

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Pulaski County Commonwealth Journal, Sept. 30, 2011]

TAPP WINS PRESTIGIOUS JUDICIAL AWARD

A local judge received a prestigious award earlier this summer for his efforts as part of a national program that aims to rehabilitate drug offenders.

Pulaski County Circuit Court Judge David A. Tapp was awarded with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals "All Rise" award during a star-studded conference in Washington, DC.

"Judge Tapp is an outstanding ambassador for Drug Courts both in Kentucky and around the world," said National Association of Drug Court Professionals Director of Communications Chris Deutsch in a press release. "His work in Drug Court has affected countless lives and his interview with Congressman Rogers will be critical to helping Drug Courts maintain funding in the coming budget cycle."

"It is an honor for NADCP to present Judge Tapp with this award," Deutsch continued.

The NADCP Annual Training Conference is considered the world's largest on substance abuse and the criminal justice system, according to a press release provided by the NADCP. This year's event took place from July 17 to July 20 and brought nearly 4,000 state and federal justice leaders, celebrities, judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, clinicians, police and probation officers, military veterans, business owners, Drug Court graduates and their family members to the nation's capital. Tapp was recognized along with actors Martin Sheen, Matthew Perry and Harry Lennix during the closing ceremony of the conference on July 20.

Tapp was honored for his role in securing and conducting an interview with Congressman Hal Rogers (R-KY), Chairman of Appropriations in the U.S. House of Representatives, last December for NADCP's All Rise Magazine.

"The interview was so successful that it was featured as the cover story of the quarterly," stated the press release.

During the interview, Tapp asked Rogers if he felt it was important to further expand Drug Courts to reach more individuals.

According to the press release, Rogers responded, "Yes, I'd like to see Drug Courts available everywhere. I've seen how effective they are. We did not have Drug Courts in my district and now that we have them, I've seen the difference that they can bring."

Tapp's remarks "brought nearly 3,700 attendees to their feet," stated the press release.

"I do Drug Court for the small moments," said Tapp upon receiving the award. "When you look at an offender who has struggled . . . and at some point during the process that small moment comes where you look at them and you see a new confidence."

"You see a gleam in their eye that wasn't there before, and you know that they get it. That's why I do Drug Court."

Tapp, who serves Pulaski, Lincoln and Rockcastle counties, has presided over Drug Court since 2005. Circuit Court Judge Jeffrey T. Burdette also serves as a Drug Court judge for Pulaski, Lincoln and Rockcastle counties.

The judges volunteer their time to preside over Drug Court.

"This Drug Court, like the nearly 2,700 in existence nationwide, serve seriously drug-addicted individuals through intense treatment and supervision," the press release stated.

Nationally, Drug Courts have been proven to significantly reduce drug abuse crime and

recidivism while saving money, according to the press release.

"Drug Courts are one example of successful efforts made by criminal justice professionals to rehabilitate high-risk offenders," Tapp stated through the press release. "I take great pride in these efforts and applaud the hard work and dedication of all Drug Court staff members."

"These people volunteer their time and effort to do good deeds for thousands of people within the commonwealth annually, and they get almost no recognition for these efforts," Tapp continued. "They deserve a great amount of credit."

TRIBUTE TO LOUISVILLE PLATE GLASS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a native Louisville business that is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, Louisville Plate Glass, and the company's owner, my good friend, Bill Stone. Louisville Plate Glass specializes in custom glass products such as laminated and insulated glass and was founded in 1911. The company is among an elite group of Louisville firms that have survived 100 years of business success.

Louisville Plate Glass has been hit hard by the struggling economy and faltering housing market that we are all familiar with, due to its close attachment to the real estate industry. Owner Bill Stone, 75, reclaimed ownership of the business in 2009 in order to ensure the business stays afloat. At the time, Bill was a partner in parent company United Glass Corp. when it announced its plans to sell Louisville Plate Glass to consolidate the company's business into other holdings outside the State.

Bill's pride took control however, and he decided to trade in a portion of his shares in United Glass Corp. to independently reacquire Louisville Plate Glass. "It's not about money," Bill said. "It's about pride now. It's about making it a success again." Bill says he is taking a "survive-and-advance" strategy with the business until the real estate market picks up again, and he rarely takes a salary from the company to further help company profits.

Louisville Plate Glass has recently had major projects at William Paterson University in Wayne, N.J., and also an outlet mall in New Hampshire, and Bill is optimistic that the real-estate industry will pick up soon and the business will grow. The company is also responsible for work on other notable projects in my hometown of Louisville, including Churchill Downs, the Humana Building, Louisville Slugger Field, Preston Pointe, and the University of Louisville Medical Faculty Building.

Bill is currently flirting with the idea of adding a tempering plant to grow the business. He says there is a "50-50" chance that he will invest in the new plant, which would add 20 employees and would bring in-house the production of safety and architectural

glass work that is currently outsourced. The new plant would require several million dollars in investment, and Bill says his decision will be based upon whether he can secure State or local funding for the project.

"I take a great deal of pride in this business," says Bill, as he is determined to protect the 30 employees currently working at the company's headquarters on West Broadway. For anyone who is concerned with surviving the current down economy in similar fashion, Bill has three suggestions: always keep a strong balance sheet with cash reserves even when times are good, build the best product and provide the best service and the money will follow, and finally, answer every client phone call and customers will take notice.

Mr. President, I would ask all of my Senate colleagues to join me in congratulating Louisville Plate Glass as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. Owner Bill Stone's wisdom and effective business practices will, I hope, provide the company with great opportunities for success moving forward. Louisville Plate Glass is an inspiration to the businesses of Louisville and the people of Kentucky, and it is my hope the company will continue to prosper in the years to come. The Louisville publication, Business First, recently published an article recognizing the company's accomplishments over the past 100 years. I ask unanimous consent that the full article appear in the RECORD as follows.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Business First, Aug. 26, 2011]

LOUISVILLE PLATE GLASS STRIVES TO SURVIVE AS IT MARKS ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY (By Ed Green)

Louisville Plate Glass Co. owner Bill Stone admits that he should be celebrating a major milestone.

His business, which traces its roots to 1911, is among an elite group of Louisville firms to last 100 years.

Stone, a longtime Louisville businessman, recognizes the achievement and said he is proud the firm has lasted this long. But he's not exactly jumping for joy. Louisville Plate Glass produces custom glass products, designing and assembling products such as insulated and laminated glass.

Its business is closely attached to the commercial real estate industry, so the company has seen declining business in recent years as real-estate development and construction practically halted, he said.

BACK IN BUSINESS

That's one reason Stone, 75, took back ownership of the business in 2009 from Louisville-based United Glass Corp., a partnership in which he was involved.

Now, he said, he is working to get the business back on its feet and protect the about 30 jobs remaining at the company's headquarters and plant on West Broadway.

"In our 100th year, we're taking a licking but keep on ticking," Stone said.

He declined to say whether the business remains profitable but said sales are in the "mid-seven figures" range and about 40 percent of the record levels set in 2007.

Employment has dropped from its peak of about 50, but none of the job cuts has come from layoffs.

Stone, who has been taking a salary from the business only rarely, said he doesn't want to sound like the situation is dire. But the last few years have been tough, he said.

"I feel a great deal of pride in the business," he said, adding that he could have retired with the money he earned from the business and other investments.

Instead, in 2009, he traded in a portion of his shares in United Glass, a company he helped found that owned several glass businesses, to re-acquire Louisville Plate. He declined to disclose the value of the sale, which was a cashless transaction, he said.

Stone's decision, he said, came after his partners said they were considering closing Louisville Plate Glass and consolidating its business into other holdings outside the state.

The partners sold the other United Glass assets earlier this year to Florida-based private-equity firm Sun Capital Partners Inc. for an undisclosed amount, and Stone now is involved only in Louisville Plate Glass, he said.

Officials with United Glass could not be reached for comment.

Stone said he is taking a "survive-and-advance" strategy with his business until commercial real estate picks up.

"It's not about money," he said. "It's about pride now. It's about making it a success again."

BUSINESS STARTING TO PICK UP AGAIN

Stone said that although there is no clear end in sight to the recession's impact on the real estate industry, he is optimistic that business will return.

The company recently had major projects at William Paterson University in Wayne, N.J., and at an outlet mall in New Hampshire.

Stone said much of the work in the past couple of years has come from the public sector, but he is starting to see more plans coming together for private commercial real estate projects.

There also is a lot of interest in improving the efficiency of windows, which is one of the company's niches.

And Louisville Plate Glass has started selling fire-rated glass that acts as a barrier to heat and is required in many large buildings, such as schools, hospitals and public institutions.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH

Stone has not decided whether he will invest in growth but said the chances are about "50-50" that he will add a tempering plant to his Louisville operation.

The project would require an investment of several million dollars and would add about 15 to 20 employees.

The plant would bring in-house the work, which creates safety and architectural glass through heat treatments. The company currently outsources the tempering work.

Stone said his decision likely will be based on whether he can secure state or local incentives for the project. He added that he has not yet sought help.

"I just haven't decided if, at this point in my career, I want to make that kind of investment."

NOTABLE PROJECTS

The following local structures have used Louisville Plate Glass Co.'s products:

- Churchill Downs
- Fleur de Lis condominiums
- The Green Building
- The Humana Building
- Louisville Slugger Field
- Preston Pointe
- University of Louisville Medical Faculty Building

THREE TIPS TO HELP MAKE IT THROUGH THE TOUGH TIMES

Bill Stone offered these suggestions for how small companies can survive when business is off and profits are down.

1. Don't take all the profit out of a business when times are good. Make sure the business keeps a strong balance sheet with cash reserves. "Almost every mistake can be traced to instant-gratification desires," Stone said.

2. "It sounds trite, but build the best product and provide the best service, and the money will follow," he said, adding that young businesses often are too focused on the bottom line.

3. Answer all phone calls, letters and other forms of communication promptly, and clients will take note. "Do not screen calls," he said, adding that staff at his office never asks callers who they are. Instead, he said, he takes all calls if he is available.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, due to the funeral of former Washington State Governor Rossellini, I was unable to attend yesterday's session to vote on the nomination of Cathy Bissoon to be a U.S. district judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania. Had I not been in Washington State, I would have supported the nomination.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

AMERICAN RUSSIAN CULTURAL COOPERATION FOUNDATION EXHIBIT

• Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate and commend the Honorable James W. Symington and the American Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation on the success of their exhibit "The Czar and the President, Alexander II and Abraham Lincoln." Housed in the magnificent Palace of Catherine the Great in St. Petersburg, Russia, and the State Archives of the Russian Federation in Moscow, the display included an impressive collection of documents, art, and personal artifacts of Czar Alexander II and President Lincoln.

The exhibit debuted in St. Petersburg with great fanfare on April 26, 2011, with representatives from the American Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation, ARCCF, and Russian government officials in attendance. Russian Minister of Culture, Mr. Alexander Avedyev, and ARCCF chairman James W. Symington, presided over the ribbon cutting, while the Kremlin's Presidential Band provided entertainment. The exhibit was widely covered by the Russian media, and featured in the Washington Post and the New York Times.

Timed to correspond with the 150th anniversary of the emancipation of the serfs and the beginning of the Civil War, the exhibit explored the commonality of Czar Alexander II and President Lincoln as liberators who ultimately met a tragic end. Although they never met personally, they ex-

changed warm correspondence, and shared a somewhat unexpected friendship. Through a study of these two leaders, visitors became acquainted with the often unexplored history of mutual respect and friendship during the Civil War era.

"The Czar and the President" closed on July 31 after receiving rave reviews. Reviews of the exhibit can be read below. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Mr. Symington and the ARCCF, and thank them for their continued dedication in preserving the cultural and historical ties between the United States and Russia.

Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD a copy of the text of the guest book.

The material follows.

THE GUEST BOOK FROM THE EXHIBITION, THE CZAR AND THE PRESIDENT, ALEXANDER II AND ABRAHAM LINCOLN, THE LIBERATOR AND THE EMANCIPATOR

FOREWORD

Years ago I came across an obscure amount of US-Russia relations during our Civil War. Tsar Alexander II's favorable disposition toward our Union and his friendly correspondence with President Lincoln were pages missing from my school and college textbooks. Even the goodwill visits Russian fleets in 1863 to New York and San Francisco during our time of trial had been erased from memory to say nothing of the eloquent dispatch sent in 1861 by Russia's Chancellor, Prince Gorchakov to his Minister in Washington, Gustav Stoeckl which reads in part:

"For the more than eighty years that it has existed the American Union owes its independence, its towering rise, and its progress, to the concord of its members, consecrated under the auspices of its illustrious founder, by institutions which have been able to reconcile order with liberty . . . In our view, this Union is not only a substantial element of the world political equilibrium, but additionally, it represents the nation towards which our Sovereign and Russia as a whole, display the friendliest interest. . .

In all cases the American Union may count on the most heartfelt sympathy on the part of the Sovereign in the course of the serious crisis which the Union is currently going through . . ."

These sentiments*, made manifest by the good will visits of Russian fleets to New York and San Francisco in 1863, had to be reassuring to a President rightly concerned over the possibility of foreign intervention inimical to his cause.

It was the purpose of our Tsar and President exhibit to acquaint Russian citizenry and officialdom with this vivid history of accord and mutual respect. I trust the attached citizen reaction warrants the claim, "mission accomplished".

James W. Symington
Chairman
American Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation

*Translated from Russian by Dr. Jay Strickland Ryfa, Counselor to the American Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation

A wonderful exhibition from an educational point of view and as a general idea. The parallel between the Czar and the President is quite unexpected. It was very interesting with a lot of wonderful exhibition items. Thank you from the press.

Editorial staff of Rossiyskie Vesti
Editorial staff of Min Novostey