

not only as a vibrant reminder of the storied past of the area, but also as an impressive example of how family owned small businesses must be kept alive. Without them, exciting events like the Texas Crawfish and Music Festival, held annually in Old Town Spring, wouldn't be possible. Ultimately, if we want to preserve treasured pieces of Texas history, like Old Town Spring, we must fight to keep small businesses alive.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING ART IN THE SQUARE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2013

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Art in the Square festival in Southlake, Texas, for its remarkable influence and impact on North Texas.

The Art in the Square festival was founded by the non-profit Southlake Women's Club in 2000. Each year, the club hosts the spring festival at the Southlake Town Square where it is annually attended by tens of thousands of visitors and over 140 artists. The art festival has grown considerably over the years, and recently it was ranked as the 8th best arts festival in the United States by Arts Fair Sourcebook.

The primary objective of Art in the Square is to provide local artists with an environment in which to share their work with the North Texas community. However, the underlying objective is to support young aspiring artists and charitable organizations serving women and families in North Texas. Over a period of 13 years, Art in the Square has astonishingly generated over \$1,700,000 to assist people in need.

Art in the Square is an amazing accomplishment that benefits the North Texas community in numerous ways. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Art in the Square for its ongoing accomplishment of providing our community and country such a wonderful arts festival.

NEW DIRECTIONS AND ITS PROGRAM LIFE LINE

HON. TOM RICE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2013

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, before coming to Washington, I was involved in many organizations working to better the community, including being president of the Myrtle Beach Haven Homeless Shelter. For this reason, the organization New Directions, which gives aid to the homeless in the city of Myrtle Beach, SC, is close to my heart. New Directions provides services to sustain the homeless person and give him or her means to become self-reliant.

Life Line is a new program being implemented by New Directions. Life Line's emergency shelter accommodates women and children that have experienced domestic violence. The shelter aids in helping its residents create a new life and get back on their feet. It

opened April 12, 2013 and has helped twenty-six women and children thus far.

I am fully supportive of New Directions and its program Life Line. Mr. Speaker, I deeply appreciate the work that they do to protect and help the homeless and victims of domestic violence.

THE OCCASION OF THE DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S GRAND REOPENING OF THE DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2013

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Detroit Historical Society as its members gather to celebrate the grand re-opening of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle in Detroit, Michigan.

Founded ninety-two years ago, the Detroit Historical Society was formed with the mission of ensuring that the Detroit region's unique history and contributions to our nation are preserved for future generations. In 1928, the Historical Society founded the Detroit Historical Museum and has been the driving force behind the fundraising and volunteer recruitment efforts that have been essential to its continuing operations. Just recently, in 2006, the Historical Society reclaimed responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the Museum and its collections, which contain more than 250,000 artifacts. These artifacts not only showcase important pieces of Americana, but also remind us of Detroit's roles as a crucial center for American industrial innovation, a linchpin in the Arsenal of Democracy and a birthplace of uniquely American music, like Motown.

In 2009, the Detroit Historical Society launched its Past-Forward Campaign, which has raised the resources necessary to expand the exhibits and educational offerings provided by the Detroit Historical Museum. This campaign is also the key source of support for the renovation of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, which showcases the story of the Great Lakes and how they have impacted the development of Greater Detroit.

Founded in 1949, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum provides visitors with an array of exhibits that highlight Michigan's rich maritime history, going back more than three hundred years. Among its permanent exhibits, the Dossin Museum allows visitors a chance to see the anchor of the legendary *S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald*. When the Dossin Museum re-opens this month, thanks to the hard work of the Detroit Historical Society and its Past-Forward Campaign, it will include a new permanent exhibit titled *Built by the River*. Built by the River tells the story of the Detroit River and how this incredible natural resource has shaped the City of Detroit and the Southeast Michigan region, serving as the epicenter of a commercial and manufacturing revolution in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, as a fifth-generation Michigander, I am proud of the work the Detroit Historical Society is doing to preserve and educate residents and visitors on the important role Detroit has played in our nation's history. I congratulate its members on the grand

re-opening of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum and look forward to our continued work together in the endeavor to revitalize Southeast Michigan.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRANT HIGH SCHOOL CONSTITUTION TEAM, WINNERS OF THE NATIONAL "WE THE PEOPLE" COMPETITION THIS YEAR

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 17, 2013

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Grant High School Constitution Team from Portland, Oregon, winners of the national "We the People" Competition this year. Last month, 1400 students from high schools across 45 states and the District of Columbia came to our nation's capital to be tested on their knowledge of the Constitution, American legal history, and the role of the citizen in participatory government.

Since the Constitution's Bicentennial, the "We the People" Competition has emphasized the importance of civic education and involvement, and has pushed students to develop a deep knowledge of our government and a passion for our nation's principles. I continue to be greatly impressed by the students with whom I have had the good fortune to meet and watch in competition. They possess a nuanced understanding of the Constitution and a conviction in the strength of our representative government that is rare, even here in Congress.

Sadly, Congress has cut all funding for this national program, and continues to greatly underfund public education across the board. As a result of sequestration cuts, Oregon alone will lose \$10.2 million in funding for primary and secondary education. The "We the People" Competition is exactly the type of program this Congress should be supporting—an investment that educates and grows our next generation of leaders and engaged citizens.

I applaud the students from Grant High School, the largest public high school in Portland, who overcame perennial budget cuts and teacher shortages to achieve a remarkable feat in winning this prestigious competition. They should serve as an inspiration to all of us and a reminder of the importance of civic education.

This year's winning team, led by teacher David Lickey, was made up of the following students: Leah Alpern, Ella Ben-Zaken, Allen Chan, Annelies Cowan, Jane Crabtree, Claire Eldredge-Burns, Nina Greene, Nate Grein, Morgan Grover, Ada Harris, Madeleine Kaczmarowski, Parkes Kedrick, James Knudsen, Kathleen Kohl, Miriam Kohn, Mac Larsen, Anna Learn, Lauren Meiningner, Anayeli Nieves-Alvez, Emily Olsen, Adam Penrose, Ricky Rojas-Echenique, Austin Shaff, Mariah Shriner, Gaelen Snell, Halley Steiner, Jake Stein-Ross, Jacob Sutter, Simon Swifter, Daniel Thatcher, Dylan Tingley, Emily Turner, Grace Williams, and Kendall Wynde.

I would also like to recognize We the People Oregon State Coordinators Marilyn Cover and Barbara Rost, who for many years have been responsible for implementing this outstanding academic program through the Classroom Law Project in Portland, Oregon.

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 north-eastern 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