

time, the Auxiliary has developed into an invaluable resource for Bellevue Hospital, one of our Nation's most renowned hospitals. Over the past 100 years the Auxiliary has provided in excess of \$45 million in support, piloted numerous new programs and been a source of satisfying work for thousands of volunteers. At their gala recognizing, they are honoring Rita J. Kaplan, for her philanthropy, Dr. Robert S. Holzman, for patient care, and Michael "Buzzy" O'Keeffe, for community service. They are all sterling examples of the extraordinary volunteers who have made the Auxiliary such a superb institution.

The Auxiliary was founded in 1906 by a group of socially conscious women who wanted to support the Bellevue Tuberculosis Clinic. Among other things, they created a Day Camp in 1908 on the old ferryboat "Southfield," anchored off the Bellevue Hospital grounds, so that patients could spend time in the open air. Contemporaneously, another group of philanthropic-minded women formed the Convalescent Relief Committee to assist in the well-being, care and convalescence of Bellevue patients. In 1907 a third group, The Synagogue Committee formed to translate for Yiddish-speaking Bellevue patients and provide for their social service needs.

The three groups grew steadily until their work encompassed every ward and clinic at the hospital. Eventually they recognized that they would accomplish more by working together. Thus, in 1940 the Auxiliary merged with the Convalescent Relief Committee and the Synagogue Committee and in 1945 the Auxiliary was legally incorporated as the Social Service Auxiliary to Bellevue Hospital. In 1956, the organization adopted its current name: the Auxiliary to Bellevue Hospital Center, Inc.

Volunteers have entertained patients and provided caring assistance to those in need. Additionally, through the years, the Auxiliary's volunteers have launched innumerable projects to serve Bellevue's patients. For example, in 1941 the Auxiliary founded and began staffing three patient libraries located in the TB, general and psychiatric divisions. The Interfaith Chaplaincy Program also counts on Auxiliary volunteers to help them attend to the patients' spiritual needs.

Volunteers have raised money for the hospital through a number of different enterprises and fundraising events, providing millions of dollars for the Hospital's needs. From thrift shops through coffee shops, the Auxiliary has been entrepreneurial in its approach to fundraising. The Auxiliary's Stuyvesant Square Thrift Shop at 80th Street is considered one of the best places in Manhattan to find inexpensive designer wear and other interesting clothes. The thrift shop is the successor to The Little Jack Horner Shop which opened during the Depression to serve patients and their families by providing low priced wares and clothing. The Bellevue Snack Bar opened on May 23, 1956 and has served physicians, staff and visitors to Bellevue Hospital while providing revenue for the Auxiliary's needs. Fifty years later the snack bar, now the Coffee Shop, continues to operate. The Bellevue Newsstand was created by the Auxiliary in 1970 and continues as a combination Newsstand/Gift Shop.

Notwithstanding the changes that have taken place during the past 100 years, service continues to be the Auxiliary's primary mis-

sion. Today's Auxiliary is a vibrant organization comprised of caring and involved people who pride themselves on having an impact on the well-being of all of the patients of Bellevue Hospital Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the hard-working, caring and compassionate volunteers of the Auxiliary to Bellevue for their 100 years of service to the patients of Bellevue Hospital. Every patient who passed through its doors has benefitted from their dedication.

CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, when the Congress was in recess this fall, a significant milestone in the fight for freedom occurred.

This past October 23 marked the 50th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. I want to recognize the young freedom fighters who on that day against monumental odds, put their lives on the line to fight for the liberation of their country from the oppression of a dominating communist empire.

They are true heroes, not only to citizens of Hungarian origin who have come to America, but to freedom-loving people around the world. As we remember the sacrifice of these freedom fighters, it is important to take the time to reflect upon the importance to freedom and liberty, and remember those who dedicate their lives to defending human rights.

HONORING JACK FINNEY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my friend Jack Finney. Jack recently celebrated his 90th birthday by donating more than \$1 million to the Hunt Memorial Hospital District Charitable Health Foundation. Jack's generous donation will ultimately enhance the soon-to-be-built cancer center on the campus of Presbyterian Hospital of Greenville.

Jack has a long history of making generous gifts to the community, having donated land, money, and his time to a variety of institutions such as Texas A&M University at College Station, Audie Murphy/American Cotton Museum, Greenville YMCA, Greenville Chamber of Commerce, Paris Junior College, Texas A&M University-Commerce, the Greenville schools and many others. Other institutions that have benefited from his leadership include the local Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, and Board of Development as well as Texas A&M University, the Texas Baptist Foundation, and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Jack's efforts have led to multiple honors from Texas A&M, including his selection as a Distinguished Alumnus and election to the Hall of Honor of the A&M Corps of Cadets. Jack has also been honored with Greenville's "Worthy Citizen" Award, for which he donated \$50,000 establishing an endowment to maintain the annual award in perpetuity.

In appreciation of Jack's latest gift, the Hospital District's Board of Directors have decided to name the new cancer center the Lou and Jack Finney Cancer Center in honor of Jack and his late wife, Lou House Finney. Lou and Jack were married for 68 years prior to her death in 2005.

During the reception honoring Jack's gift, Mayor Tom Oliver of Greenville proclaimed August 15th "Jack Finney Day" in the City of Greenville.

It has been speculated that Jack's gift is the largest single gift that an individual has ever made to a non-profit organization in Hunt County, and that certainly speaks volumes about Jack's generosity. Having given his time, money, and energy to so many worthy causes it is not surprising for Jack to have celebrated his 90th birthday with so large and charitable a gift. The community is fortunate indeed to have so generous a benefactor. Jack has spent his life serving and enriching the community, and his latest gift only further reinforces this legacy.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us do so in appreciation of the benevolence of this fine man and my friend—Jack Finney.

CONGRATULATING ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL SCOTTISH ARTS PROGRAM

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Pipe Band and Highland Dancers of St. Thomas' Episcopal Scottish Arts Program for their success and community service in Houston, Texas.

On August 26, 2006, the St. Thomas' Episcopal School Pipe Band won their fifth Juvenile World Pipe Band Championship title in Glasgow, Scotland. They also received 1st Place in Grade III Competitions at the Inverkeithing and Crieff Highland Games.

The Highland Dancers won more than 120 medals during the August, 2006 Scotland competitions. The 2006 U.S. and North American Highland Dancing Champion, Carla Gardner, received 4th overall at the World Highland Dancing Championships. The Highland Dancers have won 21 U.S. Championships and one World Championship.

The St. Thomas' Episcopal School Pipe Band and Highland Dancers are regularly invited to civic and charitable events and have performed for the United States Marine Corps, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Children's Cancer Hospital at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, the Special Olympics, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Center, the Boy Scouts of America, NASA, the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Multiple Sclerosis Society, the Houston Fire Department, the Houston Police Department, the Galveston Historical Society, the British American Business Council, the Heather and Thistle Society, and the British Consulate.

The St. Thomas' Episcopal Scottish Arts Program serves to inform, educate, and entertain the public about the Scottish performing arts, and has helped to underscore the importance of maintaining and preserving ethnic artistic traditions. The Scottish Arts Program of