

While other teams spent millions from corporate sponsorships, the Principia team spent less than \$180,000. The winner, Tokai University of Japan, was sponsored by Sharp Electronics, a leader in solar engineering. This year's runner-up was sponsored by the European Space Agency. When the race was over, Principia earned the Safety Award from race officials, their fourth overall and first in international competition.

I want to congratulate John Broere (Director of Engineering Science), Joe Ritter (Assistant Dean of Academics) and the members of the Principia College Solar Team on their outstanding achievement. Their efforts have done much in accelerating this exciting field of scientific exploration.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOROTHY  
BRYANT

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to recognize Dorothy Bryant from my hometown of Lexington, Missouri. Mrs. Bryant will be retiring at the end of this year after thirty years of dedicated service to the Lafayette County Sheriffs Department.

Mrs. Bryant began working for the Sheriffs Department on January 21, 1980, and since then has worked for five different Sheriffs of Lafayette County. She has worked for the current Sheriff, Kerrick Alumbaugh, for nine of her thirty years. A loyal and dedicated employee, Mrs. Bryant has worked tirelessly to serve the residents of Lafayette County.

Madam Speaker, Dorothy Bryant has helped keep the people of Lafayette County safe for the past three decades. I trust that my fellow members of the House will join me in wishing her the very best in her well-earned retirement.

HONORING LARRY KELLNER,  
CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER OF CONTINENTAL  
AIRLINES INC.

**HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Kellner, chairman and chief executive officer of Continental Airlines Inc, the world's 5th largest airline. In May 2001, Larry Kellner was elected president of the airline and to the Board of Directors, and in March 2003, he was named president and chief operating officer. In December 2004, Mr. Kellner became chairman and chief executive officer, where he has promoted international growth at Continental Airlines and has fostered the company's unique culture, putting emphasis on strong internal communication and giving employees the tools to provide outstanding customer service.

Throughout Mr. Kellner's 14-year career at Continental, the company has won more awards for customer satisfaction than any other airline. In 2009, FORTUNE magazine

ranked Continental the No. 1 airline on their annual airline industry list of "Most Admired Global Companies" for the 6th consecutive year. Continental Airlines also employs 41,000 system-wide and nearly 12,000 in Houston, Texas.

Prior to joining Continental, Mr. Kellner was executive vice president and chief financial officer of American Savings Bank, owned by The Robert M. Bass Group. Prior to that, he was executive vice president and chief financial officer of The Koll Company, a private real estate investment and construction firm.

Kellner graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor of science in business administration from the University of South Carolina, where he served as Student Body President. In addition, the University of South Carolina presented him with the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1998.

Mr. Kellner is active in numerous community and civic organizations. He currently serves on the board of directors for Marriott International and the Air Transport Association. On the civic front, he is a member of the board of directors for the Methodist Hospital, YMCA of Greater Houston, the Greater Houston Partnership, the Spring Branch Education Foundation, and Central Houston, Inc., and is a member of the Boy Scouts of America National Executive Board. Mr. Kellner also serves on the advisory boards of the March of Dimes and Teach for America, and is on the development board of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. He resides in Houston with his wife, Susan, and their four children.

After more than 14 years at Continental Airlines and 5 years as its CEO, Mr. Kellner will leave the company at the end of 2009 and will head Emerald Creek Group, LLC, a new private investment firm based in Houston.

Congratulations to Larry Kellner for his many achievements throughout his career at Continental Airlines and the best of luck in his future endeavors.

SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST  
CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church of Mount Vernon, Illinois for reaching the centennial milestone.

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church opened in 1909 on Vaught Avenue in Mount Vernon and held services at the location throughout 1960's. After being sold, the congregation was unable to find a new location. Being unwilling to dissolve their tight-knit congregation, the Shiloh Missionary Baptist family held services at a member's home for years before acquiring property on Conger Avenue in Mount Vernon.

In spite of adversity, including a disastrous fire in 1999, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church has held true to its mission in the community and has become a part of Mount Vernon. Its congregation continues its outreach ministry to troubled youths and many others in the community.

I want to join with the members of this House in congratulating Reverend Lawrence

James and the men and women of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church on celebrating one hundred years of good works, to thank them for all they do for our community and to wish them another hundred years of success.

FREEDOM CAPTIVATES THE  
HUMAN SPIRIT

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, last week I spoke at a moving exhibit at the Heritage Foundation which featured a collection of 50 paintings by Ukrainian artist and gulag survivor Nikolai Getman.

Mr. Getman spent eight years in a Siberian gulag. Following his harrowing experience he secretly undertook to chronicle his time in the Soviet forced labor system because he said he was "convinced that it was my duty to leave behind a testimony to the fate of the millions of prisoners who died and who should not be forgotten."

These 50 paintings are the fruit of 40 years of work on the part of Nikolai. They are a powerful testimony of one's man's triumph over totalitarianism. They ought not be relegated to the annals of history. While the Soviet Union no longer exists, those who seek to suppress freedom, be they in North Korea, China or Egypt, are still with us.

I submit my remarks from the Heritage Foundation event:

"Experience and the record had convinced me that communism is a form of totalitarianism, that its triumph means slavery to men wherever they fall under its sway, and spiritual night to the human mind and soul."

These words were spoken by famed Communist party member, Soviet spy and ultimate defector, Whitaker Chambers.

In testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee, Chambers said that in spite of what he knew to be true of communism, he believed he was "leaving the winning side for the losing side" but that was "better to die on the losing side than to live under communism."

Of course we know that Chambers' fear proved to be untrue. That communism, as Ronald Reagan predicted, was destined for the "ash heap of history." That the gulags of that era, depicted before us tonight, were destined to be relics of the past.

Ronald Reagan modeled how to confront repressive regimes like the Soviet Union. He spoke truth to power. He boldly pressed the Soviets to respect the fundamental human rights of their own people. He raised the cases of dissidents by name.

He did this because of a fundamental belief that the US. constitution was a "covenant we have made not only with ourselves, but with all of mankind"

Reagan once said, "Coersion, after all, merely captures man. Freedom captivates him."

Indeed freedom captivates the human spirit and ultimately triumphs over tyranny whatever form it takes.

RECOGNIZING WINIFRED "WINN"  
BUNDY

**HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Winifred "Winn" Bundy, who has been named a 2009 Arizona Culturekeeper for her commitment and dedication to upholding the traditions, rituals and culture of my State.

For thirty-five years, Winn has operated the Singing Wind Bookshop near Benson, Arizona. Time magazine called Singing Wind "one of the warmest bookshops on Earth" and a national travel writer said it was "the most unique book-buying experience of my life."

Winn did not start out planning to run a book store. In 1956, she earned a degree in history and English from the University of Arizona. That year she and her husband bought the Singing Wind, a working cattle ranch.

Winn's love of literature led her to start selling books from the living room of her ranch home. Winn soon developed a reputation for featuring a rich selection of regional authors and topics that draw readers from around the world. Since then, Winn's ranch house has become a must-visit destination for lovers of Southwestern literature who come from far and wide by car and tour bus. Winn now has 150,000 titles in stock on everything from Indian rock art to ghost towns to the Jewish Western experience.

Since 1974, Winn has helped hundreds of Southwestern writers get their start. She specializes in small press books that do not appear in big chain stores and connects authors with publishers to get their works in print.

Winn also cultivates the love of literature and the humanities through the many community activities she sponsors. From its inception, Singing Wind has offered a bookmobile, school programs, book discussions, author readings and writers' festivals.

Earlier this year, Winn received the Juliana Yoder Friend of the Humanities Award from the Arizona Humanities Council. On December 20, 2009 she will be named an Arizona Culturekeeper, an award presented by the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, in conjunction with the Sharlot Hall Museum, the Arizona Historical Society and Marshall Trimble, Arizona's official state historian.

I am proud of the work that Winn has done to preserve Arizona's culture and to bring literature to a wide audience. She is truly a deserving recipient of the Culturekeeper Award and I join with the award committee in commending her for all that she has done for the people of Arizona and for readers across the country and around the world.

VFW POST 2055 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2055 in Centralia, Illinois, as they celebrate their 75th anniversary on December 18.

Post 2055 began in a renovated church in 1934 and was followed a year later by the chartering of the local VFW Ladies Auxiliary. The post has grown from its original membership of 56 to a high of more than 600 members.

The men and women of the Centralia VFW post have continued to serve their community and our nation long after their terms of active duty military service have ended. Post 2055 members assemble and send care packages to service men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Members of VFW Post 2055 are dedicated to serving their community. They regularly volunteer at the local Veterans Administration hospital, teach firearms safety courses and participate in cancer research fundraisers.

I would like to thank the men and women of VFW Post 2055 in Centralia, Illinois, for their service to our nation, their continued support of America's soldiers and their dedication to their community.

TO COMMEMORATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS OF NUMONYX

**HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, tomorrow in my district—in Folsom, California—Numonyx will establish its North American headquarters. Numonyx is a leading semiconductor technology firm that specializes in memory products.

Approximately 450 members of the Numonyx global workforce will be located in nearly 100,000 square feet of building space on its new campus. The campus will house product research and development, business management, testing labs, validation labs, sales, marketing, and more.

Folsom was chosen as the new home for Numonyx due to its business-friendly environment, highly skilled and educated workforce as well as being a family-oriented community. Numonyx will play an important role in the ongoing growth of the workforce, economy and technical skill within the greater Sacramento region.

Beyond the obvious business, employment, and economic benefits, Numonyx's impact reaches the community at large with "Numonyx in Your Neighborhood" campaigns. These campaigns assist in meeting the needs of individuals and charitable organizations within the Sacramento region.

I am pleased that this leading-edge and high impact company has chosen California's 3rd district as its home.

THE TALKING WATER GARDENS PROJECT IN OREGON IS AN EXCELLENT USE OF RECOVERY ACT FUNDS

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 16, 2009*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to an example of Recovery

Act funds that have been invested wisely. The "Talking Water Gardens" is a high-priority wastewater treatment project in Albany and Millersburg, Oregon that received Recovery Act funds from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund. Those funds will be used to construct 39 acres of treatment wetlands and reuse the treated water to improve riparian habitat. Unfortunately, a report by two members of the Senate entitled, "Stimulus Checkup: A closer look at 100 projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act," inaccurately and unfairly criticized this project. Had the two Senators who authored the report called these two Oregon cities to inquire about the project they would have learned that the Talking Water Gardens is a shining example of how Recovery Act funds can be used to improve our aging infrastructure, mitigate environmental damage, and create good-paying jobs. The project also illustrates how a successful public-private partnership can work. I respectfully submit this letter from the City of Albany, which further explains the inaccuracies in the "Stimulus Checkup" report on this important project.

CITY OF ALBANY,

*Albany, OR, December 14, 2009.*

Hon. PETER DeFAZIO,

*Rayburn House Office Building,*

*Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN DeFAZIO: On December 10, 2009, we learned that Senator John McCain and Senator Tom Coburn named "Talking Water Gardens," our wastewater treatment and water reuse project, in a report that questions the validity of 100 projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This project is an important, necessary, and high-priority wastewater treatment project for the State of Oregon that received funding through the State Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund program. This project provides sustainable benefits for the community, the economy, and the environment. We offer this letter in rebuttal to the "Stimulus Checkup" report dated December 2009.

No one from Senator McCain or Senator Coburn's offices have ever contacted the City of Albany or the City of Millersburg regarding the project. The information sources referenced in the report were never verified with us for accuracy. It appears that our project was singled out simply because of the whimsical name, "Talking Water Gardens." The project will construct roughly 39 acres of treatment wetlands and reuse the water to improve the riparian habitat on land that is the blighted site of two defunct lumber mills adjacent to the old oxbow of the Willamette River. This land has significant elevation differences, so the treated wastewater from the Albany-Millersburg Water Reclamation Facility and the ATI Wah Chang treatment facility will enter the project at elevations above the wetlands, creating several waterfalls that will aerate the water. Waterfalls are often referred to as "talking waters" and the name was chosen with children and the Native American Kalapuya/Willamette River heritage in mind.

The conclusions of the McCain-Coburn report are inaccurate and misleading:

(1) The report states that a non-competitive contract was issued for the construction. This is false. In accordance with the Oregon Revised Statutes, the cities employed a construction manager/general contractor (CM/GC) procurement method that is allowed and, in fact, encouraged by the State to lower public project costs. The process followed a Request for Proposal and interview process that included evaluation of both cost