

By: Harper-Brown

H.R. No. 209

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Kitty Tine Baker was honored at the second annual
2 Exemplary Women of Irving High Tea event on November 4, 2012, and
3 that occasion provided a welcome opportunity to acknowledge her
4 myriad contributions to the community; and

5 WHEREAS, Born in Suriname and raised in Brooklyn, New York,
6 Mrs. Baker worked for 18 years as an on-air host and producer at
7 radio stations in Vermont, New York, and Mississippi before
8 settling in Irving around 1970; after retiring, she began to devote
9 herself to volunteer work, and she has built an impressive record of
10 achievement in the years since; and

11 WHEREAS, Foremost among her initiatives is the Irving Senior
12 Arts Program, which Mrs. Baker founded in 1995; ISAP organizes
13 outings for senior citizens so that they can more easily enjoy
14 plays, concerts, and dance recitals throughout the Dallas-Fort
15 Worth area; as part of its mission, the program secures
16 approximately 3,500 mostly complimentary tickets to live
17 performances each year and arranges transportation to and from the
18 events for the program participants; now serving some 500 people,
19 ISAP also provides opportunities for its members to get involved in
20 projects and fund-raising activities that benefit various arts and
21 community groups; and

22 WHEREAS, Since 2002, Mrs. Baker has organized and hosted live
23 entertainment twice a month at the Country Lane Seniors Community
24 in McKinney, where she is affectionately known as "Ms. Kitty" to

1 the grateful residents; in 2012, she expanded the program to
2 include performances in Waxahachie; her other civic contributions
3 have included service as an ambassador for the Greater Irving--Las
4 Colinas Chamber of Commerce and as a member of the board for the
5 Entertainment Series of Irving; Mrs. Baker is also active in the
6 Irving Book Club and the Christian Women's Association; in all her
7 endeavors, she enjoys the love and support of her husband, Leo, to
8 whom she has been married for 35 years, and she takes pride in her
9 four children, eight grandchildren, and seven
10 great-great-grandchildren; and

11 WHEREAS, Mrs. Baker's outstanding efforts have been
12 recognized with numerous honors; nominated for the Governor's Award
13 for Volunteerism on three occasions, she was selected as first
14 runner-up in 2000; she received the Irving Parks and Recreation
15 Superstar Award in 1996 and the Irving Convention and Visitor's
16 Bureau High Spirited Citizen Award in 1998, and the Greater
17 Irving--Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce named her Volunteer of the
18 Year in 2009; moreover, her long list of official tributes includes
19 the Irving Woman of the Year accolade and membership in the Irving
20 Women's Hall of Fame; and

21 WHEREAS, Kitty Baker has generously shared her time, energy,
22 and enthusiasm to enrich the lives of seniors and to support local
23 civic and charitable groups, and her accomplishments are greatly
24 appreciated by her fellow citizens; now, therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
26 Legislature hereby congratulate Kitty Tine Baker on her selection
27 as one of the Exemplary Women of Irving and extend to her sincere

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1 best wishes for continued success in her important work; and, be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
4 prepared for Mrs. Baker as an expression of high regard by the Texas
5 House of Representatives.