



The John Paul Hammerschmidt Lecture Series

*The Honorable
John Paul
Hammerschmidt
Member of Congress
1967 - 1993*

Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt represented the Third District of Arkansas in the U.S. House of Representatives for 13 terms during the administrations of six presidents. By profession a lumberman, builder, and building supplies businessman for 20 years before seeking public office, he is a native of Harrison, where he continues to reside.

Since retiring from Congress, he has continued to be involved in many civic activities as a private citizen, chairing the Northwest Arkansas Council, the March of Dimes Arkansas Citizen of the Year Dinner, and the Governor's Citizens Council on Highways and Transportation. He served on the President's Task Force to Improve Health

Care for our Nation's Veterans, the Congressional Medal of Honor Commission, and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. Senior board chairman of First Federal Bank of Arkansas, he is a former board member of three other Arkansas-based corporations (Dillard's, Southwestern Energy, and American Freightways).

During his years in Congress, John Paul Hammerschmidt became well known for his attention to individual constituent service and communication; his high voting and attendance records at Congressional sessions during the business week, plus routine working weekends in Arkansas; and his legislative expertise in highway, airway, and water infrastructure and veteran's matters. Arkansas highways, airports, water supply and distribution systems, and veteran's hospitals - and their users - will continue to benefit from his diligent stewardship long into the future. Among his many accomplishments in public office, Congressman Hammerschmidt was the author and initiating sponsor of the Public Law preserving the Buffalo River as a free-flowing stream, adding it to the National Park System in 1972.

A combat pilot in World War II, Hammerschmidt flew 217 missions with the Third Combat Cargo Group in the China-Burma-India theatre. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, three Battle Stars, the China War Memorial Medal (by the Republic of China), and the Meritorious Service Award. He retired from the Air Force reserve as a major. He has been awarded highest honors by eight national veterans' service organizations.

The JPH Lecture Series

Funded by private gifts to the North Arkansas College Foundation, the John Paul Hammerschmidt Lecture Series sponsors national experts and people with extraordinary life experiences to speak about topics of interest to the people of northern Arkansas. Congressman Hammerschmidt has an office at Northark, and many of his photographs, awards, and other memorabilia are on display in the building that bears his name.

TV Anchor Neile Jones lectures June 6; Author of *Look Again... Because You Can*



From the outside looking in, Neile Jones might seem like just another television anchor sharing the news with viewers, but “look again” and you’ll meet a woman who has carried a secret...until now. *Look Again...Because You Can* is the true story of Neile Jones: television news anchor, public speaker, emcee, and survivor of domestic abuse.

Jones will speak Monday, June 6, at 7 p.m. in the John Paul Hammerschmidt Lecture Series at North Arkansas College. The JPH Lectures Series returns to the Conference Center of the John Paul Hammerschmidt Business and Conference Center on Northark’s South Campus for her presentation, which will be open to the public free of charge.

Co-anchor of KNWA News at 5, 6 and 10 p.m. in Fort Smith, Jones is very active in her community. She serves as the Media Chair for H.O.B.Y or Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership, and on the Media Committee for the Ozark Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. In addition, Neile is also a board member for Help Oncology Patients Excel, or H.O.P.E.

In 2005 Neile became an honorary board member for the Peace at Home Family Shelter after becoming more involved in the fight against domestic violence. She was the first reporter allowed to spend two nights in the Peace At Home Family Shelter with a camera. The experience gave her an even more intimate look at families dealing with domestic violence issues.

Neile, now Neile Jones-Batie and happily remarried, hopes to help break the cycle of abuse by inspiring others to never give up and to seek professional help when plagued by abuse of any form. She has a dual master’s degree in human resource development and management from Webster University. She works closely with the Ozark affiliate of the Susan G. Komen for The Cure Foundation. In 2005 she spearheaded “Team Neile” and help raise over \$10,000 to fight breast cancer. As part of her efforts, Neile got her first mammogram on the air to encourage other women to get mammograms, and was named a Yoplait Champion for her efforts in the fight against breast cancer.

This will be the 23rd presentation in the JPH Lecture Series. As a presenter in the series, Jones-Batie follows astronaut and cosmonaut Dr. Jerry Linenger, Sherpa mountain guide Jamling Tenzing Norgay, CIA officers Tony and Jonna Mendez, internationally syndicated columnist Gwynne Dyer, former North Vietnam prisoner of war Colonel Edward L. Hubbard, 1972 Olympic 800-meter-run champion Dave Wottle, FDNY Chief Richard “Pitch” Picciotto, Harrison native and music therapy specialist Dr. Frederick (Ted) Tims, Savant Syndrome expert Dr. Darold Treffert, retired Wal-Mart senior vice-chairman Don Soderquist, “Homeless to Harvard” heroine Liz Murray, Navy Commander (retired) Scott Waddle of the USS Greenville, *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* staff writer and Iraq war correspondent Amy Schlesing, animator/filmmaker Gary Goldman, former college and pro football great Keith Jackson, Clinton School of Public Service Dean James L. “Skip” Rutherford, *Horns, Hogs, & Nixon Coming: Texas vs. Arkansas in Dixie’s Last Stand* author Terry Frei, award-winning journalist Juan Williams of “Fox News Sunday,” pollster John Zogby, wilderness photographer Tim Ernst, Ozarks historian Dr. Brooks Blevins, and “Cowboy Ethics” founder James P. Owen.