would surely be followed by AM's demise.

There are attractive alternatives for retaining KFUFM-FM, thereby also ensuring the future of KFUFM-AM. These should be explored with time and opportunity being given for their advancement.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Dr. Andrew H. Bartelt (Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Concordia Seminary).

Dr. Karl L. Barth (President Emeritus, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis).

Dr. Robert Bergt (Director, The American Cantorei and "Bach at the Sem" concert series).

The Rev. Keith Boheim (The Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation).

Dr. Ralph A. Bohlmann (President Emeritus, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

The Rev. Larry Burgdorf (The Marvin M. Schwan Charitable Foundation).

Senator Conrad Burns (United States Senator, Retired).

Dr. Paul W. Devantier (Senior Vice President, Advancement, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis).

Richard W. Duesenberg (Attorney at Law; co-founder, "Bach at the Sem" concert series).

Robert H. Duesenberg (Attorney at Law; co-founder, "Bach at the Sem" concert series).

Dr. Charles W. Dull (Former Director, Hong Kong International School).

The Rev. Alan Erdman (President, Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri).

Dr. Jean Garton (Former member Board of Directors, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

Oscar H. Hanson (Former member Board of Directors, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

Dr. John F. Johnson (Former President, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis).

Dr. James W. Kalthoff (President Emeritus, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

Dr. Robert H. King (Former Vice President, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

The Rev. Jerry Klug (President, Clara and Spencer Werner Foundation).

Ruth M. Koch (Chair, Concordia Publishing House Board of Directors).

Thomas Kopatz (Managing Partner, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans).

Dr. Jonathan Laabs (Executive Director, Lutheran Education Association).

Michael Louis (Senior Vice President, Financial Planning and Administration, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis).

Laurence Lumpe (Executive Director, Lutheran Hour Ministries).

Dr. Paul L. Maier (Second Vice President, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

Dr. Walter A. Maier, II (Former Second Vice President, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

The Rev. Ulmer Marshall (Former member Board of Directors, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

Dr. Dale A. Meyer (President, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis).

Dr. Judith W. Meyer (President, Lutheran High School Association of St. Louis).

Michael Onnen (President, International Lutheran Laymen's League).

Gerald Perschbacher (Editor, "The Lutheran Layman," International Lutheran Laymen's League).

Dr. Richard D. Peters (Former member Board of Directors, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

James F. Ralls (Chair, Board of Regents, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis).

Dr. Walter Rosin (Secretary Emeritus, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

Representative John Shimkus (United States Congressman, Illinois).

Dr. Uwe Siemon-Netto (Former Religion Editor, United Press International).

The Rev. Jonathan P. Stein (Regular Pastor on FKUO-FM for more than 20 years).

Dr. Richard L. Thompson (Former Chair, Board of Directors, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

Edwin A. Trapp, Jr. (Former member Board of Directors, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod).

Dr. James Voelz (Dean of the Faculty, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis).

Phyllis Wallace ("Woman to Woman," Lutheran Hour Ministries).

John D. Wittenmyer (Vice-Chair, Board of Regents, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HEALTH CARE BILL NEEDS EXPERT OPINION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. TIM MURPHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, when the White House summit occurs at Blair House to talk about health care, I am disappointed that not a single Member of the House of Representatives who has a background in health care has been invited, despite the fact that Medicare and Medicaid alone spend several hundred billion dollars. It would be nice if someone who has actually diagnosed a patient, prescribed medication, or treated a patient would be there, but so be it, it's not.

But also, as the discussions are coming forth, there are great differences between what one is looking at and the other party may be looking at for interventions here. We cannot have a system that simply is based upon raising taxes to pay for a broken system. There are 31-some taxes that my friends on the other side of the aisle have proposed, such as taxing employers for providing health insurance, taxing them if they don't provide it, tax you if you own insurance, tax you if you don't. If you spend money on health care, charitable contributions, alcohol, mortgage interest, pollution, oil, prescription drugs, payroll, capital gains, smoking, health care, and now a tanning bed tax. This does not change the system. In fact, it is something that is akin to just saying "take two

taxes and call me in the morning." That is not real health care.

Now, Republicans have talked about a number of things, such as allowing people to choose plans across the country, to join groups. I also believe people should be allowed to choose a basic plan, that is, choose a plan that is what you need instead of the government telling you what you need. But most important of all is the number of quality reforms which are not being addressed yet. In a \$2.5 trillion system, we waste from inefficiency, we waste from changes, perhaps between \$800 billion and \$1 trillion.

An article published by Wennberg, et al., in *Health Affairs* a couple of years ago described it well. Wennberg, Fisher, Skinner, and Bronner, all from Dartmouth University and Medical School, they said that part of the nature of the problem is the present value of projected lifetime Medicare costs for a 65-year-old in Los Angeles is \$84,000 greater than for a 65-year-old in Seattle. The difference between Portland and Miami is \$125,000 in a lifetime.

"Much of the health policy is based on the assumption that geographic variation and utilization is driven primarily by the local prevalence and severity of illness. In reality, prevalence of illness doesn't drive spending; only about 4 percent of the variation in Medicare spending among groups is associated with the regional variation in the prevalence of severe chronic illness.

"When we look at utilization," they go on to say, "among academic medical centers which care for the sickest of the sick, we see the same pattern; equally sick patients receive different care depending upon which academic medical center they routinely use for care."

I read on here: "Higher spending might be justified if more intensive use of in-patient care resulted in better quality of care or better health outcomes, but it does not appear to do so. At the population level, research has shown that patients with severe chronic illness who live in communities where more intensive use of in-patient care is the norm do not have improved survival, quality of life, or access to life. Indeed, outcomes appear to be worse."

They go on to propose a few changes here which are the things I have talked about at some length over time—that we need to make sure we are doing disease management. They say such things as, "We recommend that the Federal Government fund a program of clinical research designed to transform the management of chronic illness to a system where care is based primarily on illness level, valid science, and patient preference."

Detailed specification of the clinical pathways for caring for the chronically ill—for instance, when hospitalizing a patient with congestive heart failure, which patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease will benefit

from steroids, when to schedule patients for a revisit, or when to refer to a specialist for additional diagnostic testing are all important. Unfortunately, in the bills proposed by the House and Senate, they cut the funding for the very things that could do that, Medicare Advantage, cutting out \$500 billion from Medicare from the very programs that invest money in disease management where we can save money.

They go on to say as another strategy that the transition for Pay for Performance should be based upon cost-effective care. The endgame is the establishment of prospectively managed, cost-effective and coordinated care. The enrollment of patients and the cohorts for prospective care management requires risk adjustment methods that account not only for illness level, but also socioeconomic status, adherence patterns, and social supports. This care would be supported by adequate infrastructure, information technology systems, electronic medical records to provide clinical guidance through care coordination, and a program for monitoring quality and efficiency.

□ 2130

Mr. Speaker and my friends, we cannot continue to pay for a broken system. There is a lot of great health care in this country, but as long as we have a system that continues to say we will pay doctors for procedures, whatever that might be, as opposed to paying doctors or hospitals, which are helping to treat patients to get better, then we will continue to see costs spiral.

I hope that the House and Senate work on really reforming health care, on really reforming health care and pushing for coordinated care. That, my friends, is the answer of how we lower health care costs.

THE PRESIDENT'S EXTREME AGENDA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this past week was the 1-year anniversary of the so-called "stimulus bill"—\$862 billion—every dime of it borrowed from the future and from our grandchildren.

When that bill was rushed through the House with almost no time to study it, we were promised as a country that it would jump-start the economy, that it would stabilize unemployment and that it would restore consumer confidence.

The fact of the matter is that we have lost 4 million jobs since the stimulus was passed. Unemployment has risen dramatically. It continues to hover around 10 percent. Only 6 percent of Americans in the latest poll believe that the stimulus actually created jobs in America. Most of them feel that that extra debt has actually hampered the economy. Six percent. By comparison, I should say 7 percent of Americans still believe Elvis is alive, so you