

# The Shepperd E-Leader

Changing the Future of Leadership



## **Texas Representative David Farabee Retires After Twelve Years of Service**

Technically speaking, Texas Representative David Farabee has dedicated twelve years to serving his constituents in Wichita and

Archer counties. Many, however, would argue that he has served all of Texas during his six terms in Austin. The Independent Banker's Association of Texas attested to Farabee's enviable reputation by stating, "When politicians leave office, most folks will agree it's time. But Farabee is different. He will be a real loss to the integrity of the Texas House. He is trusted and admired by all." Even in his own district, which has voted decisively for every Republican nominee since Presidential Richard Nixon, the Democrat Representative is touted as one who would work across the aisles for the public good. The Wichita Falls' Times Record News declared that, "With Farabee, it was never about party but people. You always got the sense...that his decisions were based on what's best for this district and the state of Texas at that particular moment."

Many are quick to recognize the Farabee family legacy of public service noting the Representative's father Senator Ray Farabee and his thirteen years of service in the Texas Senate. Representative Farabee also attributes his mother's volunteerism and dedication to the issue of mental health care as the inspiration for his long-time advocacy for improved "mental health parity" within the health care coverage industry. In summarizing his legislative efforts toward the issue, Farabee credits his mother: "Through

her efforts and the hard work of others, they brought mental health issues to the forefront in Texas policy. I am simply trying to follow her legacy by pursuing policies that will ease the burden of families affected by mental illness." Farabee notes that while many bills did not pass into law, the efforts were still worthwhile: "Over the 6 regular legislative sessions I filed several bills over and over again, never passing them through the entire process but I appreciate the process...what I found was you don't always have to pass the bill to affect change...."

Prior to holding the House seat, Farabee served on a number of local boards. He continues to serve on the board for the local Council of Boy Scouts of America, the United Way, the Association for Citizens Retarded and United Methodist Church. He is also president of the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute's Advisory Council. In addition to his extensive community service, Farabee plans to capitalize on his retirement by spending more time with his wife, Terri, and their three children.

Always gracious, Representative Farabee credits his staff for a successful history of constituent service. "I feel like I am going out with the most popularity I have ever enjoyed, and I attribute that to great staff work...," states Farabee.

The Shepperd Institute thanks Representative Farabee for his past and continued service, and we wish him well in his retirement from the Texas House of Representatives.

John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute

"I was really too honest a man to be a politician and live."

-Socrates

"Democracy... is a charming form of government, full of variety and disorder; and dispensing a sort of equality to equals and un-equals alike"

-Plato

"Man is, by nature, a political animal."

-Aristotle

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John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute

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### **UT Permian Basin Students Meet Newt Gingrich**

On April 15th, former Speaker of the U.S. House Representatives, Newt Gingrich, met with several UTPB students to field their questions about political aspirations, current events and his perspective current and past political administrations. students were selected based on demonstrated interest in public administration and leadership.

The session was followed by a public lecture in the UTPB gymnasium.



Photo by: Rafael Aguilera, UTPB Photographer

## **Upcoming Events:**

## The Shepperd Town Hall Series presents

A Moderated Discussion Featuring:

Glen Hackler
Andrews City Manager

**Richard Morton** *Odessa City Manager* 

Courtney Sharp

Midland City Manager

Thursday
August 5, 2010
UTPB CEED Building

## The Shepperd Distinguished Lecture Series presents

The Women Behind the Words: Shaping a Leader's Voice Featuring:

Peggy Noonan and Dee Dee Myers

Moderated by:

Representative David Farabee
October 7, 2010
7 PM
UTPB Gymnasium

