

the annual March for Life in January here in our nation's capital.

As a former board member of Missouri Right-to-Life, I knew the work of Dr. Shen well and admired it greatly.

Dr. Shen was a man of action. He admired Mother Theresa's work and told his family he was going to convince her to bring her Sisters of Charity to St. Louis to work with the poor. Many in the community were doubtful but Dr. Shen moved forward and today, the Sisters are in the City of St. Louis. In fact, a full row of the Sisters were at Dr. Shen's funeral mass.

Dr. Shen's funeral mass was about "Choosing Life," a text taken from Deuteronomy 30:5-12. Archbishop Justin Rigali of the Diocese of St. Louis quoted the Apostle Paul in referring to Dr. Shen, noting that he had "fought the good fight, finished the race, kept the faith."

There can be few higher epitaphs than that. Dr. Shen did, indeed, fight faithfully and well for the right to life that our Declaration of Independence affirms is intrinsic to all of us. For that, he deserves the thanks of a grateful nation. He certainly has mine.

---

#### NO CFCs FOR 25 YEARS

### HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 17, 2003*

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate this Saint Patrick's Day and all that is green, I would like to point to another important "green" milestone associated with March 17. Twenty-five years ago, on March 17, 1978, the Environmental Protection Agency promulgated regulations prohibiting the further use of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) propellants from almost all aerosol products manufactured and sold in the United States. Even before that date, many U.S. manufacturers of aerosols voluntarily removed CFCs in response to environmental concerns linking CFCs to the depletion of the earth's protective ozone layer.

Today, CFCs are used in only very rare and special circumstances, such as for medical uses like asthma inhalers, and even many of these "essential uses" are switching to non-CFC alternatives. Under the Montreal Protocol, more than 160 countries joined the United States and agreed to cease production of CFCs except for medical products.

When environmental concerns over the impact of CFCs on the ozone first arose, producers undertook the extremely difficult and costly task of reformulating and retesting hundreds of products in order to assure that the new propellants would perform as well as CFC propellants had. But importantly, the U.S. aerosol industry not only complied with the 1978 regulation, it in fact led the way for the rest of the world.

Unfortunately though, public perception has not caught up with reality. Public opinion polls, taken as recently as last year, have found that nearly half of all consumers—48%—are still unaware of the 25-year-old regulations that prohibit the use of CFCs in aerosols. This has often led consumers, unaware that aerosols cause no harm to the Earth's protective ozone layer, to bypass today's environmentally safe aerosol products.

Research has shown that consumers are still being influenced by incorrect information regarding the environmental impact of aerosols and many are avoiding them as a result. This is unfortunate because there are a number of inherent benefits to be gained from the aerosol delivery system, such as the consistency of an aerosol spray which minimizes waste.

Shaving cream, hair spray, spray paint, bug spray, fragrant body sprays, spray starch, and aerosol air fresheners, just to mention a few, are all aerosol products. And like all aerosol products, these do not contain CFCs. In addition to being CFC free, most aerosol packages are made of steel which, when empty, are also recyclable in many communities.

The companies in the aerosol industry have worked hard to produce products that are efficacious and environmentally sound. In other words, they work, and they don't harm the Earth's protective ozone layer. The more than 100,000 Americans directly employed in the aerosol industry are proud of their companies and their products, and rightly so.

March 17 will always be a day when we associate the color green with St. Patrick's Day, but it should also be a date that reminds us that U.S.-produced aerosols have been CFC free and environmentally friendly since 1978.

---

#### A VETERAN'S OPINION

### HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 17, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues a letter to the editor that was printed in The Manchester Enterprise, of Manchester, Michigan, written by one of my constituents, Larry Byrne, a Vietnam veteran.

"To the editor:

'Manchester Area People for Peace,' . . . if not for using the Manchester name in your group's cause, I'd never taken the time to write this article.

I know as a Marine Corps Sergeant serving two hours of duty in Vietnam, my views may be slightly different from those that are active in the 'people for peace' camp. I do hope you realize this doesn't mean the rest of us that enjoy living in our peaceful community would rather live elsewhere, just because we don't share your views on this serious matter.

Peace is a state of mind that the majority of Americans have the right and privilege to share. We should never take it for granted nor believe that it didn't come at a very high cost. Hundreds of thousands of men and women gave their lives so that we could live in peace.

Our country has made its mistakes throughout its history when it comes to war. Maybe we should have helped remove a crazed paperhanger much earlier than we did, but as Pearl Harbor was bombed they talked peace.

Maybe we should have not been drawn into the Vietnam 'crisis.' I was sent to Vietnam after some 35,000 Americans gave their lives doing what their country requested of them. I was only 19 at the time and I'll never forget discussing with other Marines the hurt and anger we'd feel when we would read the Stars & Stripes newspaper. Articles and pictures showing our fellow Americans protesting back home only seemed to demoralize us and

strengthen our enemy. This brings us to current events. Does anyone really believe Iraq's hostile government or any terrorist organizations would not let us live in peace if not for the threat of war? Therefore, it seems this great nation of ours with all its flaws has been give the role of 'peacekeeper.' To those of you don't like this position for our country, I ask . . . to whom do we give it? Germany would have gladly taken the role of 60 years ago, but now they just want to direct the leaders.

Japan, like Germany, somewhat graciously relinquished the role and decided to build better cars.

Canada—just joking, eh?

From France, a newspaper ad: 'French military rifle for sale. Never fired, dropped once.'

United Nations? Please, the UN has proven totally ineffective with the Iraq situation.

On the other hand, what if nobody did anything? I don't know if isolationism could work in our small world today, but if we were all willing to give up a lot, who knows?

A new song came out called, "Have you Forgotten." I suggest as you're walking on the bridge with your peace signs you listen to it. Who knows, you may learn something. By the way, don't try this in Tieneman Square.

Personally and perhaps most of us that served in our country's military, especially in Vietnam, would appreciate you not using our town's name of Manchester to promote your ideas. Again, I respect your rights and privileges to do so, but don't draft me by name association to be a participant in your point of view.

Da Nang, 1969 or Manchester 2003—strong believes don't change . . . you're hurting us and helping them."

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. Byrne for writing this letter.

---

#### TRIBUTE TO THE MORRIS HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM

### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 17, 2003*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to congratulate the member of the Morris Robotics Team from Morris High School in the South Bronx for their remarkable work and achievements.

Three years ago, thanks to Gary Israel, a history teacher, and a \$5,000 award from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the school started a robotics team. Mr. Israel campaigned to raise \$25,000 from local sponsors, encouraged skeptical parents and faculty, and gathered a team of 15 students who built a robot named Bulldog. This robot placed 3rd out of 38 at the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) regional competition in New York, demonstrating the robot's agility and basketball skills, as well as its creators' teamwork. The Morris team worked with graduate students from Columbia University's School of Engineering to construct the robot, combining the technical knowledge of the engineers with the mechanical abilities of the teenagers.

Morris High School has received support from many sponsors, such as: the Columbia University School of Engineering, the Fu Foundation and Applied Science, NASA, the