

By: Hardcastle

H.R. No. 377

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Nine decades of living a productive and satisfying
2 life is truly a reason for celebration, and on February 26, 2005,
3 Alwana Vaughan, affectionately known as Graham's Ambassador of
4 Music, is observing this significant milestone; and

5 WHEREAS, The delightful nonagenarian can claim as her
6 grandfather John Henderson Wood, an Indian scout, Texas Ranger, and
7 brick maker whose fine work may be seen today in a number of
8 buildings still in use along the streets of Graham; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Vaughan and her husband, Lilburn, enjoyed a
10 rewarding marriage for 58 years, until his passing, and although
11 she had no children of her own, she has been adored by countless
12 young people who took music lessons from her or benefited from her
13 support of school activities; and

14 WHEREAS, Never a shrinking violet, Mrs. Vaughan is an
15 accomplished performer who readily took to the stage early on, and
16 her impressive talents, in addition to piano playing, included
17 singing on a radio show, winning a Charleston contest, and
18 conducting the Graham Toy Symphony Band; and

19 WHEREAS, For 31 years, this generous soul enthusiastically
20 shared her passion for music by teaching boys and girls of all
21 aptitude levels; the respect and encouragement she gave each
22 student surely fostered not only music appreciation but
23 self-confidence and larger life lessons, as well; and

24 WHEREAS, Since retiring in 1976, Mrs. Vaughan has continued

1 to be involved with student council endeavors and musical
2 productions at Graham High School, where she is an honorary member
3 of the GHS Thespian Society and the band, and has volunteered as
4 musical director and choreographer of the thespians' All-American
5 Girl Pageant for three decades; and

6 WHEREAS, Her musical talent has enhanced a host of local
7 events, including the city's centennial celebration in 1972, a
8 plethora of weddings and funerals, the Rotary Follies, events
9 sponsored by the chamber of commerce, the Lady Lions and Kiwanis
10 clubs, the First Baptist Church, of which she has been a member for
11 77 years, and the First United Methodist Church, and a multitude of
12 luncheons; and

13 WHEREAS, An honorary Rotarian and organizer of the local
14 chapter of the National Society of the Children of the American
15 Revolution, Mrs. Vaughan is a 50-year member of the Daughters of the
16 American Revolution and a charter member of the Graham Hospital
17 Auxiliary and the Graham Concert Association; and

18 WHEREAS, Recognized for her immeasurable contributions to
19 her fellow residents of Graham, Mrs. Vaughan has deservedly
20 received many accolades, including a 2000 Hero for Children Award
21 presented for her donation of time and talents to education, and two
22 Outstanding Citizen awards by the Graham Chamber of Commerce; and

23 WHEREAS, Alwana Vaughan exemplifies the virtues of
24 generosity, dedication, and community spirit, and it is a distinct
25 pleasure to join in honoring her; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
27 Legislature hereby heartily congratulate Alwana Vaughan on her 90th

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1 birthday and commend her for her exceptional contributions to her
2 community; and, be it further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Mrs. Vaughan as an expression of high regard by the
5 Texas House of Representatives.