

Dr. Hansen, following that post-graduate training, was recruited by Dr. Charles Drew, the famous African American pioneer of blood storage, to return to St. Croix, Virgin Islands and assist in the delivery of medical care. As a municipal physician and general practitioner there, one of his responsibilities was the medical care of patients with leprosy. He modernized the treatment of that disease in the Virgin Islands by substituting the new sulfone drugs for the long used, but less effective, chaulmoogra oil.

Returning to the United States in 1946 to further his training in diseases and surgery of the eyes, ears, nose, and throat, Dr. Hansen spent 2 years at Meharry Medical College's George W. Hubbard Hospital. The year 1948–1949 was devoted to advanced training in the specialty at Provident Hospital in Chicago and the University of Chicago. Upon completion of his training he returned to Meharry Medical College as a full time instructor and he began a private practice.

Later, during a 3-year sojourn in the Virgin Islands, he served a year as president of the medical staff at the Knud-Hansen Memorial Hospital, and was the founder and first secretary of the U.S. Virgin Islands Medical Society.

In 1960, Dr. Hansen was appointed Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology at Meharry Medical College and rose to the rank of Professor and head of the Department of Ophthalmology. He also served as medical director of the College's Hubbard Hospital for 6 years.

In 1968, he reported the first two cases of Norrie's Disease—a rare eye disease—in the United States, and has published several medical articles on that and other subjects.

His creativity has not been limited to medicine. Dr. Hansen also published a self-illustrated book of original poems, and a book, *From These Shores*, which consists of biographical profiles of influential individuals from the Danish West Indies.

The physician became the first African-American ophthalmologist to be certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology in the State of Tennessee. He is a Diplomat of that Board, a Fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is also a member of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society and Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. Among his many citations are the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters and the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Fisk University.

In 1987, he was the commencement speaker at his alma mater, Charlotte Amalie High School, from which he had graduated 50 years earlier.

Dr. Hansen retired from Meharry in 1985 as a Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus. In 1996, the American Academy of Ophthalmology awarded him the Academy's Outstanding Humanitarian Award, the second African American to receive that honor.

Today, Dr. Hansen is retired and living in Nashville, Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring this esteemed physician, educator, author and humanitarian.

HONORING THE HURLEY AUXILIARY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the achievements of a remarkable group of women and men in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, the Hurley Medical Center Auxiliary. On February 21, they will celebrate their 50th anniversary by holding a luncheon for the members and local dignitaries.

First organized on February 15, 1956, over 100 women attended the first membership meeting. In October 1959, the membership amended the constitution to allow men to join the organization. Currently there are 200 members donating 40,000 volunteer hours to Hurley Medical Center annually in 14 service areas.

Since its inception the Hurley Auxiliary has raised and given \$3.2 million dollars for Medical Center programs. Especially important to the auxiliary members is the care provided to children. During the 1950s they conducted the "Wish a Child Well" wishing well fundraisers and today the group is a significant donor to the Children's Miracle Network. The Auxiliary has generously supported pediatric programs and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

Because of the Auxiliary membership's commitment to serving all patients, they have also raised money to purchase vans for Hurley's Senior Services. The vans allow seniors to have door-to-door transportation for doctor's visits. The vans are handicapped accessible and were paid by the Auxiliary through fundraisers, the gift shop and hospitality carts.

The Hurley Auxiliary has also contributed to the Michigan Association of Hospital Auxiliaries. Five Hurley members have served as president of the East Central District and two members have been president of the Michigan Association of Hospital Auxiliaries.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Hurley Auxiliary for 50 years of dedicated service to Hurley Medical Center and working to provide the best available medical care for its patients.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. SUDHIR PARIKH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Congressman JOE CROWLEY (NY) and myself, I rise today to congratulate a Dr. Sudhir Parikh, a prominent Indian-American physician, activist and philanthropist, who was selected earlier this year to receive the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award for 2006, the highest civilian honor bestowed by India on non-resident Indians.

Every year, the Government of India nominates extremely worthy and valuable members of the non-resident community for this award who have made a difference to global well-being. It is clear that Dr. Parikh was chosen on his strong credentials.

Dr. Sudhir Parikh, who migrated to the United States in the late 1970s and is a re-

puted allergist in the tri-state area of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, has made a significant difference in U.S.-India relations in the past several years. Dr. Parikh is a former president of the nationally recognized American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, as well as a former president of the Indian American Forum for Political Education. He used these prominent organizations to promote Indian-American issues in Congress and to raise awareness within the Indian community. Today, he serves as president to the Federation of Indian Associations, continuing his critical role in bringing our two countries together.

He has contributed more than \$2 million individually to various causes from cancer research to tsunami relief and rehabilitation of earthquake victims in Gujarat. Besides his individual efforts, Dr. Parikh also joined with organizations like the American Indian Foundation, Share & Care, the Nargis Dutt Cancer Foundation and the Art of Living Foundation to raise funds.

As members of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans, we are pleased to have a friend like Sudhir, who has helped tremendously in building the membership of the Caucus and helped set up a new caucus in the U.S. Senate. He is a tireless advocate for the Indian community's interests and the global interests of India.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Parikh is an asset to the Indian American community and his efforts are deserving of this great award. Sudhir fully embodies the commitment and values that the NRI Award represents.

TRIBUTE TO SANDY GERMANY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Sandy Germany, National President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Ms. Germany is being honored for her commitment and dedication to veterans all over our country who have served with bravery and honor in our Nation's conflicts. As a Life Member of Kiehler-Pippen Auxiliary #5658, her involvement hits close to home with her own father, Pete Frauenhoffer, who served in the Army Air Corps in World War II, her brother, Ronald, who served two tours in Vietnam in the United States Air Force and her son, Curtis, who has been in the military since 1986 serving in the U.S. Army in Korea and recently in Iraq.

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is dedicated to the principle of freedom for all people around the world. The organization's plans for 2005–2006 include helping veterans and their families by caring for their children at the VFW National Home for Children, providing special assistance through the Rehabilitation Program, volunteering in VA Medical Centers, sending care packages to the troops in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Qatar, and teaching young people about the responsibilities of citizenship.

Ms. Germany was elected and installed as National President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United

States at its 92nd National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, on August 25, 2005.

She has served in many positions for the organization, including Auxiliary President. As District and State President, she earned Runner-Up Outstanding President of the Year. She also served as National Junior Girls Units Director, as National District Council Member #8, and eight years as State Secretary.

Ms. Germany is also a life member of the VFW National Home for Children and belongs to the American Legion Auxiliary and the Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sandy Germany, a woman who has dedicated herself to all veterans, our community and the State of Michigan.

RECOGNIZING THE UNI-CAPITOL WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program, an international internship program that was highlighted in a Roll Call article last week. I have been a proud participant in the program since its inception seven years ago.

The Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program gives Australian university students the opportunity to intern in the office of a Member of the Congress. Each year, 12 students from all across Australia are selected to come to Washington to participate in the administrative and legislative processes that underpin the functioning of Congress as a democratic institution. Such experiences are invaluable opportunities for these students to gain knowledge and a deep understanding of the internal workings of the United States Government while bringing their own skills and backgrounds to their respective Congressional offices.

The Uni-Capitol Program selects undergraduates from 7 universities by matching the applicants with Members and Senators who share their views. The students who are selected come from a variety of academic disciplines, but all have an interest in learning about and promoting the U.S.-Australia relationship. The Program facilitates this by enabling the formation of genuine friendships and the exchange of views and ideas between the Australian interns and their respective offices. I have often enjoyed the interaction that has occurred between my Australian and American interns. This, my colleagues, is how we build relationships which will ensure that the U.S. and Australia remain friends and allies for years to come.

My office is currently hosting Sarah Dillon who is completing a double degree in law and international studies at Deakin University. She has been an exceptional addition to my staff and has provided us with an international perspective on constitutional governments, a passion for relieving suffering in Darfur, and the culinary delights of vegemite.

Sarah is participating with 11 other very qualified students. Andrew Brookes from Melbourne University is in Senator CHRISTOPHER

DODD's office; Ryan Conroy from Deakin University is in Representative SAM FARR's office; Jenna Davey-Burns from Melbourne University is in Representative LOUISE SLAUGHTER's office; Douglas Ferguson from the University of Canberra is in Senator DEBBIE STABENOW's office; Jessica Gurevich from Melbourne University is in Representative MIKE CASTLE's office; Scott Ivey from the University of Western Australia is in Representative LORETTA SANCHEZ's office; Saul Lazar from Deakin University is in Senator CHUCK HAGEL's office; Abbie McPhie from Melbourne University is in Representative JERROLD NADLER's office; Linda Nelson from the University of Wollongong is with the House Science Committee's majority staff; Marianna O'Gorman, from the University of Queensland is in Delegate ENI FALEOMAVAEGA's office; and Rachel Thomson from the University of Western Australia is with the Joint Economic Committee's minority staff.

I would also like to commend Eric Federling who founded and continues to direct this international internship program. Eric is a former senior House and Senate staffer of more than a dozen years, and I congratulate him on making his vision a reality. In the process, Eric continues to make a great contribution to the mutual understanding and appreciation shared by Australians and Americans, myself included.

I am proud that my office is part of this program, as I believe it provides a unique and important bridge between the United States of America and Australia. The program has been, and will continue to be, an extremely beneficial experience for all involved. I implore my colleagues to participate in this worthwhile program in the coming years.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution to honor America's Catholic elementary and secondary schools and to recognize Catholic Schools Week.

America's Catholic schools provide a well-rounded education to the millions of children who attend them. More than 27 percent of the students are from minority groups and nearly 14 percent are non-Catholics. With a strong tradition of social justice, Catholic schools combine strong academic rigor and moral development to prepare young people for life. Graduates of Catholic schools go on to make valuable contributions to our communities through their work, further education, and civic activities. It is important that we take this time to acknowledge the important role that Catholic schools play in educating students and supporting the communities in which they exist.

The Catholic tradition continues to acknowledge the importance of reaching out to the most vulnerable in our society and Catholic schools follow that lead by incorporating moral development, civic engagement, and service learning in their curriculum. In this time of difficult decisions and budget priorities, the Catholic community reminds us of our commit-

ment to all members of our society, especially the most vulnerable.

I am very proud to honor the thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools all across the Nation for their vital contributions to the education of children and young people. Attending an all-day Catholic kindergarten gave me a strong start in my own life. Later, while attending the College of St. Catherine, I had the opportunity to student teach at St. Luke's Catholic School in St. Paul and saw teachers who worked so hard to enrich students' lives through academics and spiritual development.

It is with gratitude for their commitment and efforts that I rise to thank Catholic schools, teachers, parents, and students for their valuable contributions to our Nation.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE USO TO OUR ARMED FORCES

SPEECH OF

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 322, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the contribution of the USO to the morale and welfare of our service men and women of our Armed Forces and their families.

I commend my colleagues Mr. MILLER and Mr. REYES for giving us this opportunity to express our appreciation to the USO for the service they provide to our country through their work with our military forces throughout the world.

I believe the United Service Organizations, USO, is best known to the public for bringing in diverse celebrity musicians, comedians and actors to entertain and to boost the morale of our troops around the world, including such familiar names as Wayne Newton, Robin Williams, actor Gary Sinise, the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders, and even including a son of my own district, Dwayne Johnson—the Rock.

What is less widely known is the existence of other important programs and services the USO has developed to support our troops, such as family crisis counseling; housing assistance; airport service centers; libraries and reading rooms; telephone, internet, and e-mail capabilities; support groups for families separated by deployments; and USO centers—on- and off-base—to provide relaxing and wholesome recreational activities to our service members and their families. In fact, the USO currently operates more than 120 centers around the world, including centers in Germany, Italy, France, Bahrain, Bosnia, Japan, Qatar, and Kuwait.

I note that the USO is a private, nonprofit organization relying on donations from private citizens, organizations and corporations to support their mission. The USO credits its success in large part to the services of more than 12,000 volunteers, who provide some 450,000 hours of service annually to support our troops.

I am a proud supporter of our military troops and a proud member of the USO Congressional Caucus. In my opinion, the work the USO has been doing for the past 65 years is