CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks  

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HONORING TUTT BRADFORD  

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.  
OF TENNESSEE  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  

Tuesday, April 5, 2005  

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor one of the finest men I have ever known and a long-time family friend, Tutt Bradford.  

Tutt served as publisher of The Daily Times in Maryville, Tennessee, from 1955 until 1985. He was a highly respected voice in Blount County and an advocate for its residents throughout those three decades and continues to contribute to the paper’s opinion pages on a regular basis.  

Tutt’s peers long ago recognized him as one of East Tennessee’s greatest journalists. They rewarded him with a coveted spot on the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association Board from 1968 until 1970 and then elevated him to President of the Tennessee Press Association in 1974.  

In addition to tremendous achievements in the field of journalism, Tutt can also claim many accomplishments within his community. Among other endeavors, he has served on the boards of countless charitable organizations, promoted higher education, and worked to improve the quality of life among all East Tennesseans.  

Tutt’s contributions to his community have been recognized on numerous occasions. The United Way of Blount County recently named its endowment program in his honor, and he is a past recipient of the University of Tennessee’s Volunteer of the Year Award. The National Society of Fund-Raising Executives named Tutt its Outstanding Philanthropist of the Year in 1991.  

The complete list of Tutt’s awards could fill several pages in the RECORD, so I will not attempt to list them all. Needless to say, however, he is a man of strong character and great compassion who represents the values of Blount County remarkably well.  

The East Tennessee Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists will pay tribute to Tutt’s outstanding contributions at this year’s Front Page Follies. The annual event provides funding for communications scholarships by inviting local elected officials, journalists, and other community leaders to roast a guest of honor.  

I would like to call the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD to a recent Daily Times article regarding the 2005 Front Page Follies and a true Blount County treasure, Tutt Bradford.  

JOURNALISTS TO HONOR BRADFORD  

[From the Daily Times, Feb. 16, 2005]  

The 2005 Front Page Follies will honor Tutt Bradford, retired publisher of The Daily Times and a community leader who led and supported many causes in the area.  

Bradford was publisher of The Daily Times from 1955 to 1985. Prior to that, he was publisher of the Bristol (Va.) Herald-Courier and the Cleveland Daily Banner. He was a member of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association Board from 1968 to 1970 and was president of the Tennessee Press Association in 1974.  

“Tutt Bradford’s dedication to the Society of Professional Journalists is very profound, as he did a lot of things for us. He was the person who really started it all. He was a real leader in the community. He was a leader in the newspaper industry, and he was a leader in the community.”  

The East Tennessee Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists is very proud of its past president, Tutt Bradford. He was a member of the University of Tennessee Development Council from 1980 to 1983 and served on the board of Maryville College from 1974 to 1979 and from 1981 to 1983.  

He served on the boards of the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, Knoxville Museum of Art, Thompson Cancer Survival Center, the Takehome Mental Hospital, the Tennessee Technology Foundation, the Boys Club Foundation, the Blount Hearing and Speech Foundation, and the Blount Library Foundation. He was a past president of the Blount County Industrial Development Board from 1970 to 1972.  

Bradford has received many honors and awards. He was recipient of the Distinguished Service Award of the Bristol Junior Chamber of Commerce, and he received the Sequoyah Literacy Award from the Tennessee Historical Commission. Junior Achievement named him to the East Tennessee Business Hall of Fame in 1990. In 1994, the University of Tennessee named him Volunteer of the Year.  


The Follies are scheduled for 6 p.m., Saturday, June 18, at the Knoxville Convention Center. The annual roast of newsmakers is sponsored by the East Tennessee Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists and raises funds for communications scholarships at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and Pellissippi State Technical Community College.  

“Tutt’s a treasure, Tutt Bradford.”  

This year’s skits and songs will feature Vols football coach Phillip Fulmer in “The People’s Court,” state Sen. Tim Burchett and his “shadow,” “Hysteric Preservation” highlighting Cherokee Country Club, and a legal battle royal with Knox County Mayor Mike Ragsdale, Sheriff Tim Hutchison, and Commissioner Wanda Moody. Local TV anchors and meteorologists will add their special brand of fun to the event.  

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF FIREFIGHTER NEIL LARIBEE  

HON. JOHN B. LARSON  
OF CONNECTICUT  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  

Tuesday, April 5, 2005  

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifelong dedication of Firefighter Neil Laribee who after 52 years of service has retired from the Southington Volunteer Fire Department.  

The son of a fireman, Neil Laribee first volunteered to fight fire for the town of Southington on February 18 of Frank Collins, a prominent attorney from Ardmore, Pennsylvania, and former Scranton native.  

Mr. Collins graduated in 1948 from Scranton Preparatory School, where he was a classmate of Congressman McDade. Collins attended the University of Pennsylvania and graduated in 1952 from the University of Scranton. He later received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania in 1955.  

Collins worked for several banks during his distinguished legal career and most recently was the law firm of Collins, Johnson and Markey in Media, Pennsylvania. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Katharine, and seven children and six grandchildren.  

Those who knew Collins best pay high tribute to his intellect, integrity and character. Congressman McDade said of Collins, “His life is a testament to the joy of intellectual pursuit and the use of the Socratic method to attain dependable decisions. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to his lovely wife, Katie, and their children.”  

In a moving and eloquent memorial delivered by a fellow attorney and close personal friend, Henry B. FitzPatrick, Collins was remembered for his many friendships, sense of humor, athletic achievements in basketball and golf, enduring and loving marriage, and professional and personal achievements.  

“Frank Collins chose to be a lawyer,” FitzPatrick eulogized. “It doesn’t take long until that profession separates the upright from the rest. It asks questions which can only be answered by those who are serious about being honest, those who can interrogate the depths of their soul to see if there is further will to be summoned for the finding of the right answer. Frank had that quality of honesty—otherwise he would not have had the trust, as he did, of clients and fellow attorneys.”  

“But, we all know that professional honesty might not accompany a person home. The fearlessly scrupulous judge or lawyer might with wife or husband be disingenuous and deceitful; few of us are honest all of the time; a truly scrupulous judge or lawyer might otherwise he would not have had the trust, as he did, of clients and fellow attorneys.”  

Those are high words of praise for a truly remarkable individual.