

RECOGNIZING MARGOT JAMES  
COPELAND

**HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 22, 2018*

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margot James Copeland and acknowledge her achievements. She is known for her commitment to improve the local economy and foster inclusive multicultural and multiracial relations in Cleveland, Ohio. Mrs. Copeland is an integral force for change in shaping an inclusive urban community that welcomes constructive change by means of intercultural dialogue and cooperation.

A native of Richmond, Virginia, Mrs. Copeland graduated from Hampton University with a Bachelor of Science degree in physics. She went on to receive her Master of Arts in Educational Research and Statistics from the Ohio State University.

Mrs. Copeland began her corporate career at Xerox Corporation, Polaroid, and Picker International. She later served as Executive Director for Leadership Cleveland before becoming President and CEO of the Greater Cleveland Roundtable.

Currently, Mrs. Copeland is Executive Vice President and Director of Philanthropy and Civic Engagement at KeyBank, one of the nation's largest bank-based multi-line financial services companies. In her role, Mrs. Copeland also serves as Chair and CEO of the KeyBank Foundation, where she guides strategic philanthropic investments promoting affordable home ownership, high quality education, and small business growth. By supporting organizations and programs, she helps make dreams become reality. Mrs. Copeland has been a proven leader in a number of community organizations and sits on several boards. She is the 15th National President of The Links, Inc., serving from 2010 to 2014. She served as President of the Junior League of Cleveland, sat on the Kent State University Board of Trustees, acted as a Protege Program Advisor for Morehouse College, and was a member of the Business School Advisory Board at Hampton University. Mrs. Copeland's public service is marked by her appointment as Vice Chairperson of the Cleveland Bicentennial Commission and, subsequently, the Cleveland Millennium Commission by former Mayor Michael R. White, whose second term Inaugural Committee she chaired. She also served on the Transition Committee for current Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson.

Mrs. Copeland's extensive record of excellence in service to her community makes it truly an honor to know her, and it gives me great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to celebrate her today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GERALD  
'JERRY' EIGHMY

**HON. MIKE KELLY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 22, 2018*

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gerald 'Jerry' Eighmy, who passed away on Tuesday, May

15, 2018 after a lengthy illness. Jerry is survived by his wife of 56 years—Mary, his sons Scott and Harry (both of Erie) and eight beloved grandchildren who will proudly carry on the legacy of their admirable grandfather.

Jerry was born on December 17, 1940 in Cleveland, Ohio. He moved to Conneaut early in life and has been a lifelong resident ever since. After graduating from Conneaut High School, Jerry worked on the ore boats for US Steel to gather up the money needed to go to college.

He attended Heidelberg College in Tiffin, OH getting a degree in chemistry. Shortly after graduating, Jerry started working for his father at the family machining company, the Eighmy Corporation in Conneaut. Over the years, Jerry was instrumental in growing and advancing the company.

In 1984, Jerry started American Turned Products in Erie, PA. American Turned Products has grown into a thriving manufacturing company, with two plants in Erie County that serve the automotive, appliance, military and hydraulics industries.

During his time in the machining industry, Jerry became very involved with the National Screw Machine Products Association, now called the Precision Machined Products Association (PMPA). PMPA is an international trade association that represents the interests of the precision machined products industry and provides programs and services to ensure members stay ahead of the curve and ready to compete on a global scale.

Jerry was actively involved in many PMPA committees over the years and also served on the PMPA's Finance, Executive, and Pension Committees. Jerry served a five year term as Association Treasurer before transitioning to Association Second Vice President, First Vice President, and eventually President elect. In order to acknowledge his service to the association and industry in general, Jerry was presented with the merit award, the association's highest honor.

Jerry continuously strived to make a difference and better the lives of those around him, which he did through a number of capacities. He was a board member and past President of the NWPMA Manufacturers and business association and served on the board of Brown Memorial Hospital for 25 years until becoming the chairman. In addition, Jerry was instrumental in the creation of the sports complex for the Conneaut School System, where he was not only the major monetary donor for the project but also donated the land for the track and soccer field, which bears his name today.

In serving his family and community, Jerry was a leader in the truest sense of the word and a role model for those who were privileged to know him. He set a standard of excellence and generosity that is both admirable and praiseworthy. Furthermore, Jerry was a class act that will be remembered for his distinguished career and selfless personality.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the memory of Jerry Eighmy, a service-minded individual who leaves behind a legacy of compassion and integrity that will positively impact the Conneaut community for years to come.

RATIFICATION OF THE  
CONSTITUTION

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 22, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the year was 1787. The American experiment was in trouble. After the Revolution, the colonies came together to draft the Articles of Confederation, which enumerated the powers of the new government. This document, however, left the government unable to regulate interstate commerce, raise revenue through taxes, or support a national defense. Many of the colonists had become restless, and some like Daniel Shays even began openly revolting against the newly founded government.

It was time to act. Fifty-five men from around the colonies made the arduous trek to Philadelphia, where they crammed inside Independence Hall, the same venue where, just eleven years before, many of the individuals present hammered out and ratified the Declaration of Independence. Under the leadership of the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. George Washington, the delegates debated a new direction for the fledgling government. The document that was finally agreed upon by the delegates was what we know today as the United States Constitution. The document outlined a federal government made up of three branches that could each check and balance the powers of the others.

After much debate, it was up to the delegates to gain the ratification of their respective states. They returned home and attempted to whip up support for the Constitution, needing nine states out of thirteen to successfully bring the Constitution into law. Some went to great lengths to promote the Constitution. Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay published the Federalist Papers under pseudonyms, a series of essays that highlighted the advantages of the document.

Slowly but surely, the ratifications trickled in. Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, and Connecticut were the first to support the document. Massachusetts, Maryland, and South Carolina followed suit, and finally on June 21, 1788, New Hampshire provided the ninth and decisive ratification. The Constitution was adopted by the U.S. government on March 4, 1789, and the other colonies soon ratified the document, successfully uniting the nation.

More than any individual or group, the documents drafted and adopted by our Founding Fathers shaped who we are as a nation. The Constitution provides us the structure to defend, govern, and implement the beliefs and freedoms enshrined in the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. It establishes that we the people, not a king or tyrant, would govern our nation.

Mr. Speaker, George Washington hailed the Constitution as "the guide in which I will never abandon." Today, on the occasion of the 230th anniversary of the ratification of this document, let us remember the oath that we took before taking office to support and defend this guide, the very essence of our democracy.

And that is just the way it is.