

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 U.S. Small Business Administration. His hard work, dedication and business savvy have propelled Steve and his business—Building Specialities—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 Specialities 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 of 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 scholarships to college bound students, and also recognize those who have made a significant impact on the City of Pontiac. On June 10, the Chapter will gather for their seventeenth annual luncheon, where they will honor

Ms. Cynthia Thomas Walker as Woman of the Year, and Mrs. Dorothy Jones Herron and her family as Family of the Year.

Cynthia Thomas Walker has truly shown herself to be more than deserving of the distinction of Woman of the Year. She is currently the Administrator of 50th District Court in Pontiac. She is the first African-American and the first female to hold this position. Originally from Chicago, Cynthia came to Pontiac in 1985, where she worked for UAW-GM Legal Services and was an instructor for the American Institute for Paralegal Studies before becoming a Deputy City Attorney in 1993. The following year, she became City Attorney and continued that role until last year, when she was promoted to her current position. Cynthia is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, the Southeast Michigan Court Administrators Association, and the NAACP. She is also the proud mother of a twelve-year-old son, Clifton.

This year's Family of the Year is the family of Dorothy Herron Jones of Pontiac. A product of the Pontiac School District, Mrs. Herron graduated from Pontiac Central High School, and went on to the Jones School of Nursing in Ann Arbor, and St. Joseph Mercy School of Nursing in Detroit. She began her medical career at Pontiac General Hospital as an LPN and later an RN. In 1971, she became a staff nurse at General Motors Truck and Coach. She rose through the ranks to her current position as Associate Administrator for GM Corporate Health Services, working with facilities in eight states, including Michigan. She is a member of several nurses' associations, the American Occupational Health Association, and the NAACP. Mrs. Herron has raised two wonderful sons. Dr. Michael Herron is an emergency room physician at Chesatee Hospital in Dahlonega, GA and Georgia Baptist Hospital in Warm Springs, GA. Darryl Herron has recently completed a two-year assignment in the Asian Pacific as Regional Manager of the Audit Staff for General Motors. He is currently the Manager of Capital Appropriations at GM Powertrain Global Headquarters in Pontiac. Mrs. Herron is also proud of her grandchildren, David and Destiny.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of several civic and fraternal organizations, I understand how important these groups can be to improve the community climate. I am proud of the hard work the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority has done for the City of Pontiac, and I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in applauding them and their award recipients.

HONORING DAVID S. THOMPSON

HON. BARBARA LEE

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 oversight.

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 overall 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 benefitted from this commitment of time and energy.

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