

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.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAZY CENTRAL RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 100th anniversary of the Chazy Central Rural School District in Chazy, New York. The Chazy Central Rural School District was the first centralized rural school district in the United States. Since its founding in 1916, through the consolidation of eleven rural schools, Chazy Central has given children in the community the educational advantages they would receive living in a large city.

The new school opened its doors on November 14, 1916, and was soon recognized throughout the world as an extraordinary school for a town of 800 residents. The building itself stood five stories tall and supported a bell tower that was seventy-one feet higher than the fifth floor roof. The school consisted of forty-four rooms, and boasted an English room modeled in the Tudor style, an auditorium capable of seating 1100 people, and two gymnasiums and swimming pools. There was also a fully equipped nursing office and a dentist on staff to ensure that the students had access to the best healthcare.

At the time of its founding, Chazy Central had special departments in agriculture, industrial arts, household arts, library, music, and physical education. The student body consisted of eight grades and a four year high school program.

Today, the Chazy Central Rural School District consists of an elementary school and a junior-senior high school, and the school district remains committed to providing students with an excellent education and the resources they need to become successful adults. Beginning in elementary school, students have access to computer labs and music and art classes, and as they grow, are afforded opportunities like travelling to Model United Nations Conferences and participating in different sports programs.

As the first rural school district in the United States, Chazy Central School District has successfully educated students for 100 years. Congratulations to the Chazy Central Rural School District. I want to wish its teachers, administrators, students, and alumni all the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, on September 12, 2016, I missed the two roll call votes of the day. Had I been present I would have voted:

AYE—Roll Call No. 496—H. Res. 847, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives about a national strategy for the Internet of Things to promote economic growth and consumer empowerment.

AYE—Roll Call No. 497—H. Res. 835, Expressing the sense of the House of Rep-

resentatives that the United States should adopt a national policy for technology to promote consumers' access to financial tools and online commerce to promote economic growth and consumer empowerment.

KENNETH RAY HOUSTON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Pro Football Hall of Famer, Kenny Houston, and pay tribute to his contributions to his alma mater, Prairie View A&M University. Kenny is one of the best football players to ever play the game; he is an outstanding member of our community, on and off the field.

Kenny was born and raised in Lufkin, Texas and attended Dunbar High School where he started his long career in one of Texas' favorite past times, football. After graduating from high school in 1962, he chose to play football for Prairie View A&M University. During his time at Prairie View, he was a standout All-American in the Southwestern Athletic Conference, and the Panthers won the 1963–1964 Black College National Championship Football title.

The Houston Oilers made Kenny their 9th round pick in the 1967 draft, once again keeping him close to Texas. He played six seasons with the Houston Oilers, four under head coach Wally Lemm. Houston fans were upset when the Oilers traded Kenny in 1973 to the Washington Redskins. He then went on to play eight seasons in the prime of his career until he retired in 1980. He played a total of 14 seasons and 196 games in the National Football League. In recognition of his tremendous talent, he played in ten pro bowls and was named to the NFL's 1970s All-Decade Team, the NFL's All-Time 75th Anniversary Team and in 1999, Sporting News named him one of the 100 greatest players in NFL history. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1986.

Despite his big league career and national stardom, Kenny has never lost the small town values that helped shape him. After his professional football career, he followed his passion to teach and coach and remains a strong advocate for students. He is a dedicated family man, having been married to his wife Gustie for 49 years, and he is also the proud father of two grown children.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I commend this remarkable leader for giving back to our community, being a role model for our youth, and helping the next generation of athletes achieve their dream of attending college and playing football at the collegiate level.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING GEN. NORTON A. SCHWARTZ ON RECEIVING THE WILLIAM J. DONOVAN AWARD

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Gen. Norton A. Schwartz on receiving the William J. Donovan Award from the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) Society. This special honor is one shared with a select group of great men and women who have rendered distinguished service to the United States. Gen. Schwartz has earned this award through his unflagging service to the United States and the United States Air Force.

The William J. Donovan Award, administered by the OSS Society, recognizes men and women who have exemplified the distinguishing features which characterized General Donovan's life of service to the United States of America. With this achievement, Gen. Schwartz joins Presidents Eisenhower, Reagan, and George H.W. Bush, Prime Minister Thatcher, Adm. McRaven, and several other great men and women who have done a great service to our nation.

Gen. Schwartz's hard work, perseverance, and tireless service to the United States are exemplified in his receipt of this honor. His thirty-nine years with the Air Force, the last four of which as Chief of Staff of the Air Force, were marked by excellence. It is officers like Gen. Schwartz who remind us why we have the greatest military in the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to highlight the importance of this award and what it represents for Gen. Schwartz and our nation. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Gen. Schwartz on receiving the William J. Donovan Award. I thank him for his service and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO REX PHARMACY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rex Pharmacy of Atlantic, Iowa for its recognition as the National 2016 Pharmacy of the Year by McKesson Health Mart. Mark Walchirk, President of McKesson U.S. Pharmaceutical said, "Rex Pharmacy is dedicated to providing their customers with extraordinary service that improves patient care and demonstrates why community pharmacies continue to thrive."

Josh Borer, owner of Rex Pharmacy, said his approach is to be "proactive and helping improve patient outcomes." Rex Pharmacy provides services such as "no wait refills" and a program, "Rex Packs," which can package patient prescriptions into pouches that give the date and time they need to be taken. Josh Borer believes "the bottom line is patient care and convenience," and trying to find ways to help his customers achieve their best health results.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Josh Borer and Rex Pharmacy for providing dedicated, committed, and crucial health care to the Atlantic,