

these items out of his own pocket without any hesitation. Once the issue of her cards were resolved, Corporal Karr drove the victim to her destination and then, finally to her home.

Mr. Speaker, Corporal Karr went above and beyond the call of public service to assist a member of his community. I commend him on a job well done, and thank him for serving as an exemplary model of public service and safety. Each and every day law enforcement officers perform these selfless acts of kindness and generosity in their communities. I am proud to honor Corporal Karr and his commitment to the City of Pueblo and its people.

CONGRATULATING GERALDINE
JONES ON BECOMING PRESIDENT
OF CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF
PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Geraldine M. Jones, the seventh president of California University of Pennsylvania. This past April, the board of governors for Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education concluded a year-long, nationwide search for the university's top position by unanimously selecting Mrs. Jones, who had been serving as the university's interim president.

President Jones is no stranger to the Vulcan community or to western Pennsylvania. She graduated in 1972 from then-named California State College with a bachelor of education degree, and later earned her master's degree in education at California in 1980. She was a school teacher to second-grade students in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and later returned to her alma mater to serve as a program director for Upward Bound and chair the Department of Academic Development Services. She went on to serve as the associate dean of the College of Education and Human Services for two years before taking on the role of college dean from 2000–2008. In July of 2008, she was selected as provost and vice president for academic affairs, which she held until she was appointed as acting, and then interim, university president.

Somehow, she still finds time to pay it forward and be an active member of her community. She serves as a board member on local and regional community organizations, such as the Washington County Community Foundation and the Washington County Chamber of Commerce. She has been a lifelong member of Mt. Zion AME Church in Brownsville, PA.

California University will hold a formal installation ceremony for President Jones on October 14, 2016. President Jones has spent her whole life serving the educational community and the people of western Pennsylvania, and has been a living embodiment of the University's core values: integrity, civility, and responsibility. California University of Pennsylvania is fortunate to have her, and I am honored to be able to congratulate her on this momentous achievement.

IN TRIBUTE TO JOAN LIND VAN
BLOM

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, in every sport, in every art, in every field of human endeavor, there are figures that impact history so deeply that the future is reshaped forever.

They are icons, pioneers, and trailblazers.

Joan Lind Van Blom belongs among this pantheon.

A graduate of Wilson High School and California State Long Beach, Joan is widely considered the greatest American female athlete to have ever competed in the sport of rowing.

Joan was a trailblazer, paving the way for women in the U.S. to compete on the international rowing stage.

During her rowing career, she was the top single sculler in America for nearly a decade and won 14 national titles.

In 1976, she won a silver medal in the XXI Summer Games in Montreal, Canada, becoming the first U.S. woman to win an Olympic medal in rowing. Four years later, again a member of the U.S. Olympic team, she was the favorite to win the gold in Moscow, but the U.S. delegation boycotted the Moscow Games. In the XXIII Summer Games in Los Angeles in 1984 she returned to the medal stand earning a silver medal.

The same year she married coach, former Olympian, and National Rowing Hall of Famer John Van Blom, and for the last three decades the pair have enjoyed the title of the First Couple of Rowing.

She went on to be inducted in the Wilson High, Cal State Long Beach, Century Club, and National Rowing halls of fame. Joan still holds 11 indoor rowing world records.

Joan also served the Long Beach Unified School District for over three decades, 25 years of that as a teacher and then another decade as the district's first physical education curriculum leader. She was instrumental in winning a million-dollar grant to put rowing machines in each of LBUSD's nine high schools.

In 2014 she was given the prestigious Ernestine Bayer Award for her deep contributions to the entire sport of rowing.

One year ago she passed away in her Long Beach home at the age of 62.

Her smile and joy of life served as a beacon, drawing people from her past back to her, and her husband John said the last two years while Joan battled brain cancer were filled with reconnections and reunions with people from throughout their life.

In addition to her husband John, Joan is also survived by son John Jr. and her sisters, Loretta Madsen and Carol Hansen.

IN HONOR OF E15 DAY

HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of E15 Day on September 16th, when gasoline retailers can once again sell E15 to

American consumers and to urge the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to remove regulatory barriers which prevent the sale of E-15 year round.

The EPA first created the 1-psi waiver of the Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) to increase the availability of 10 percent ethanol blends. As a result, nearly every gallon of gasoline sold in the United States contains ethanol. However, the EPA has been unwilling to provide a similar waiver for E-15 gasoline blends. This means E15 cannot be sold during the summer months, causing many retailers to not carry the higher blend and restricting access to renewable fuels.

In response to these burdensome restrictions, I introduced H.R. 1944, the Fuel Choice and Deregulation Act. This legislation would extend the RVP waiver to include gasoline blended with more than 10 percent ethanol, allowing gas stations to sell E15 year round.

I urge the EPA to repeal these archaic and meaningless regulations and increase access to E-15 gasoline.

I applaud Governor Branstad for recognizing E15 Day in Iowa, and I hope Congress continues to work on enacting policy which increases consumer access and savings at the pump.

I am proud of the vital role Iowa has in developing and providing America with cleaner energy sources. Drivers across the country are fueling their cars with Iowa grown ethanol. By allowing access to E15 year round, we can give consumers greater choice while helping our environment.

HAPPY DOUBLE TEN DAY

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, Monday, October 10 is Taiwan's National Day—also known as Double Ten Day. On the eve of this special occasion, I would like to offer my early wishes to the people and government of Taiwan.

Taiwan is a very close trade partner and security ally of the U.S. in the Asia-Pacific region. Formosa Plastics Corporation, a Taiwanese company invested in the congressional district I represent and create lots of job opportunities to my constituency. It sets a good example of Taiwan-U.S. economic relationship.

Last June, Eva Air, one of the biggest Taiwanese airline companies launched the direct flight route between Dallas, Texas and Taipei, Taiwan. The direct flight further facilitates the passenger and cargo movement between the two nations.

I am glad to see closer trade ties between Taiwan and the U.S. and I realize that Taiwan should be included in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which works to secure the civil aviation throughout the world. The ICAO's 39th Triennial Assembly will be soon taking place shortly in Montreal, beginning on September 27. We hope that Taiwan will be invited to attend the Assembly as three years ago.

Again, I wish the people of Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day, and I look forward to working closely with Taiwanese people to further enhance our bilateral relations.

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF O'NEILL SEA ODYSSEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 20th anniversary of O'Neill Sea Odyssey, a remarkable science education organization based in Santa Cruz, California. It started as the brainchild of Jack O'Neill, the inventor of the modern wetsuit worn by surfers, divers, kayakers, and other water enthusiasts the world over. Now 93, Jack spent much of the last 60 years building the wetsuit company that bears his name into an internationally recognized brand of excellence.

Throughout that time, Jack retained and grew a deep commitment to protecting the oceans as well as an unbinding love for the Santa Cruz coast and the Monterey Bay that he has called home since 1959. In 1996, he founded O'Neill Sea Odyssey as a community based non-profit dedicated to educating school children about the ocean science and the ocean environment. The program is located in Santa Cruz Harbor and takes 4th, 5th, and 6th graders onto Monterey Bay on a specially equipped sail catamaran to teach the fundamentals of science and environmental stewardship.

Under the long term leadership of executive director Dan Haifley, the program has grown into an innovative education program that incorporates a curriculum in line with the latest Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. The program's instructors enjoy a three to one ratio with students. They teach mathematics using navigation techniques; marine ecology, including the kelp forest, marine mammals, and human impacts on Monterey Bay; and marine biology, focused on examining and learning about plankton as a basis for study of the marine food web. Lessons taught during the ocean-going field trip are supplemented with in-classroom curriculum that participating students can use. Over 90,000 students have experienced this remarkable program since its inception, and that number grows every year.

In June of 2016, O'Neill Sea Odyssey entered into a partnership with Public Consulting Group's education department to distribute the OSO curriculum nationally through Pepper, PCG's online curriculum development tool for teachers. The goal is for teachers and district administrators to use the OSO curriculum for their required continuing education units, helping teachers to reach their learning goals through marine science education.

In 2004, O'Neill Sea Odyssey earned the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award. Other awards and include: Senator BOXER's 2008 Environmental Champion award; the Adam Webster Memorial Fund received the Community Spinners award; and The Silicon Valley Business Journal's Community Impact Award, to name just a few.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I speak for the whole House in both congratulating and thanking Jack O'Neill, Dan Haifley, and the whole Sea Odyssey crew, from its board, boat pilot, and instructors to its interns and participating teachers. The world is a better place because of your efforts. Congratulations on 20 years of success. We look forward to many more.

HONORING THE 2016 NIPSCO LUMINARY AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise to commend the recipients of this year's NIPSCO Luminary Awards. The Luminary Awards were created to honor prominent individuals or organizations for their exemplary leadership. This year's honorees include Barb Young, Jim Staton, Thomas Keon, and the Shirley Heinze Land Trust. For their outstanding contributions to the community in Northwest Indiana and beyond, the honorees will be recognized at a ceremony on Thursday, September 22, 2016, at NiSource Corporate Headquarters in Merrillville, Indiana.

Barb Young, president and chief executive officer of the Porter County Community Foundation, is the recipient of this year's Community Leadership Award. Barb will be retiring from her position at the end of 2016 after serving the last twenty years as the foundation's president. During her tenure, Barb assisted with the issuing of more than \$18 million in grants to non-profit organizations and scholarships for county residents. She was also heavily involved in the establishment of Empower Porter County, an organization created with the mission of fighting substance abuse. In addition, Barb has been instrumental in the development of a ten-year plan to end homelessness in Porter County. Barb Young is a leader in every sense of the word, and she is most worthy of this prestigious honor.

Jim Staton, Regional Director for the Indiana Economic Development Commission (IEDC), is the recipient of the Economic Development Award. Jim has been a trailblazer for economic development in Northwest Indiana since the early 1990's. Through his position with the IEDC, Jim is committed to bringing jobs and investment to Northwest Indiana through projects and organizations such as BP's \$4 billion plus expansion, Hoist Lift Trucks in East Chicago, Pratt Industries in Valparaiso, Alcoa in La Porte, Modern Forge in Merrillville, Green Sense Farms in Portage, and many, many more. This year, Jim was named one of America's top 50 economic developers by Consultant Connect. For his outstanding contributions to the growth and development of Northwest Indiana and beyond, Jim Staton is worthy of the highest praise.

Chancellor Thomas Keon, of Purdue University Northwest, is the recipient of the 2016 Educator Award. Under his leadership and direction, Chancellor Keon works with the University to foster collaboration between business and education through innovation. Some examples of this partnership include the founding and creating of the Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation, the Energy Center, the Center for Business and Economic Development, and the Commercialization and Manufacturing Excellence Center. For his exceptional dedication to empowering individuals through education, Chancellor Thomas Keon is an inspiration to his students and the community and is truly deserving of this outstanding accolade.

The Shirley Heinze Land Trust is the recipient of the Environmental Stewardship Award.

Since its founding in 1981, the Shirley Heinze Land Trust has worked to protect the habitats and ecosystems of Northwest Indiana and to educate residents about land conservation. Currently, it is managing more than 2,100 acres in Lake, Porter, LaPorte, and Saint Joseph counties. The organization works with a vast group of volunteers, professionals, and businesses to maintain and protect these grounds. Recently, the organization's first capital campaign raised \$4.6 million and will add 400 acres of preserved land, while restoring an additional 250 acres. For its truly important environmental work, the Shirley Heinze Land Trust is most deserved of this exceptional honor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other colleagues to join me in commending these remarkable leaders, innovators, and organizations. For their outstanding contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and their unwavering commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents, each recipient is worthy of the honors bestowed upon them.

HONORING DR. KENJI HAMADA

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the contributions to North Alabama made by Dr. Kenji Hamada of Arizona.

Dr. Hamada is a highly regarded optometrist who has dedicated his life to helping preserve and restore eyesight to countless individuals. His care and concern has also extended to those in other states.

Several years ago through his service with Optometry Cares, Dr. Hamada met Alabama State Representative Johnny Mack Morrow and his wife, Dr. Martha Morrow, a fellow optometrist, who introduced him to North Alabama. At this time, Dr. Hamada was looking to develop a program for visually impaired children. Little did he know that a program was already in the works between the Helen Keller Birthplace Foundation and Optometry Cares—The AOA Foundation. The first "Camp Courage: A Helen Keller Experience" for blind and severely visually impaired children was held in October 2013, and Dr. Hamada was immediately sold on the concept and became an advocate and funding supporter.

Since this initial meeting between the Morrrows and Dr. Hamada, he has dedicated a great deal of his time and resources to support programs to help visually challenged children in Alabama. Through his support and partnership with organizations like the American Optometric Association Foundation, many children have been assisted with or cured of their visual impairments. In addition to his support of optometry care, he has also financially supported other groups in Alabama such as the University of North Alabama Summer Theatre and the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.

I would like to commend Dr. Hamada for his service and dedication to the people of North Alabama. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting and proper that Dr. Kenji Hamada be an Honorary Ambassador for North Alabama for all his contributions and service to the region.