EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO STEVE OSBORNE—2000 SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to congratulate Steve Osborne on being selected as the 2000 Small Business Person of the Year for the Colorado District of the US Small Business Administration. His hard work, dedication and business savvy have propelled Steve and his business—Building Specialties—to new heights.

Steve and his organization have not had an easy road to success. After a very promising and profitable inception, the company began losing money. An external audit was performed and it was revealed to Steve that an employee was embezzling money. Amid this adversity, Steve never put his head down in defeat. Rather, he put his shoulder to the plow and revamped his company.

Today, that turn-around is complete as Building Specialties is expected to reach nearly $5 million in gross sales this year. Much of this renewed success is attributable to Steve’s efforts and energies. Steve has taken a proactive approach to his business philosophy and continues to draw from his experience of hard knocks. He is a model citizen and a firm believer in never giving up.

I am encouraged by Steve’s accomplishments and his success story. He is the embodiment of the entrepreneurial spirit that makes America’s economy the strongest in the world. Because of entrepreneurs like Steve’s caliber, America can look forward to many decades of continued prosperity.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Steve on winning this prestigious award. We are all very proud of you.

HONORING FINER WOMANHOOD Awardees

HON. DALE E. KILDEE
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., located in Pontiac, Michigan. For many years, the sisters of Zeta Phi Beta have emphasized family leadership and civic pride. Each year, at their Finer Womanhood Scholarship Luncheon, they award civic pride. Each year, at their Finer Womanhood Scholarship Luncheon, they award
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HONORING DAVID S. THOMPSON
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I honor David S. Thompson, the past President of Northern California Small Business Financial Development Corporation.

Mr. Thompson has made a major contribution to hundreds of economically disadvantaged small business enterprises throughout the greater San Francisco Bay Area. This contribution has resulted in over $19 million of loan capital provided to this important segment of our regional economy that otherwise would not have occurred without his leadership and over three decades of service.

In addition to providing solid direction and guidance to this non-profit public benefit corporation, Mr. Thompson has excelled in forging genuine strategic alliances with community-based organizations and financial institutions in a positive effort to maintain the flow of capital to minorities, women and the truly economic-disadvantaged of our local small business population.

As Executive Director of the City of Richmond’s Redevelopment Agency, Mr. Thompson has contributed substantially to the economic revival of his own community for nearly twenty years.

Additional positions he has held with the City of Richmond over the years include Project Manager for the Marina Bay Development and the City’s Business Assistance Officer. The Redevelopment Agency is a department within the Community and Economic Development Division which administers the City’s community, economic and housing development programs including Redevelopment, Community Development Block Grants, HOME and Youth Build.

Mr. Thompson is active with a variety of nonprofit organizations in the Bay Area, involved in small business development financial and management assistance including the Northern California Community Loan Fund, Bay Area Small Business Development Corporation and West Contra Costa Business Development Center.

It is with great pride and honor to recognize the contributions made by David S. Thompson to the State of California’s Small Business Loan Guaranty Program and to the hundreds of small business persons who have benefited from this commitment of time and energy.

RSS BOMBS CHRISTIAN WOMEN’S PRAYER MEETING

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on May 31 Newsroom.org reported that a May 21 bomb blast that injured 30 Christians during a prayer meeting was apparently carried out by the RSS, the pro-Fascist, militant Hindu fundamentalist organization that is the parent organization of the BJP, the party that leads India’s government.

According to the Newsroom report, which was brought to me by the President of the Council of Khalistan, Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, the bomb exploded during a meeting of the Women’s Club, a Christian group. An extensive investigation by the All-India Christian