

Blakely should be proud of the service she has provided to our District and country. It has been an honor to serve with her and as I retire from office I wish her the very best in the future. Western North Carolina is a better place because of her efforts and I will cherish the memories of serving with Blakely and the team by my side.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Blakely Whilden for her hard work on behalf of all of Western North Carolina and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

J.C. BURNHAM—TEXAN TO THE BONE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend, JC Burnham of Liberty, Texas. A fine businessman, rancher, husband, father, friend and devoted family man, who spent his entire life serving his community while striving to make others happy. The City of Liberty and, indeed, the entire state of Texas lost a dedicated community leader, as well as friend, on October 30, 2012.

JC was born December 15, 1937, in Houston, Texas. He was truly a remarkable Texan who achieved extraordinary things in his career and for his community. Hard work and love of his community earned him enduring respect amongst the many touched by his deeds. It is an honor to recognize the great contributions that JC made to the city of Liberty, Liberty County, and the great State of Texas.

As a child, JC began his working life at Stubbs Grocery Store. In high school he was both a good student and athlete. He went on to attend College at my alma mater, the University of Houston. After graduation, JC got his foot in the door in the auto industry by working in the mailroom at General Motors. Through JC's hard work and dedication he held eleven different positions within General Motors, eventually owning his own dealership.

In 1973, he purchased Mearns Chevrolet in Liberty, Texas, a close-knit city near Houston. For over 30 years, his family owned business, thrived. He even added an Oldsmobile-Cadillac and a Buick-Pontiac-GMC store. JC was a man of true character and a Liberty resident for over 39 years, his Texas spirit and love of the community made him a natural promoter of Liberty, Texas.

Not only was JC a dedicated businessman, he also had a long career in public service. Throughout the years, he assisted and was recognized by numerous boards and organizations. He was a past board member of the Magnolia Ridge Country Club, Texas 4H Youth Development Foundation, Liberty Dayton Hospital, Liberty County Central Appraisal District and the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency.

Always understanding the importance of education and our nation's youth, JC was a life time supporter of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Trinity Valley Exposition and 4H Alumni Association. He served and supported the Liberty-Dayton Chamber of Commerce, Liberty Rotary Club, 100 Club,

Liberty Elks Club, Liberty County Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Thoroughbred Association and Southwest Cattle Raisers Association. He started the Burnham Classic Golf Tournament which donated over \$450,000 for South Liberty State Center/Tri-County Services. The list of this model citizen's accomplishments will have lasting effects on the city of Liberty and surrounding areas. It is my hope that he will be remembered as a true visionary and strong community supporter, and that others will follow his lead.

My thoughts are with the love of JC's life, Kathleen—his wife of 21 years. They shared the same passion for their community, their farm and their love of slow race horses. Last spring, I visited JC at St. Luke's in Houston and I observed Kathleen in the caretaker role as she poured out her love, spirit and fight for JC. The passing of JC has left a son and daughter in mourning of their father—Bruce Burnham and Cyrese Jezek. His memory will live on, in the many lives he touched along the way.

On the evening of November 4, 2012, hundreds of Liberty, Texas residents waited in line at the First United Methodist Church of Liberty to pay their respects to the family of this honorable man. JC was a loyal friend to me, and although I am saddened by his loss, I feel very fortunate for the time and friendship we shared. He will be remembered by many as a devoted community leader, a genuine friend and a great Texan.

And that's just the way it is.

IN MEMORY OF LIZ IRWIN OF MENDOCINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Liz Irwin, one of the Mendocino Coast's most outstanding community leaders, who passed away October 23, 2012, leaving an enduring legacy in the fields of rural health care and the needs of senior citizens.

Born on September 5, 1919 in Fort Pierre, South Dakota, Liz grew up in South Dakota, went to Minnesota State College and then to Colorado State College of Education, where she met her husband of 70 years, Horace "Ace" Irwin. The couple moved to southern California where Ms. Irwin received a master's degree in speech at California State University Northridge.

Liz was a teacher in Northridge and Long Beach before she and Ace retired to the Mendocino Coast in 1971. She immediately became an inspirational and dynamic force for change and social justice in this rural coastal community, always with a twinkle in her eyes. Over the years she tackled tough issues, serving as the director of the Bea Erikson Senior Center for seven years to ensure seniors received the services they needed. She was also on the Mendocino Coast District Hospital Board of Directors. One of her crowning achievements was the initiation of Health Watch, a group that persuaded the County Board of Supervisors to maintain health care on the coast by creating the Mendocino Coast Clinics, where she was the first Chair of the Board of Directors, continuing until 2004.

Liz motivated others with her sense of humor and radical, feminist spirit as she participated in the Gray Panthers, the "Do-Gooders" annual holiday luncheon benefitting the local food banks and Old Broads for Peace. Many on the coast remember Liz for the many years she authored her inspirational "Coasting" column in the Mendocino Beacon and her childhood reminiscences in her book, "Home of the Heart." Liz loved her small town upbringing in South Dakota and told her family she never felt entirely at home again until she moved to the Mendocino Coast.

The Mendocino community showed its love and respect for Liz by honoring her as Grand Marshal in both the Mendocino Fourth of July and the Fort Bragg Paul Bunyan Days Parades.

She is survived by Ace, whom she referred to as the "joint tenant" in her newspaper columns, by her children, Bill Irwin, an actor based in New York, his wife Martha Roth, Patrick Irwin in Montreal and Nan Irwin, also living in New York, as well as two grandsons.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing and paying tribute to a friend, outstanding community member and role model, Liz Irwin.

HONORING EPSILON KAPPA KAPPA CHAPTER OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INCORPORATED FOR CONTINUED SERVICE TO THEIR COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated. Chartered in 1994, the Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter has been committed to providing public service to Madison County, Mississippi and surrounding areas.

Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter has executed a number of ongoing service projects, including community picnics, providing school supplies to area schools, and working with Habitat for Humanity to build homes for families in need. In addition, the Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter has orchestrated an annual scholarship boat ride to benefit surrounding residents. Finally, this chapter has been a ray of hope for many low income families during the holiday season by providing aid to the residents.

Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter has been named the "Chapter of the Year" for two consecutive years by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, State of Mississippi Organization, for superior service to the fraternity and their communities.

In 2011, Omega Psi Phi fraternity celebrated 100 years of service at the local, national, and international levels. Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter are men of character and great faith. They envisioned a brotherhood founded upon Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated for their continued dedication towards serving their community.

HONORING CHRISTY HAYEK

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past six years while I have been in office. A Member of Congress' most important responsibility is to provide exceptional constituent services and my team is second to none in providing the best assistance to all in our District. My Washington, D.C. office is also tasked with researching, processing, analyzing, and making recommendations on an infinite number of reports, policies, and legislation. I could not ask for a more talented or dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done not only on my behalf, but also on behalf of the 11th Congressional District of North Carolina and the United States.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituency. I owe a debt of gratitude to each one of them for the support and friendship they have shown me during my six years of service in the Congress.

Christy Hayek, a senior at American University, joined the D.C. office as an intern in April of this year. Christy proved to be a quick learner and has done an exemplary job in assisting my Washington office fulfill its daily responsibilities. Articulate, intelligent and friendly, Christy is often the first point of contact constituents have with my office when they visit or call in need of assistance, and she handles each request with poise. I am confident that when Christy graduates she will succeed in whatever path she decides to pursue.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Christy Hayek for her hard work on behalf of all of Western North Carolina and to wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

HONORING VETERANS AND THE ARMED FORCES

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Veterans Day, I rise to honor all Veterans and the men and women of The Armed Forces and their families with a poetic tribute "Thank You" penned by Albert Carey Caswell.

THANK YOU

Thank . . .
Thank you . . .
Thank you,
for all of your hearts so deep!
So deep!
Thank you,
for all of your promises you did so keep!
So keep!
And all of you,
who so bled for you and me!
You and me!
And to all those Mothers who now so weep!
So weep!
And all of those Fathers,
whose pain now runs so very deep!

So deep!
And all of those families,
who can now not together ever be!
Ever be!
And all those children,
whose mommies and daddies will never again
so see!

So see!
Thank you!
And for all of you heroes,
for whom the battle does now so rage!
Does rage!
Who have so seen your Brothers and Sisters
In Arms so die,
with tears in eyes as all in your arms they
now so lay!

So lay!
And watch them so lose,
their fine strong arms and legs!
Arms and legs!
Teaching us all how heroes are made!
Are made!
Thank you!
Thank you for all you gave!
You gave!
And all of you who must now so rebuild,
where none lies left as all of the angels you
so instill!

Instill!
And all the ones who now must so awake,
all in sweats in the middle of the night as do
they!

Do they!
Who far across the shores,
must live without loved ones in arms on each
new day!

New day!
Thank You one and all in every way,
words can not all you repay!
Repay!
And all of those,
who must now so live with the scars of war!
Of war!

Who come home with PTSD,
and so much more!
So much more!
Carrying those dreaded dark scars of war!

Of war!
Who for all of us have so fought for!
Fought for!
But For The Greater Good,
our most blessed freedoms do so insure!
So insure!

Thank you,
one and all the more!
For there are not greater Americans,
than you and your loved ones all the more!
The more!

Is that not what heaven is for?
Is for!
So on this Veteran's day,
fall to your knees and pray!
And pray!

And thank all of those members and families,
of The Armed Forces who such magnificence
do so display!

Display!
And remember why you are free this day!
This day!
And why your children in such a great country
can so awake!

Awake!
For all they ask,
is for you to stand behind them each day!
In your hearts,
make each day . . . Veterans Day!
And remember the cost of freedom,
with each step you take!
You take!
Because the cost of Freedom,
is not Free!
Not Free!
Thank You!

SHIPLEY DONUTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, every morning, at the crack of dawn, there's a nostalgic aroma of warm donuts, fresh out of the oven, coming from a local Shipley Donuts. The smell takes me back through memories from when I was a boy, walking around the corner to a Shipley's in Houston, Texas, reaching into my pockets for some spare change to buy a donut. It was such a treat. I can still remember when there were only a few Shipley's in town. Only a few on each side of the city. And today, the evolution of this once small donut shop continues to amaze me.

The donut chain, now with more than 200 stores across the southern region of the United States, originated in Houston. In 1936, near the end of the Great Depression, Lawrence Shipley, Sr. stirred up some special ingredients and came up with his very own recipe for donuts. He cut them by hand and served them warm every day. There was no other way for him to serve the donuts but hot and fresh. It was his secret to loyal customers that would later grow his business.

Mr. Shipley became Houston's go-to man for donuts. People couldn't get enough; his donuts were such a hot commodity around the city that they began to sell in the retail markets in the 1940s. Through Mr. Shipley's strong vision of becoming a place for families to gather and enjoy a warm donut over a good conversation, that is what Shipley Donuts became.

When customers walked into the store, their eyes instantly traveled to the trays of fresh glazed, chocolate, strawberry, and golden glazed twist donuts behind the glass counters. The sweet smell of the round pieces of bread filled the air in the mornings and brought people in the shop. It was a well-known smell that people couldn't resist. When Mr. Shipley, Sr. passed away, his special recipe lived on through his son, Lawrence Shipley, Jr. He grew his family's business from just one store to several in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Texas, with 86 in the Houston area alone.

Together with his son, Lawrence W. Shipley, III, Shipley Jr. perfected the donut and branched out to making kolaches, now one of their signature products. Shipley, III, is currently president of the Shipley Donuts company and strives to maintain the same gourmet donut products his grandfather worked hard to perfect for many years. And it wasn't something that happened overnight.

Shipley Donut means more than just a warm, glazed donut that slowly and sweetly dissolves in my mouth after every bite. This fine company represents community, a strong business, and quality service. Of course, the irresistible, sweet smell of the donuts baking inside is what brings people inside, but customers are also always greeted with a warm smile behind the counter of donuts upon entering. And although it is a true Texas tradition, it is a model for businesses in the Houston area and states across the southern line of the country.

Shipley products are not only a Texas tradition but are also a personal tradition for me.