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 Bradford 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 Bradford as one of the honorees 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.

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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 from 1968 to 1970 and was president of the Tennessee Press Association in 1974.

The East Tennessee Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists is very proud to honor Tutt Bradford for his many accomplishments in the field of journalism, ” said Chapter President Dorothy Bowles. “Equally impressive is the dedicated service that Tutt has given and continues to give to Tennessee.”

Bradford 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 2003. 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 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 National Society of Fund-Raising Executives named Bradford Outstanding Philanthropist. He was president of the Blount County Chamber of Commerce in 1960 and president of the Kiwanis Club in Maryville in 1967.

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 East Tennessee State Technical Community College.

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 4, 2005

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

The son of a fireman, Neil Larabee first volunteered to fight fire for the town of Southington in 1952. A dedicated public servant, Neil has protected the Southington community for over fifty faithful years. Known around the Plantsville Engine Company #2 firehouse as “Deke,” he has been instrumental in shaping the Department throughout the years. Neil has been a loyal friend and source of fire and rescue information to be both new and veteran fire company members.

At the Southington’s most experienced firefights, he has held leadership positions including Company Secretary and a Company Trustee. Neil Larabee has spent his life protecting lives and serving his community and his presence in the Southington Volunteer Fire Department will be certainly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today to recognize the lifelong dedication of Firefighter Neil Larabee and thank him for his years of service to the town of Southington.

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