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Former VP Joe Biden to speak at Stockton this fall

Event to honor former SJ congressman Bill Hughes

W.F. KEOUGH Managing Editor Jul 12, 2017



Vice President Joe Biden and President Barack Obama wave to the delegates at the conclusion of President Obama's speech at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., on Thursday, Sept. 6, 2012. (AP Photo/J. S. J. Scott Applewhite)

Gov. Christie talks to press following Stockton announcement



GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP — Former Vice President Joseph Biden will deliver the keynote speech when former South Jersey Congressman and Panama Ambassador William J. Hughes receives his lifetime achievement award from Stockton University this fall.

Hughes will receive the Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award at the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy on Nov. 9.

The Hughes Center “serves as a catalyst for research on public policy and economic issues facing southern New Jersey” and was named after Hughes, who established a record of protecting South Jersey’s environment.

Hughes, 84, represented South Jersey's 2nd Congressional District from 1975 to 1995. While in the House of Representatives, he passed a ban on ocean dumping and co-wrote the act that preserved the New Jersey Pinelands. He also helped obtain Wild and Scenic River status for the Manumuskin and Menantico rivers.

He also fought to keep the FAA Technical Center, now named after him, from relocating to Oklahoma.

He was appointed to serve as ambassador to Panama by then President Bill Clinton.

"It's tremendous news for Stockton and the Hughes Center that the vice president has agreed to help recognize his former colleague's achievements," Stockton President Harvey Kesselman said in a press release.

The event will take place 5:30 p.m. at the Stockton Seaview Hotel and Golf Club. The public is invited.

Sharon Schulman, executive director of the Hughes Center, said Hughes' service meets the high standards of the Lifetime Achievement Award. Past recipients include former New Jersey Govs. Brendan Byrne and Thomas Kean.

Biden served two terms as vice president to President Barack Obama. Before that, he represented Delaware as U.S. senator from 1973 to 2009.

To purchase tickets or for more information about the honors, visit the Hughes Center website: stockton.edu/hughescenter.

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