

HONORING RICHARD COPELAND

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Richard Copeland on being named the Minnesota Entrepreneurial Success of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Mr. Copeland is the CEO of THOR Construction, a major force in the construction industry that is doing business across the United States and around the world.

The success of THOR Construction has resulted from the vision, innovation and hard work of Mr. Copeland, who started Thor Construction in 1980. It has grown from a one man firm to become one of the largest, most successful minority owned construction businesses, employing hundreds of people in seven offices across the country. THOR Construction is a known and trusted commodity in the construction industry, specializing in construction management, general contracting, design-build, consulting, and concrete.

Mr. Copeland's efforts have been well recognized. He received a lifetime achievement award from the National Minority Contractors Association in 2005, and was inducted into the Metropolitan Economic Development Association's Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame in 2006. Mr. Copeland's leadership, business acumen, and ability to bring top talent to Thor Construction have made the company one of the largest African-American owned business in the nation.

In addition to his company's success, Mr. Copeland has been a selfless contributor to our community through his philanthropic work and personal mentoring of entrepreneurs of color. He has directed Thor Construction to invest in underutilized communities and has employed minority-owned and women-owned subcontractors on projects, aiding in the expansion of their businesses. In addition, he has been a staunch promoter of women and minority-owned entrepreneurs by providing mentoring and contractual opportunities and has participated in a host of civic events promoting diversity.

I commend Mr. Copeland on his award and for his contributions as both an employer and an exemplary member of the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF JANE E. OPPENHEIM FOR DEDICATED AND SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jane E. Oppenheim, who will be honored Sunday, May 19, 2013 by the B'nai B'rith Amos Lodge No. 136 Scranton, Pennsylvania in recognition of her charitable efforts, community activism and advocacy for education.

Through her service over the years, Jane has merited numerous awards and honors, three of which include The Martha Wollerton Award for the Greatest Contribution to the

Overall Welfare of the Community, the National Philanthropy Day Lifetime Achievement Award, and EOTC's Mighty Oak Award. Jane was also the recipient of the Roseanne Alperin Award from the Junior League of Scranton and the Scranton Area Foundation.

Jane has long been a champion of education. Chairing the University of Scranton's President's Board of Regents, Jane attained an honorary doctoral degree and the University's Frank O'Hara award. As a member of the Board of Trustees of Keystone College, Jane's role was instrumental in establishing the Oppenheim Family Children's Center. The Center provides high quality pre-kindergarten education and serves as a great resource for Keystone's early education programs. She is also a member of the steering committee for The Gathering, Keystone's nationally acclaimed literacy conference.

Over the years, Jane has additionally been involved with and extended her support to numerous community organizations including the NEPA Philharmonic, Family Service of Lackawanna County, Community Medical Center and the Scranton/Lackawanna Human Development Agency. She is a member of Scranton Area Foundation Board of Governors and has served the United Way of Lackawanna and Wayne Counties in various capacities for many years.

Jane is also an honorary Life Board Member of Voluntary Action Center, A Sustaining Member of Junior League of Scranton and a recipient of the League Award for Volunteer Service and Leadership. She serves on the Everhart Museum Board and on the City of Scranton's Human Relations Commission. Jane was among the first Scranton Council of Literary Advancement Volunteers for Literacy and the catalyst for SCOLA's community giving initiatives. In 2009, Jane was named the Association of Fundraising Professional's Outstanding Philanthropist.

An alumna of Hunter College, Jane continued her education at Columbia University, where she earned her master's degree in English. Jane is a trustee of the Hunter College Foundation and board member of Hunter Alumni Association. She received a prestigious Hunter College Alumni Award for Community Service and was named to Hunter's "Hall of Fame" for outstanding community service.

Jane's selflessness has served as a guiding light for many to follow. I am sure that her actions have inspired others to devote themselves to the task of helping others, and I thank her for all the good she has done for the greater Scranton area and the people of northeastern Pennsylvania.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,734,808,644,648.07. We've added \$6,107,931,595,734.99 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our

economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN HONOR OF MARIANNE M. JONES ON HER SERVICE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE WOMEN'S FUND SINCE 2003

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2013

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the tenth anniversary of Marianne M. Jones' tenure as the Executive Director of the Women's Fund of New Hampshire. Ms. Jones and the Women's Fund have long been synonymous, and it is with great pride and respect that I join others in honoring the person and the organization she has led.

Marianne Jones joined the Women's Fund with extensive leadership experience in philanthropy and nonprofit management. She has brought her grant making, fundraising, and long-range, strategic planning expertise to the organization, enabling it to establish such innovative strategies as Giving Circles, Venture Philanthropy, and sophisticated media relations.

The Women's Fund was founded in 1999, inspired by a desire among 42 generous women and men to transform philanthropy from charitable giving to strategic investing in New Hampshire's women and girls. The Women's Fund originated in a passion to address the serious challenges facing women and girls in New Hampshire: a lack of child care and elder care, homelessness, domestic and sexual abuse, low wages, lack of access to comprehensive healthcare, and little job training opportunities. Over the last 15 years, the Women's Fund has grown to award over a million dollars to more than 250 non-profit programs throughout the state.

The Women's Fund creatively brings together change-makers and grant-makers to support solutions to these societal challenges. As a public foundation focusing all of its resources on New Hampshire's women and girls, the Women's Fund impacts over 25,000 residents of New Hampshire each year.

One of its particularly inspiring commitments is to assist "justice-involved women", those women who encounter the criminal justice system, whether in half-way houses, county jails or the state prison. To assist these women in taking steps towards fulfilling, productive lives, the Women's Fund recently published a comprehensive resource brochure that contains community information on a host of topics. The guide contains statewide contact and other information on services such as child care, clothing and food, crisis centers, recovery, housing, health care, transportation and others. While originally conceived as a resource guide for women upon their release from incarceration, the brochure is useful to a number of female populations, such as single mothers, women in the process of divorce, unemployed women, among others. Therefore, the Women's Fund entitled it: Community Resource Guide: Services for New Hampshire Women in Transition.

Marianne Jones has been a tireless leader in encouraging philanthropy and in targeting the public's generosity to improve the lives of

women and girls in New Hampshire. She is an advocate for social justice and a pioneer in bringing creativity and expression to those women, children and families in New Hampshire who represent the majority of people affected by poverty, domestic and sexual violence, unequal pay, job discrimination and a lack of access to adequate health care. She is a role model for all of us and a treasure to the State.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN PITTSBURGH

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2013

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Builders Association of Metropolitan

Pittsburgh, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary of serving the region's housing needs tonight.

The Builders Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh—"BAMP"—is one of the oldest builders associations in the country. Founded in 1938 by a group of South Hills builders as the Home Builders Association of Allegheny County, it has grown to serve the home building and related industries in all the counties of southwestern Pennsylvania. BAMP was a founding member of a group of local associations that established the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) in 1942, and the Pennsylvania Builders Association (PBA) in 1952.

BAMP members, past and present, have a long history of service to the home building industry and its trade association at the local, state and national levels. It boasts the only member from Pennsylvania to have ever served as President of NAHB—J. Roger Glunt in 1993—who was also inducted as a member

of the National Housing Hall of Fame. Several of its others members have served as president of the state association as well as on state and national governmental agencies of importance to housing. Even more are leaders in the communities in which they build and live, in my district in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Many of today's members are second, third and, in some instances, fourth generation home builders and tradesmen.

In service to their community, members of BAMP give individually and collectively in an effort to improving our community and helping our neighbors in need. BAMP has organized countless community service projects throughout its 75 years of existence, lending its members' expertise to building or repairing community assets as well as helping to improve homes for citizens in need of assistance.

I wish to congratulate them on their 75th anniversary.