

all, it will be a place that illuminates and advances the greatest ideal of all. For without peace, all our other cherished causes and values cannot prevail.

The idea for the USIP arose during the Vietnam war, when Senator Hartke had just broken with his close friend, President Johnson. Even though Senator Hartke opposed the war because he believed it was morally indefensible and financially antithetical to the goals of the Great Society, President Johnson interpreted dissent as disloyalty to him and his administration. At that point, Senator Hartke realized that something was missing in the Nation's decision-making apparatus on the great issues of war and peace. Senator Hartke's son Jan remembers, "Late at night, Dad would be sitting in his chair, reading stacks of books about the causes of past wars. He was appalled at how many wars could have been avoided, reduced in their severity or shortened. He concluded that America needed a non-partisan voice with analytical depth and institutional heft whose sole mandate was to make the case for peace, especially when the drums of war beat the loudest." Senator Hartke saw the USIP as a trusted, convincing and unequivocal voice for peace that could speak to the President, the Congress and the people.

Senator Hartke knew the terrible costs of war, having served with both his brothers in WWII. He passed legislation to create the Veterans' Affairs Committee in the U.S. Senate. He wrote the law to establish the Business People's Peace Corps and the International Executive Service Corps, to address the root causes of war. Along with USIP, he also introduced legislation to create a cabinet-level Department of Peace.

Senator Hartke's challenging and prophetic words still ring true today, "The attainment of a just and lasting peace will be the supreme moral achievement of civilization. Yet it will not be won by the cynics or the naysayers, nor by those who are afraid of ridicule for being perceived as soft or utopian, nor by those lacking infinite patience or resolve. The victory of world peace will be won by those hearts and minds that never give up on the noblest quest of them all. For in the end, it is the dreamer who is the greatest realist."

Senator Hartke's dedication to peace was recognized widely. His widow, Martha, recalls, "After Vance passed away in 2003, his friend President Clinton called my son and told him, 'When I came to work in the Senate as a young man, I saw your father as a shining star because of his principled opposition to the Vietnam War.'" Through the work of the U.S. Institute of Peace, Senator Hartke's star need not fade, but will continue to shed light on the path to peace.

CONGRATULATING DR. SCOTT RANSOM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Scott Ransom for becoming the fifth president of the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas in August of 2006.

Prior to his Presidency at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, Dr. Ransom served as the executive director of the Program for Healthcare Improvement and Leadership Development at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He was also director of Women's Health and Gynecology at the Ann Arbor VA Medical Center. Dr. Ransom has served as the Senior Vice President and Senior Quality Officer at the Detroit Medical Center, as well as the Medical Director and OB/GYN Head at the Henry Ford Health System in Detroit.

Since 2003, Dr. Ransom has led research and consulting teams that focus on improving health care delivery, women's health, leadership development and performance improvements. He has also led research in health disparities, including infant mortality, an issue that is very important to my district.

His efforts have garnered significant funding from reputable organizations such as the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Ransom has a master of business association degree from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from the University of Health Sciences' College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City. He is involved with such organizations as the American College of Healthcare Executives, the American College of Physician Executives, the American College of Surgeons, and the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He has published over 100 articles and seven books related to clinical improvement.

The North Texas region is truly fortunate to have the type of dedicated medical professional that Dr. Scott Ransom personifies, and I wish him every success during his tenure as president at the University of North Texas Health Science Center.

HONORING CADET COLONEL DANIEL ROMAN

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to recognize an outstanding young man from my Congressional District, Cadet Colonel Daniel Roman, for his remarkable achievements as a member of the Civil Air Patrol.

In just a few days, Daniel will be presented with the General Carl A. Spaatz Award. The Spaatz Award is the Civil Air Patrol's highest cadet honor, presented to cadets who demonstrate extraordinary leadership, character, fitness, and aerospace knowledge. For every one thousand cadets, only two are selected for this distinct honor.

Daniel first joined the Civil Air Patrol in July 2000. From his first moments in Fox Valley Composite Squadron IL-274, Daniel has exhibited a true love of flying. His hard work and commitment paid off as he was chosen to attend Officer Training School in Wisconsin and Air Education Training Command at Laughlin Air Force Base in Texas. Throughout his time in the Civil Air Patrol, Daniel has set an example for others. For over 7 years, he committed himself fully to learning and developing the

skills of a seasoned member of the Civil Air Patrol.

On June 15, 2007, Daniel successfully completed the Carl A. Spaatz Exam, the final stage of a long and grueling journey through sixteen rigorous skill tests. Having overcome this final obstacle, he now joins the ranks of the Civil Air Patrol's best and brightest, a recipient of the General Carl A. Spaatz Award for outstanding cadets.

Daniel, today I join with your family and friends in offering my congratulations for this well deserved honor. You've made us all proud.

Finally, Daniel, I want to challenge you to maintain the dedication and commitment that has taken you so far already. Although the road ahead of you surely contains many more challenges, you have shown that you can and will overcome each obstacle as you pursue your dreams.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in congratulating Cadet Colonel Daniel Roman, recipient of the Civil Air Patrol General Carl A. Spaatz Award.

WDAS-AM: A PIONEERING AFRICAN AMERICAN VOICE IN PHILADELPHIA, PA

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and memorialize WDAS-AM, a pioneering radio station in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for its extraordinary and historic acts of cultural, spiritual and political bravery. This organization has stood for the causes of freedom and justice in helping secure the civic and human rights of African Americans and deserves the recognition and thanks of this body. The momentous victories of the civil rights and protest movements, aided by WDAS, led the United States on a new path recognizing the human dignity of all people and sparking the modern movements for the rights of women, Native Americans, Hispanics and other historically disenfranchised people.

Although WDAS in its historic role is effectively gone, the station's phenomenal impact on my hometown and our nation is a story that should be told. I am sharing, for the record, a letter I received from Wynne Alexander, a Philadelphian who is both a historian of WDAS and the daughter of a station co-founder. I believe her words are helpful in understanding this remarkable story.

In 1951, Dr. Max M. Leon and Bob Klein undertook a revolutionary endeavor, instituting one of the nation's first Black Radio stations, WDAS-AM of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This industry-leading broadcast facility had a galvanizing social impact in our state, and in fact, across this country. This was not just a radio station, it was a cultural institution bringing its listeners aspects of every known societal necessity from award winning news coverage, to the finest musical programming, to governmental and religious affairs.

Thanks to their pioneering actions, station WDAS-AM was eventually joined by other such stations. But none was ever more effective in standing for justice and encouraging enlightenment both locally and nationally. Because of its unique position and timing,

its contributions to the causes of freedom and justice make WDAS—AM the premiere Black station in the history of this country.

Dr. Leon and Mr. Klein did not do this in a time of peace and prosperity. It was a time of dangerous social upheaval. The realities of Jim Crow America were still very much alive in 1951, including racially motivated murders of social progressives, lynchings, segregated schools, housing, public transportation, drinking fountains, and certainly the majority of White shop owners did not want Black people shopping in their stores. This was the climate in which Leon and Klein found themselves having to change the minds of White, retail America, showing them and Madison Avenue the humanity, strength and beauty of the Black community. In their everyday actions, these two White men finessed, asked, implored and when necessary demanded that the rest of White Philadelphia and White America respect the Black community the way they did. What Max Leon did in allowing his young son-in-law to make this stand was an extraordinary act of courage and should go down as one of the greatest leaps of faith in the history of American Business.

WDAS was the only station to stand up for the rights of minority broadcasters, successfully suing Arbitron Industries, proving they were racist in their listenership accounting methods of America's minorities. In winning this class action judgment against Arbitron, WDAS paved the way for equality in the market place for all minority broadcasters and with the ensuing enhanced revenues, proved to all of corporate America the vitality and economic strength of the Black community.

By the mid 1950s, WDAS had established one of the first and only full service broadcast news departments providing major coverage of every civil rights breakthrough during a historic era in our nation's history. The newsroom was packed with cutting edge, highly talented journalists. WDAS was there bringing first hand reporting from Brown v. the Topeka Board of Education, Rosa Parks' refusal to take a back seat, the Montgomery Bus Boycott, to the Little Rock, Arkansas riots, the Birmingham Church Bombings, the integration of Alabama University, Dr. King's marches on Washington D.C., his winning the Nobel Peace Prize, the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. WDAS reporters and radio personalities covered every aspect, from the marches in the street to the presidential signatures at the White House.

WDAS was responsible for bringing Dr. King to Philadelphia, forging his alliance with NAACP president Cecil Moore, Esq. WDAS then sponsored a parade down Market Street in Philadelphia introducing Dr. King to the city. They also commissioned buses taking Freedom Riders to the South and supplied buses to take people to all of Dr. King's marches. WDAS' unprecedented and innovative programming efforts are also credited with keeping Philadelphia calm in the wake of King's assassination. Other cities expressed their anguish in violent riots. Philadelphia mourned their loss in the non-violent manner Dr. King always advocated.

In a letter written one year after King's assassination, King confidant and Ambassador Andrew Young said this about WDAS:

"For the past number of years WDAS and its manager Robert Klein have been of great service to Dr. King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. They have supported us editorially, financially, spiritually and with a great amount of their air time. . . To our knowledge there is no station in America that has worked harder, longer and with more dedication for Black people than WDAS in Philadelphia."

Demonstrating its enormous cultural awareness and forward thinking, WDAS also made a broadcast home for Malcolm X. Very few, if any stations can make that claim and almost none of them welcomed both Dr. King and Malcolm X, during their lifetimes.

WDAS also celebrated a resounding victory against racism when it supported and partnered with Cecil Moore, Esq. in his victorious effort to integrate Girard College. This move was first advocated years earlier on the station's airwaves by revered Philadelphia Common Pleas Court Judge Raymond Pace Alexander.

For decades, WDAS was instrumental in leading, supporting and encouraging the various consciousness-raising and financial boycotts to curtail United States business involvement in South Africa until that government effectively fell, ending its racist policies.

Years earlier, WDAS was also the spearhead when Rev. Dr. Leon Sullivan launched his boycott against the Greyhound Bus Company in Philadelphia. Together they were successful in racially integrating the staff of drivers and personnel.

Rev. Sullivan and the Zion Baptist Church were not alone. From Bright Hope Baptist to the Church of the Advocate and many more stops in between, the "overground" railroad forged by WDAS performed major works of social progress in partnership with the leaders of every major church in Philadelphia and neighboring states as well. Their hands of partnership also extended to any and all of the smaller churches within that area.

WDAS held numerous "radiothons" raising money to benefit churches and people in need. One of the most famous of these broadcasts was a House of Umoja-inspired "life-athon"—a gun surrender program where gang members and others brought in their weapons and pledged themselves to the principles of non violence.

WDAS worked with hundreds of national and local social activists among them, Dick Gregory and Father Paul Washington helping to calm the city during the days after the King assassination. WDAS assisted a future national leader in youth awareness, Sister Falaka Fattah of the House of Umoja, who was strategizing and creating revolutionary ways of handling troubled young people in an extraordinary effort to stop the frightening gang warfare and fatalities gripping the city in 1969 and '70. Partnering with other exceptionally brave, strong, predominantly female social activists, WDAS News and the station's Public Affairs Departments helped dramatically cut those gang death statistics through a concerted effort of community outreach, special news reporting and social programs.

WDAS launched an anti-drug campaign in the early 1970s. The highly vaunted "Help A Junkie Bust A Pusher" program helped the station win one of its 13 Valley Forge Freedom Foundation Medals. Those medals were joined by scores of Associated Press Awards and recognition from other social, journalistic and governmental organizations dedicated to amelioration. The station's "Job Hunt" program, initiated at the height of a crippling recession and the editorial excellence of Jim Klash won the station the highly coveted Armstrong Award.

WDAS was also responsible for the legendary Freedom Shows where the finest Rhythm and Blues talent in the world was brought into Philadelphia for the benefit of worthy civil rights and social organizations. This amazing care and concern was also amplified by the station's award winning public affairs department.

WDAS was also the home of one of the first Black talk shows in the history of this country, the first in Philadelphia and probably

the first show on the East Coast: The Listening Post, with Joe Rainey.

WDAS charities raised and distributed hundreds of thousands of pre-1980 dollars to thousands of people in the tri-state area, year after year.

WDAS also contributed to the enormous popularity of Rhythm and Blues music and helped elevate African American R & B artists. At a time when Black artists could not get their records played on White radio stations, at a time when Black radio talent could not get hired at White stations, at a time when Black artists were being paid as little as one tenth of what White artists were making, at a time when Black artists could not walk through the lobbies of the clubs in which they were appearing, WDAS forged an atmosphere of respect and reverence, creating quality showcasing for what was destined to become one of this country's greatest musical contributions to the world. The list of R & B stars helped by WDAS is hundreds of names long. The music history books note WDAS was the first in the country to play records by Sam Cooke, Aretha Franklin, The Beatles, Marvin Gaye, Buddy Holly, The Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder and Will Smith. WDAS also created jobs and respect for Black talent in every phase of broadcasting and radio production. Radio remained a very segregated industry well into the 1970s. WDAS not only gave opportunities to racial minorities, their staff of women on-the-air was equally impressive.

So let us recognize that this outpouring of caring concern, extraordinary strength, diligence and humanity brought about profound social changes which benefited an entire nation. This magnificent endeavor of amelioration allowed us to benefit from the gifts and talents of all of our people. Let this cultural institution be remembered for the beacon it was, lighting the way in times of need, and in so doing, inspiring similar visionary efforts for future generations to come.

I thank Ms. Alexander for sharing this story and commend the work of her father and all of the people involved in the laudable work done by WDAS—AM in Philadelphia over the years on behalf of our community, country and world. While there is certainly more work to be done, we would not have come this far without these brave and dedicated souls.

CONGRATULATING MEREDITH
LARSON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miss Meredith Larson of Pilot Point, Texas on receiving the award for Grand Champion Steer at the Annual Youth Livestock Auction at the State Fair of Texas.

Miss Larson's steer, named Rock Star, was purchased for a record-breaking \$94,000 by the Affiliated Multi-Family Services Inc. Miss Larson's earnings total \$30,000 which she plans on using to help finance her education.

Rock Star first won its weight class, then, advanced to the division competition. Miss Larson then took Rock Star onto the grand drive, which includes one steer from each weight class.

Miss Larson has been competing in livestock shows since she was 8 years old and is a member of Future Farmers of America (FFA). She competes in jackpot shows