

who was committed to the freedom and equal rights of all Americans.

Frederick Douglass is often called the father of the civil rights movement. Born a slave in Maryland around 1818, he taught himself how to read and write at a young age despite the ban forbidding slaves to be literate. It was by reading newspapers and political writings that Douglass developed his ideology on the opposition of slavery.

Douglass attempted to escape from slavery twice before he succeeded on his third attempt with the help of his future wife, Anna Murray. After they married in 1838 and settled in New Bedford, Massachusetts, Douglass became a regular lecturer in opposition of slavery. He also spoke out in support of women's rights. With the help of his bestselling autobiographies, Frederick Douglass quickly became one of the most famous African Americans in the country.

During the Civil War, Douglass gave council to President Abraham Lincoln and President Andrew Johnson on the treatment of black soldiers and the importance of black suffrage. After the war, he was appointed to several political positions and, as Victoria Woodhull's running mate on the Equal Rights Party ticket in 1872, became the first African American nominated for the office of Vice President of the United States. Douglass continued to fight for the rights of African-Americans, women, and minority groups until his death in 1895.

To honor the life and accomplishments of this abolitionist, human rights and women's rights activist, orator, author, journalist, publisher, and social reformer, the United States Congress has approved a bill that would allow the District of Columbia to display his statue in our Capitol. The statue, designed and completed by architect Steven Weitzman, was commissioned by D.C. to present to the Capitol as a gift.

Frederick Douglass had said, "If there is no struggle, there is no progress." Despite his many struggles in the bonds of slavery, he rose to prominence through his determination and fervor. His vision for America was that all Americans would be equal and free of discrimination and he worked tirelessly to share this vision with others and to help it become a reality. The progress we have made as a nation would not have been possible without the leadership and influence of great leaders like Frederick Douglass.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District of Georgia, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to a strong leader and inspiring visionary, Frederick Douglass. It is my hope that all the visitors to our Capitol will see his statue and remember all the valuable contributions made to our nation by this great human rights advocate.

CELEBRATING THE NEW JERSEY
COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the forty years of service that the New Jersey Council for the Humanities has provided for my constituents in the

twelfth congressional district and for residents throughout New Jersey. It is only appropriate that I take time in advance of October, National Arts and Humanities Month, to honor the important work that the Council does to engage New Jerseyans in discussions of history, literature, and culture that help residents reflect on our past and think critically about our future.

When Congress and President Johnson created the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in 1965, they laid the groundwork for improving the study of the diverse heritage, traditions, and history of our nation. Indeed, the NEH has opened many doors for scholars and cultural institutions such as museums, libraries, and archives to further their research and share their findings. Since its founding, the NEH has helped Americans better understand America.

Yet, upon signing the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, President Johnson remarked wisely ". . . these actions, and others soon to follow, cannot alone achieve our goals. To produce true and lasting results, our States and municipalities, our schools and our great private foundations, must join forces with us." In 1972, Congress heeded President Johnson's insight, and amended the Arts and Humanities Act to establish state Councils that would facilitate public programming unique to each state.

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities began its efforts in 1972 to provide an endless stream of programming that invites New Jerseyans to consider the past and think creatively about our future. By providing financial support for conferences, documentaries, publications, lectures, and forums, the Council offers the opportunity to learn more about our shared history and the traditions of others without cost to New Jersey residents. The New Jersey Council for the Humanities enables New Jerseyans to become consumers of history, informed commentators on our present, and architects of our future.

As a former educator, I am grateful for the New Jersey Council for the Humanities' dedication to enhancing history education in our schools. In an age of narrowing school curriculum across our country, arts, foreign language, history and other subjects have been pushed aside by the intense focus on tests and tested subjects. To help keep history alive in our classrooms, the Council offers an annual seminar known as the "Teacher Institute" for New Jersey primary and secondary school teachers to refresh and deepen their knowledge on key moments and themes of our past. The Teacher Institute has helped over 3,700 educators gain exposure to rich new content and benefit their students by bringing their knowledge back to the classroom. Thanks to the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, we are graduating more well-rounded and historically aware students.

In addition to enhancing the appreciation of humanities in the classroom, the Council promotes lifelong learning in public and private life. The New Jersey Council for the Humanities' extensive programming not only benefits school teachers and their students, but also writers, publishers, hospitals, libraries, civics groups, and colleges and universities in every corner of New Jersey.

I have heard from many of my constituents who inform me that the Council makes our community a better place to live. One resident

in Monroe who works with senior citizens, for example, expressed to me that the state humanities councils advance "the mental and intellectual well-being of our seniors." A local middle school teacher shared with me that despite having served on the faculty of a major research university, her knowledge to share with students "was deepened" by the Council's Teacher Institute. Others have conveyed the depth and strength of the Council's Horizon Speaker's Bureau, which provides educational lectures on topics ranging from the legendary Jersey Devil to Shakespeare's Hamlet, and to the U.S. Constitution for thousands of New Jerseyans every year. Simply put by a constituent from Lawrence, "the state [C]ouncil is the neighborhood face of the humanities."

My own experiences with the New Jersey Council for the Humanities have paralleled the positive testimonials constituents have shared with me. Each year, I eagerly await the Council's announcement of the Book, Teacher of the Year, and Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities Awards. By honoring the recipients of these distinctions, the New Jersey Council recognizes exemplary work in the public humanities that has made a significant and lasting difference in the lives of New Jerseyans. Previous award winners include Dr. Kwame Anthony Appiah in 2011 for his book *The Honor Code: How Moral Revolutions Happen*, Sylvia Nasar in 1999 for *A Beautiful Mind*, and Neil Baldwin in 1996 for *Edison: Inventing the Century*. I am proud to display in my Congressional office a collection of many of the past New Jersey Council for the Humanities Award winners, including works by twelfth congressional district constituents such as historian James McPherson, novelist Joyce Carol Oates, and the late poet and translator Robert Fagles.

The New Jersey Council has been dedicated for forty years to promoting public knowledge and love of New Jersey's rich history and culture. I look forward to the years to come when the New Jersey Council for the Humanities will continue to build upon its activities of the past forty years and continue to support and foster the exchange of ideas that creates a thoughtful and engaged society.

HONORING CITY OF CORAL
SPRINGS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember September 11 alongside the City of Coral Springs, Florida as they host a memorial service to honor the victims of September 11th. Though eleven years have passed since this horrific attack on our nation, the attack is no less devastating today.

Each year since the attacks, dedicated members of the Coral Springs community have worked to plan memorial services to remember those lost and honor their memory. It is truly an honor to recognize the community and this important initiative on this day. Seeing communities across the country come together to remember the victims is one of the few bright developments to rise out of this great tragedy.

In collaboration with generous donors and volunteers, members of the Coral Springs community built the September 11th Memorial at the Coral Springs NW Regional Library in 2001. This memorial was dedicated to those lost in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and honors the residents who lost their immediate family members.

I applaud the efforts of the City of Coral Springs in commemorating the September 11th tragedy, and feel blessed to have been able to participate in the 5K Inaugural Walk to Remember in the City of Coral Springs this year. I thank the community for their dedication. My family and I join with the families in Coral Springs and throughout the country to remember those we lost on September 11, 2001.

IN HONOR OF MR. JOSEPH
HAMMELL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joseph Hammell, a retiring veteran who has served in three separate branches of the U.S. Military.

Mr. Hammell began his career with the United States Marine Corps in 1969 when he was 17 years old. After training, he was stationed at Camp Pendleton, California before being deployed to Okinawa, Japan, the Philippines, and Vietnam. After his service with the Marine Corps ended in 1974, Mr. Hammell joined the U.S. Army. During his time in the Army, Mr. Hammell was stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey where he worked as an instructor at the base's truck driving school. In 1977, he left the Army, but came back after 14 years to join the New Jersey Air National Guard. In the Air National Guard he was a member of the 170th Air Refueling Wing. Within the Wing he served as an equipment operator for the 170th Civil Engineering Squadron. After the 170th Air Refueling Wing disbanded, he was absorbed into the 108th Air Refueling Wing where he continued his service as an equipment operator. He served within the 108th Air Refueling Wing as a member of the 108th Civil Engineering Squadron until 2007 as a work controller. He then moved to the 108th Safety Office where he finished out his career as the 108th Ground Safety Manager.

In addition to his service, Mr. Hammell is an active member of the American Legion and the Marine Corps League where he is a tireless advocate for homeless veterans. Specifically, he has worked with and supported the Stand Down for Homeless Veterans for 16 years, a nonprofit organization that assists male veterans who are struggling due to mental and/or physical ailments, addictions, homelessness and/or other personal issues. It helps veterans regain their lives through a multi-tiered program, transitional living, and collaborative efforts.

Mr. Speaker, the extraordinary commitment of this New Jersey veteran should not go unrecognized. I join all of South Jersey in expressing our profound gratitude and thanks for Mr. Hammell as he retires from his more than 42 years of remarkable service to our country.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
ADMIRAL KIRKLAND DONALD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my friend and fellow co-chair of the bipartisan House Shipbuilding Caucus, Representative ROB WITTMAN of Virginia, to honor Admiral Kirkland Donald, U.S. Navy, as he prepares to retire upon completion of more than 37 years of faithful service to our Nation.

Admiral Donald has held the position of Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program (Naval Reactors), for the last eight years. During his illustrious career, he played a pivotal role in ensuring that nuclear-powered warships continued to meet our global commitments in defense of our Nation's security.

Throughout his many years of service, Admiral Donald distinguished himself at the tip of the Navy's spear. He served as the Commanding Officer of the nuclear-powered attack submarine, USS *Key West*, Commander of the elite Submarine Development Squadron Twelve, and Commander of NATO's Submarine Forces in Europe. Other highlights include tours at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, the Joint Staff, and as Commander of all US Submarine Forces.

As his time in Washington has shown, Admiral Donald's accomplishments do not end with his excellence as an undersea commander. Nuclear-powered warships have safely steamed over 150 million miles, and operated for more than 6,400 reactor years without a reactor accident. The last 20 million miles and 800 reactor-years have been achieved under Admiral Donald's superb leadership overseeing more than 100 operational nuclear reactors.

Admiral Donald has been particularly passionate about our submarine force and the investment in our current and future undersea programs. At a time when submarines are playing an increasingly vital role in our national security, Admiral Donald has been at the forefront of making the case for the need for robust construction of new *Virginia* class submarines—and has kept a steady hand on this crucial program at a time when a cooperative effort between the Navy and our shipbuilding reduced the cost and construction schedule of each new submarine. At a time when every corner of our government is challenged to find savings to ensure the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars, Admiral Donald has helped to guide this shining example of acquisition excellence.

Today, these incredible submarines are deployed worldwide, from the arctic to the equator, protecting Americans and our values. Their missions would not be possible without the ships' nuclear propulsion plants, impeccably designed and built by Admiral Donald and his team. I can speak from personal experience about the passion that Admiral Donald brings to this incredible responsibility.

When I first came to Congress in 2007 as a new member of the House Armed Services Committee, Admiral Donald and his team were among the first in my office in those early days to help educate me on the importance of our nuclear powered submarines and the value they bring to our nation. In particular, he

invited me to join an "Ice Expedition" on board the USS *Alexandria*—a two day voyage under the Arctic ice which was an opportunity to see firsthand the capability of these extraordinary vessels.

Further, Admiral Donald oversaw the final design and construction of the nuclear propulsion plant for the Nation's next-generation aircraft carrier class—the first new aircraft carrier design in over 40 years. Owing much to his leadership, the USS *Gerald R. Ford* propulsion plant will triple the electrical power available for transformational technology, reduce reactor compartment manning by nearly 50 percent, and increase ship operational availability by nearly 25 percent.

As Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, Admiral Donald's commitment to environmental stewardship and public health and safety helped foster the highest degree of public trust. He worked tirelessly to develop and implement a robust process of preparing the nation's spent naval nuclear fuel to be stored safely for centuries. His foresight and execution give the American people great confidence that the nuclear Navy will continue to be safe and environmentally responsible for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, Admiral Donald has been a thoughtful, forward-looking and hands-on leader for our nation's Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, and his stewardship of this highly effective, responsive and world-class organization has set an example for all our nation's civilian and military leaders. Along with Representative WITTMAN and my colleagues in the House of Representatives, I wish him "Fair Winds and Following Seas" as he completes his honorable and distinguished service in the U.S. Navy, and wish he and his wife Diane the best as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BLACK
SHIELD POLICE ASSOCIATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Black Shield Police Association, BSPA, an organization of dedicated minority police officers that are committed to serving our communities throughout the Greater Cleveland area.

The BSPA was originally founded in 1946 as the Shield Club, which was designed to assist black officers in maintaining and strengthening self-esteem within an atmosphere of indifference. The Shield Club was a social club for black officers who were, at the time, prohibited from joining organizations that were for white police officers. In 1969, the Shield Club was officially chartered as a non-profit organization and was the third oldest black police organization in the U.S. The Shield Club officially became the Black Shield Police Association in 1978. By 2000, the National Black Police Association expanded to an international organization with members in the United Kingdom, Canada and the Bahamas. The BSPA supports the philosophy of community policing, the calls for a true and cooperative partnership between the community and the police for safer communities.