

to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to him for all of his good work. I have no doubt that even in his retirement, Ben Cozzi will continue to stay involved and make a difference. I extend my very best wishes to him, his wife, Elizabeth; his children, Jennifer and Christopher; as well as their grandchildren, John, Isabelle, and Diego for many more years of health and happiness.

REMEMBERING FRED FOSTER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I bring to the attention of the House the recent passing of an outstanding public servant, civic leader, and local business owner in Front Royal, Virginia. Frederick P. "Fred" Foster died February 7 at age 74.

I had the pleasure of working with Fred on the redevelopment of the Avtex Superfund site in Front Royal. He was a tireless and passionate advocate for his hometown and county and will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I submit an article from the Northern Virginia Daily about the life of Fred Foster.

[From the *nvdaily.com*, Feb. 10, 2011]

FOSTER ACTIVE PART OF SOCIETY

(By Ben Orcutt)

FRONT ROYAL.—Frederick P. "Fred" Foster was remembered on Wednesday as a man who got things done.

Foster, 74, died on Monday at Winchester Medical Center. A jewelry store owner, former town councilman and civic leader, Foster was noted for his ability to tackle issues and see them through.

"Just his determination and vision," said his son, Philip T. "Phil" Foster. "When he saw something that he needed to do or that thought that needed to be done or identified a problem, he had the tenaciousness to see it through."

Phil Foster, 51, said his father had been ill for the past four years and was on dialysis daily. Foster said his father had chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and most likely died of a heart-related ailment.

"We haven't seen a death certificate or anything," Phil Foster said.

Fred Foster opened Fosters Jewelers at 130 E. Main St. in Front Royal in 1984. Phil Foster said he and his father were partners and they opened a second store in Winchester in 1987.

"We're going to miss him," Phil Foster said.

Others said Wednesday they will miss him as well.

Marvin "Cotton" Owens, 72, graduated from Warren County High School in 1956 with Fred Foster. Owens said the two were like brothers for a time and that Fred Foster gave him his first job as a teenager.

"He was one of the leaders in retail in Front Royal for many a year," Owens said of Foster. "There's so many memories. I guess his personality, his good humor. He thought a lot of this town. I don't know how many people knew it. He really thought a lot of Front Royal and wanted to do everything he could to promote Front Royal and make it a better place, especially for businesses."

William P. "Bill" Barnett will second that. Barnett said Foster was an integral part of the Citizens Economic Development Action Committee that tried to help turn around the economy of Warren County years ago.

Foster also was one of the main catalysts behind the redevelopment of the Avtex Superfund site, now known as Royal Phoenix, Barnett said.

"Fred was passionate about Front Royal and Warren County," Barnett said. "His passion was very [infectious]. His enthusiasm and his persistence were very instrumental in making an impact on the community, whether it was while he served on the Town Council or the redevelopment committee. When he decided to get involved in something, he got involved in it 100 percent and just gave everything he had. . . . We're going to miss Fred."

Craig Laird, owner of Royal Oak Computers on Main Street in Front Royal, agreed.

"Fred was a mainstay of Main Street," Laird said. "During the reconstruction of downtown in the mid 1980s, he was affectionately called the mayor of Main Street. He was a dear, dear friend and he will be greatly missed."

As president of Save Our Gateway, Laird also recalled when Foster was a member of the council in 2003 and deliberately missed meetings to help prevent the panel from having a quorum on a vote on Wal-Mart's commercial rezoning request on Strasburg Road.

"His bravery at standing up for his principles will also be remembered," Laird said.

Even though they were on opposite sides of the Wal-Mart issue, Councilman Hollis L. Tharpe, who served on the panel with Foster for two years, spoke highly of him.

"He was for the citizens," Tharpe said. "I don't think personally he ever had anything on his agenda, but every vote that he took, he took it the way he thought that the citizens would be best served. He was always available to talk to, whether it was town business or personal. He always had that big smile on his face even when he didn't like voting for something that he did."

Jean Plauger, owner of Jean's Jewelers on Main Street, also agreed about Foster's contributions, especially downtown. "A lot of things got done down here definitely because of Fred," she said.

"They call him the godfather of Main, the mayor of Main Street," she said. "Fred had a presence down here."

HONORING TWIN SISTERS HELEN ASHE AND ELLEN TURNER

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor two of the most beloved people in my District.

Twin sisters Helen Ashe and Ellen Turner have been serving the homeless and winning over hearts in the City of Knoxville since they founded the Love Kitchen in 1986.

The Love Kitchen served just 22 meals the day it opened, but 25 years later, it now serves more than 2,000 meals each week to the homeless and homebound.

I have known Helen and Ellen for many years, and they are the kindest, most gracious and selfless people I know.

They live their life by the Love Kitchen's slogan: "Everybody is God's Somebody."

Over the years, their hard work and devotion to the less fortunate stoked the volunteer spirit of one of this Nation's great cities and turned the pair into local celebrities.

As the holidays near, it has become tradition to see Helen and Ellen on local television

pleading for help so that no one in need is turned away. And the good people of East Tennessee always deliver, donating supplies and offering volunteers in droves.

In fact, a few years ago my wife Lynn volunteered at the Love Kitchen, and she will never forget the experience.

Helen and Ellen always exercise a remarkable humility, redirecting any deserved attention showered on them back to the Love Kitchen and those it serves.

Today, they were guests on The Oprah Winfrey Show, and I am so thrilled and thankful that Ms. Winfrey took notice of these extraordinary sisters. Now, millions more outside of Tennessee have been touched and hopefully moved to similar community service by their story.

Reflecting on her upbringing as the daughter of a share cropper, Helen told the Knoxville News Sentinel in 2008, "The three truths daddy taught us were: There is but one Father, and that is the Father in heaven. There is but one race, and that is the human race, and he taught us not to take the last piece of bread from the table, because somebody may come by that is hungry."

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD to join me in recognizing Helen Ashe and Ellen Turner for their compassionate, life-long devotion to community service and unwavering faith in God.

On the occasion of their appearance on The Oprah Winfrey Show, I request that the Knoxville News Sentinel article celebrating their service to Knoxville be reprinted in the RECORD below.

[From the Knoxville News Sentinel, Dec. 31, 2008]

DRINNEN: "EVERYBODY IS GOD'S SOMEBODY" AT THE LOVE KITCHEN

(By Beth Drinnen)

"Everybody is God's Somebody." That's the slogan at The Love Kitchen in East Knoxville, and from the moment you walk in the building, you start to feel it. Complete strangers greeted me with smiles and a couple of "good morning, honey's," as I was wrapped in warm, welcoming hugs by both Helen Ashe and her twin sister, Ellen Turner, founders of The Love Kitchen.

Helen and Ellen were born in Abbeville, S.C. Their parents were share croppers. "We've been working since we were 8 years old," said Helen proudly. "My sister and I used to wash dishes for a contractor. He built a little step so that we could reach the sink easier. We made 50 cents a week," she said as she looked at Ellen and smiled.

The sisters moved to Knoxville in 1946 when they were 18 years old. "That's what our parents gave us as a graduation gift," said Ellen. "Our parents saved up a little bit of money and we were to choose where we wanted to live." They chose Knoxville because their favorite aunt, one of their father's sisters, Eva Ice, lived here.

"The three truths that my Daddy taught us were: There is but one Father, and that is the Father in Heaven. There is but one race, and that is the human race, and he taught us not to take the last piece of bread from the table, because somebody may come by that is hungry," said Helen.

People going hungry had always weighed on Helen's mind. "Every single day I would tell Ellen, 'One day, I'm going to do something about it,'" Ellen nodded her head.

"One night," Helen began, "I had a dream . . ."

Ellen quickly interrupted. "No, you let me tell that," she said, her eyes shining. "We