

TRIBUTE TO DEL PAPA
DISTRIBUTING

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, this month Del Papa Distributing Company is celebrating its 100th anniversary. I am pleased to extend my congratulations to the owners and employees of the Del Papa Distributing Company.

The Del Papa Distributing Company originated in 1910 as a wholesaler grocery and wine business called Celli and Del Papa in Galveston, Texas. The grocery store was founded by two Italian immigrants, Frank Celli and Omro Del Papa, Sr. Misters Celli and Del Papa ran the business until Mr. Del Papa returned to Italy in 1920. Mr. Del Papa retained his business and real estate interests in Galveston and he returned to Texas in 1930. Upon his return, Mr. Del Papa established the O. Del Papa Commission Company, and became a distributor for the Anheuser-Busch company. Since the United States was still under Prohibition at that time, the Del Papa Commission Company distributed baker's yeast, olive oil, and ginger ale. When prohibition ended, the Del Papa Distributing Company began distributing beer. In the early 1960s the company's name was changed to The Del Papa Distributing Company.

The Del Papa Distributing Company has always been a family business. Over the years, all of Mr. Del Papa's sons have worked in the business, including the current chairman of the board, Lawrence J. Del Papa, Sr., who first worked for the company in 1939 as a delivery man. Today, Omero Del Papa's grandson, Larry Del Papa, Jr., serves as President of the company, a position he has held since 1988.

The Del Papa Distributing Company has come a long way since Frank Celli and Omro Del Papa opened their small grocery store in Galveston. Today, the company has major distribution centers in Galveston, Beaumont, and Victoria, over 2,700 retail accounts covering 17 counties, and 350 employees distributing over 350 beer brands. There is even a street named for the company at the intersection of Business 59 and Del Papa Street in Galveston.

The Del Papa Distributing Company has survived major hurricanes, two world wars, and the 1947 explosion in Texas City, which is the worst man-made disaster in American history. Every time their community has faced a challenge, the owners and employees of Del Papa Distributing Company stepped up to help their fellow citizens. Everyone at the Del Papa Distributing Company takes great pride in their tradition of civic and charitable involvement. The Del Papa Distributing Company has initiated and assisted with many community service activities from blood drives to military programs to disaster relief. The Del Papa Distributing Company also donates to CASA, Children's Advocacy Center, and The Arts of Victoria, created a GI Joe/GI Jane holiday care package project to support the troops who must spend the holidays overseas away from their families. The Del Papa Distributing Company has also been a major contributor to the fundraising efforts of numerous wildlife organizations such as Ducks Unlimited, Coastal Conservation Association and the Rocky

Mountain Elks organization. The Del Papa Distributing Company has also participated in the Keep Texas Beautiful Campaigns.

The Del Papa Distributing Company is also a co-founder of the Galveston Black Heritage foundation and a supporter of the League of United Latin American Citizens, LULAC. The Del Papa Distributing Company also partners with Anheuser-Busch to promote responsible consumption of alcoholic beverages through the "Responsibility Matters" program.

Madam Speaker, anyone familiar with Del Papa Distributing Company's history of civic involvement should hardly be surprised that the company kicked off its 100th anniversary celebrations with the announcement that it would endow scholarships to 13 community and four-year colleges located through the 17 counties they service.

The Del Papa Distributing Company is truly a great Texan and American success story and the company's long history of civic and charitable involvement should serve as inspiration to all. It is therefore my pleasure to once again extend my congratulations and best wishes to the owners and employees of the Del Papa Distributing Company on the occasion of their 100th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO MILO DEUEL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Milo Deuel, a World War II Army veteran from Boone, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. Milo Deuel was recognized on Tuesday, October 12. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: MILO DEUEL

(By Greg Eckstrom)

Before going into the service, Milo Deuel had read of a soldier who had been in the civil war and carried a little Bible with him in his breast pocket. The soldier in the story had gotten shot with a mini ball, and the Bible had ended up saving his life.

So when Deuel joined the Army Enlisted Reserve Corps while in junior college in Missouri, and was called to active duty, he brought with him a small book given to him by his Methodist minister, entitled "Strength for Service to God and Country." As his service brought him around the world, he chronicled the places he had been on the back leaf of the book, serving as a memory for the places he'd gone and the things he'd seen.

Commonly, veterans have a difficult time recalling experiences from war to non-veterans because it can be a painful experience. Deuel is similar in this way, however his little book provides him reminders with each neatly-printed location and date on the back leaf.

"They won't say a thing about it," Deuel said. "My wife says I'm the same way, and the older I got, the more liberal I got with what I did and what happened. But some things that happened I don't really care to think about or talk about."

Yet, with the bad comes the good—the camaraderie amongst soldiers, the experience

one gains by being a part of history and the stories that come from service.

Deuel was sent to Camp Roberts in California in 1943, where he was trained for desert warfare. He learned how to endure high temperatures, how to get along with little water and how to shoot, Deuel said. After his training, he was given a short furlough to go home and say goodbye to his family before heading back to the west coast and then overseas.

Deuel remembered well being stationed in the Guadalcanal Islands and "distinguishing himself," although not in a heroic fashion. Heading home from a movie, he noticed coconuts scattered on the ground around trees, and felt the urge to cut one open and have a drink.

"I had never seen a coconut tree before in my life," he said. "I didn't know that when a coconut fell on the ground and laid there several days or weeks, the milk fermented and made a soap-like substance. I ended up in the base hospital in Guadalcanal for 10 days drinking paregoric. It had a terrible taste to it. After a while, about the third or fourth day, it tasted pretty good."

From Guadalcanal, he went to Munda, New Georgia, where he "went on a few patrols."

"I'm glad I didn't have to fight anybody, but that jungle warfare really didn't appeal to me," Deuel said.

Neither did the late-night wake-ups from Japanese aircraft in the area.

"They had a big air strip in there covered with white coral," he said. "The Japanese would send a lone plane around midnight two or three times a week to keep us awake. We called him 'Midnight Charlie.' He'd come over, and the anti-aircraft guns would open up. They never hit him, but it'd keep us awake."

After serving between 6-8 weeks in New Georgia, Deuel was sent to New Zealand, which he described as "a Godsend."

"It was just like going from green hell to green heaven," he said. "And they treated us like kings down there. One of the great treats was to have fresh milk and ice cream, which we hadn't seen for several weeks."

It was during Deuel's four months in New Zealand that he found himself moved to regimental supply—a position that saw him distributing rations to the troops. Pleasing the troops was his job, one that was made easy when the rations were bigger.

"I was really popular then, which wasn't very often," he joked.

He then went to Papua New Guinea, followed by a stint in Luzon, where he saw his "most exciting" days of his service in the Invasion of Luzon on Jan. 9, 1945.

Regimental supply was divided into two teams, and offloaded from the troop ship in a bay to a landing craft loaded with large drums that appeared to be filled with gasoline. As the fourth or fifth wave to go in on Jan. 9, Deuel's unit was shelled out and had to wait.

"The Japanese had some artillery guns that were hidden back in the hills, and they would let go with those every now and then. We couldn't make the beach, so we sat out in the bay all day and then the following day, the 10th, we went in with no problem at all."

It was in Luzon that Deuel said he learned a powerful lesson working with a Filipino crew.

"I found there you couldn't judge a man by his color," he said. "Whether he was black or brown or white, it was what was in his heart. I made some good friends with the Filipino people."

Deuel recalls one conversation he had with the head Filipino man he worked with—

Juan. In the town of Santa Maria, Deuel heard a jazz band marching down the road playing an upbeat song—"Roll Out the Barrel"—that he had heard from Camp Roberts. As the band came within sight, Deuel saw it was a funeral procession—escorting the caskets of a mother and child. Shocked, Deuel asked Milo why they didn't play something more mournful.

"He said, 'Milo, think about it. Do you think that when you die you go to a better place?' I said, 'I certainly hope so.' He says, 'That's what we do. We're happy that they're gone out of this d* * * mess that we're in. They're gone to a better place.'"

Deuel saw promotions quickly in Luzon, going from a buck private to a staff sergeant in four weeks. He was next sent to Japan for six weeks as part of occupation troops after the war had ended, where he had a chance to see "how effective our bombers had been. There were miles and miles of nothing."

After those six weeks, he received the news. "Milo Deuel, pack your duffle, get on the next ship. You're headed for home," he recalled.

He traveled back home highly decorated. All in all, he received several awards, including a sharpshooter's badge, a combat infantry badge, the Bronze Star and a presidential citation medal. Upon arriving home, the biggest shock was the guy waiting to greet him.

"My greatest surprise coming home, I didn't have a little brother anymore," he said. "That sucker had grown up after four or five years since I had been home. He was as tall as I was."

Deuel remained in contact with many of the men he'd served with. He'd seen strong friendships throughout his service, and a wide variety of places, as he'd documented in his little book, which returned home with him. In it, he had filled two of the small pages in the back of the book—each recounting memories of places he had been and things he had seen.

A good friend from the service he'd lost contact with entered his mind recently, prompting Deuel to look him up and write a letter to the mayor of the man's town—Maiden, North Carolina—to inquire about him. The mayor responded to let Deuel know the man had passed away, but a letter soon followed . . . from the man's daughter.

"She said, 'Daddy would never tell me a thing about WWII. Tell me what he did,'" Deuel recalled.

So Deuel grabbed the book—the one that had stuck with him all through his service—and flipped it open to the last two pages. Looking through the dates, the memories came flooding back, and he began writing. It might be difficult for him to talk about his service, but he wanted to share with the girl what her father had gone through.

"There were good days and bad days," Deuel said. "So I copied a lot of this stuff. Each date gave me a remembrance of something that happened to us. So the poor thing knows what her daddy did."

I commend Milo Deuel for his many years of loyalty and service to our great nation. It is an immense honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING TURKEY'S REPUBLIC DAY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to honor

our friend and ally Turkey. On October 29, 1923, the Turkish constitution was amended and Turkey officially became a Republic.

During the Presidency of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the nation embarked upon a program of political, economic, and cultural reforms. The nation of Turkey now stands as a modern, secular nation-state which has been a long time friend to the United States.

Turkey's economy has grown at a record pace and literacy and education rates continue to climb. Turkey stands as an inspiration to reformers in the greater Middle East and throughout the world.

Over the past 87 years, Turkey's relationship with the United States has grown. Turkey has been a partner to the United States in NATO, the United Nations, as well as on the War on Terror. Beginning in the bloody Korean War of 1950, Turkish and American troops have fought side by side for victory over communism in The Cold War. Moreover, Turkey's work on human rights and energy security for Europe should be commended. Turkey has provided critical humanitarian and medical assistance in Afghanistan and in Iraq.

We should congratulate the people and the Government of Turkey for their efforts over the past 87 years and we look forward to building on the current relationship in the future.

HONORING ROBERT COHEN

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a celebrated filmmaker and proud resident of my district, Robert Cohen. I've known Robert for many years and have always been impressed by his work as an artist and public servant, and it is an honor to commemorate him today.

Robert was born in Philadelphia in 1930 and moved to Los Angeles at the age of 9. After graduating from UCLA in 1952, Bob began his professional film career as a writer in the U.S. Army Signal Corps and a cameraman for NATO. In early 1956, Bob was honorably discharged from the Army and was able to devote his full energy to a film career that was already taking off.

In the 50-plus years since Bob released his first works, including "Mister Wister the Time Twister" and "The Color of Man," Bob has filmed, edited, written, produced or contributed to over 20 films, documentaries and television productions. His work spans the political to the historical, the local to the international, and he has been celebrated around the world as a filmmaker, artist and visionary.

It is an honor both to serve as Bob's representative in Congress and to call him my friend and colleague. I wish him many more accomplishments and know that he will achieve continued success behind the camera, in front of the classroom and in the many exciting endeavors that await him as he inspires a new generation to political activism and public service. Thank you, Bob, for your friendship and leadership, and best wishes.

HONORING TARPON SPRINGS
FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Tarpon Springs Fundamental Elementary on its 30th Anniversary. While Pinellas County is home to many excellent schools, Tarpon Springs Fundamental brings a special quality of a back-to-basics focus to its students.

The school's focus emphasizes student responsibility, structure, and academic success. This focus extends to parents as well with mandatory parental involvement in parent-teacher conferences and meetings. However, their involvement stems much further than what is required. Many parents can also be seen volunteering throughout the campus tutoring, mentoring, helping with daily classroom activities, or enjoying lunch with their child.

Tarpon Springs Fundamental is one of the smallest schools in Pinellas County, so in conjunction with its highly structured curriculum model, it fosters a familiar, tight-knit atmosphere. The staff and families are able to know one another on a personal basis, providing the foundation for educators and parents to work as a team to promote strong academic skills and values.

It is truly my honor to recognize Tarpon Springs Fundamental Elementary School as they celebrate their 30th anniversary. I look forward to watching the school continue to develop generation after generation of young minds with the core principals it has thrived on for so long.

HONORING PAUL KELLEY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY to recognize Paul Kelley who is retiring after 16 years as a member of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. Congresswoman WOOLSEY and I have the distinct privilege of representing Sonoma County and both of our tenures in the House have coincided with Mr. Kelley's tenure on the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Kelley represents the northern most supervisorial district in Sonoma County, which is home to one of the finest wine grape-growing and wine-producing regions in the world. His support of agriculture and agriculture-related industries is deep seated. He grew up on a small farm outside of Santa Rosa and spent his summers as a youth working on neighboring ranches and farms in the area. As a supervisor, his work included helping to bridge the gap between the water needs of farmers and fisheries, in supporting measures that guaranteed that 22,000 acres in his district would be protected under the county's Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District acquisitions and encouraging businesses and farmers to embrace green technology.