

offs, let's allow our citizenry to express their support for the arts through a voluntary contribution of their tax refund to such a worthwhile cause.

I propose to further these ideas through a regional petition drive urging Congress to support funding for the National Endowment for the Arts.

I believe I recognize the problems that are going on within the United States, but I also believe that the arts provide a fundamental part of life. You can't really experience life without experiencing the arts because they really show the true human emotion and no human can live without emotion. I believe we can fund it through a number of the things that I listed which were the endowment funds and such, and I believe that if we really try, we can find funding for it if we realize that it is such an important part of our life.

At Burr & Burton we've been provided a lot of educational things that have helped us out. We've had some dancers that have come, some drummers. We've also had plays that have been put on here in the Smith Center for us and I believe that it's been an important part of our school life. It helps us to just know that there's more out there than what we see every day.

I believe that art is subjective and if the person that didn't like it should also recognize that now he knows what he doesn't like and he knows that—what true art is now. He knows what he likes to look for and he also knows what he will never see again, so it is also enriching his life.

I believe that everyone should have the right to go see it if they want to. If they're not funded, then they may not be wide for public appeal and you may not even if you wanted to have the chance to go see it. You have the choice not to go see it and that's your choice, but by federal funding, it allows the people who may not be able to go see it. Like some people can't get up to New York to see the plays and everything and this brings it home to Vermont so everyone is allowed the equal opportunity to see these things.

#### THE CRIME STOPPERS CLUB OF D.C.

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 1997*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Crime Stoppers Club of D.C., a wonderful 30-year old organization in the District that teaches youth in D.C. to "Stop crime by not committing crime." Since it began this valuable work, almost 25,000 boys and girls have become members and taken the Crime Stoppers pledge: "We, the Crime Stoppers of D.C., pledge to obey all laws, respect police officers and all other citizens."

Recently this club celebrated its 30-year history at a special proclamation ceremony at Eastern High School in D.C. where they delivered speeches and celebrated living their lives crime-free. These youth have every reason to celebrate and to be honored by the community. They are contributing to the significant reduction we are seeing in crime in the District. Most important, the commitment of these youth to grow into adulthood without the burden and stigma of a police record shows how bright and successful their futures can be.

Crime and its results have destroyed the lives of many children in many communities.

How fortunate District residents are that this grassroots club of great effectiveness continues its work and that it is successful in encouraging children to stop crime and to become tomorrow's law-abiding citizens.

The founder of this club, Margie Wilbur, is the driving force behind this thriving club whose spirit and commitment has made it so effective in reaching youth in D.C. A retired Federal employee, Ms. Wilbur deserves much praise for actively nurturing this club and keeping it alive throughout the years, sometimes with her own funds.

It is my particular pleasure and honor to congratulate and salute the present members of the Crime Stopper's Club and the 25,000 boys and girls whose lives have been changed by its 30-year presence in Washington DC. You look forward to a future full of achievement and opportunity.

#### TRIBUTE TO MILDRED HELMS

#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 1997*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring a very special person who has made an enormous contribution through 40 years of dedicated service to our community, Mrs. Mildred Helms. On June 20, there will be a ceremony in Newark, NJ to pay tribute to Mrs. Helms, who serves as president of Clinton Hill Area Redevelopment Corporation, for her lifetime of service providing housing for residents of Newark and recreational activities for children.

Mrs. Helms is the founder of two housing corporations which provide affordable home ownership to local residents. It was in 1963 that she first approached the Newark Housing Authority Urban Renewal office with a plan to develop new housing for the city. She has shown a great deal of determination, pushing forward for over 15 years until her group, the Clinton Hill Area Redevelopment Corporation, was finally able to see their first project become a reality. When I served as a councilman, I had the pleasure of working with Mrs. Helms to expand housing opportunities. In fact, I first became involved with Mrs. Helms in 1958 at a community meeting at Southside High School where I once taught and which is now called Malcolm X Shabazz High School. Other housing activists at that time included Stanley Winters and Rev. Kim Jefferson.

In addition to her work on housing opportunities, Mrs. Helms gave her time and talents to many volunteer efforts, especially with children and young people. I was pleased to become involved with a youth group she organized which became known as the Clintonians. She organized a group which became active in the Newark YMWCA. She also organized a Summer Fun Day Camp sponsored by her church and a Jewish synagogue. She also planned an annual Halloween Party and parade, involving local merchants who served as sponsors. Among the many awards and accolades Mrs. Helms has received are the 1986 Human Rights Award from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, the Private Sector Initiative Award from President Ronald Reagan, the 1983 Woman of the Year Award from the Sharpe

James Civic Association. The Mildred Helms Park is named in her honor. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of this extraordinary woman who has done so much for our community. I know my colleagues join me in sending congratulations and very best wishes for many more productive and fulfilling years.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID HERBST

#### HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 1997*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a community leader and my friend, David Herbst, on his completion of a successful year as the president of the Westchester/LAX Chamber of Commerce.

It has been my pleasure to participate with David in a number of important events, beginning with his magnificent installation ceremony on the campus of his alma mater, Loyola Marymount University.

Under David's tenure, the Westchester/LAX chamber has also played host to important dignitaries, many of whom I cohosted, among them Mickey Kantor, then Secretary of Commerce, and Secretary of Defense William Cohen, who spoke to a breakfast of 400 business leaders just last month.

David deserves a great deal of credit for superb leadership, yielding successful growth in the chamber's financial performance, community support, and interaction with governmental bodies.

I salute David for being one of those rare people who is not only successful in the business world, but dedicated to our community. Westchester is a better place because of his work.

#### THE OLIVER PROJECT

#### HON. EDWARD A. PEASE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 1997*

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a very unique teen leadership program being held here in Washington, DC., this week; the Orphan Foundation of America's 1997 Oliver Project. The Oliver Project was established to highlight the hope and potential of America's foster youth by focussing a positive spotlight on their abilities and accomplishments.

The 12 youths participating in the 1997 Oliver Project are bright and shining examples of what's right in America. Despite having young lives that were filled with loss, disappointment, and chaos, these young men and women have shown us that the American spirit is still alive and strong. Instead of feeling sorry for themselves each of these students made a decision to fight for themselves, and what was important to them. Each knew instinctively that education was the key. Even though their turbulent lives sometimes made staying focussed difficult, they each persevered.

All 12 have also expressed a sincere desire to give back to their communities, and indeed they have already begun to do so by being active in everything from church youth groups