

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.

The Black Shield Police Association's Annual Dinner and Dance Scholarship Awards Banquet is being held at Cleveland's Doubletree Hotel on October 13, 2012. The theme of this year's event is "Still moving FORWARD while celebrating 66 years of Unity." Special tributes will be made to retirees Lieutenant John Cole, Sergeant Hughleam Medlea, Sergeant Andre Douglas, Sergeant Randall Bergeon, Police Officer Eugene Preston, Police Officer Arthur Fantroy, Police Officer Sandra Robertson, Police Officer Kevin Martin and Police Officer Paul Jones.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Black Shield Police Association and its important role in the Greater Cleveland community.

RECOGNIZING THE SEATTLE CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Seattle, Washington chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP—Seattle) for being named the Chapter of the Year. The NAAAP—Seattle chapter bested twenty-seven others from across the United States and Canada to receive the honor.

This is the first time NAAAP—Seattle has been named Chapter of the Year. The organization stood out among the other chapters and associate chapters for its exceptional organizational involvement, membership development, and programs.

The NAAAP was established in 1979 and is now the largest and fastest growing Asian American professional non-profit organization in North America. Members are not required to be pan-Asian and come from all parts of the professional community.

The NAAAP works to empower leaders and connect professionals in the same region. In addition, members volunteer in the community. NAAAP—Seattle has hosted many charitable events, including a dragonboat racing fundraiser to benefit the Northwest Lions Foundation for Sight & Hearing, an event at Seattle Symphony to raise money for children's literacy programs, volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, a Walk for Rice fundraiser for the Asian Counseling & Referral Service, and many others. NAAAP—Seattle also hosts career fairs and professional development seminars throughout the Puget Sound.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the Seattle chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals. The organization's work to make meaningful contributions to government, education, business and society inspires leaders throughout the business community.

HONORING CHAIRMAN STANLEY CROOKS, SHAKOPEE MDEWAKANTON SIOUX COMMUNITY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the life of Chairman Stanley Crooks of the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community. With the passing of Chairman Crooks on Saturday, August 25, the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community, Minnesota and America lost a transformative and highly respected leader.

Chairman Crooks lived his life serving our nation, the residents of Minnesota and the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community. A proud veteran of the United States Navy, Chairman Crooks was first elected chairman of the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community in 1992. During his decades of leadership, he earned national renown for his eloquent and effective defense of tribal sovereignty.

Chairman Crooks never missed an opportunity to reach out to less fortunate communities or to speak out on their behalf. He touched lives in a way that provided hope, opportunity, and dignity to Native American families and communities in need. He was a visionary and a proud leader, and his mentorship inspired a generation that will continue his work for Indian country. Those who knew him well share a tremendous appreciation, respect and fondness for him. I am grateful that he was always ready to lend a hand and to share with me his experience and wisdom regarding tribal issues.

Mr. Speaker, the entire Congressional delegation from Minnesota extends our deepest sympathies to Chairman Crooks' family, including Cheryl, his wife of 48 years, as well as the entire Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community, and all who encountered his generosity and profound spirit. Please join us in honoring the life of this great leader.

HONORING CITY MANAGER MARIA DADIAN

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maria Dadian and her 18 years of public service to the people of Southern California.

Maria's devotion to public service is longstanding. In 1975, Maria began her career in municipal government working for the City of South El Monte. She later accepted the position of Parks and Recreation Director with the City of Hawaiian Gardens, and after four years was promoted to Assistant to the City Administrator. Following her 11 years of continuous service to Hawaiian Gardens, she was named interim Executive Director of the Coalition for Youth Development, the city's newly established non-profit organization. During her municipal career she has been contracted by both public entities and private businesses to organize and implement public safety and recreation programs.

Since joining the City of Artesia management team in 1994, Maria has worked tirelessly to ensure Artesia remains safe for its residents and economically vibrant for its business community. During her time as Assistant City Manager, Maria oversaw the City's Public Safety programs, Capital Projects, Community Development projects, and grant program. On top of that, Maria also steered Artesia's Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments. On November 20, 2000, she was appointed City Manager, and redoubled her efforts to serve the citizens and businesses of Artesia.

Over the years, Maria never stopped working to improve Artesia through redevelopment, encouraging private sector investment, and diversifying and expanding Artesia's economic base. As a result, Artesia flourished under Maria's tenure. This includes an historic district renovation and restoration project, as well as numerous projects devoted to public infrastructure and facilities, downtown revitalization, and developmental and housing assistance. In short, Artesia has seen a renaissance with Maria as City Manager.

I commend Maria Dadian for her many years of outstanding public service and dedication to the City of Artesia and the community. We need more public servants like Maria Dadian. Artesia would not be the community it is today without her.

ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago this October, Congress directed the President to appoint a Special Representative for Trade Negotiations to lead the Administration's efforts to expand global trade. As a result, for the past 50 years, the U.S. Trade Representative has led the Executive Branch in aggressively opening markets to American-made goods and services and promoting economic growth and job creation through trade. USTR's leadership has contributed in significant ways to the tremendous economic growth that the United States enjoyed over the past 50 years and firmly established our global economic leadership.

Across Administrations, USTR has maintained an admirable bipartisan and close working relationship with Congress. I've always said that the very best people become the U.S. Trade Representative. The 50-year history of USTR demonstrates that the men and women who have served as the U.S. Trade Representative are strategic thinkers and tough negotiators—the kind of intelligent, can-do people who have demonstrated their ability to advance our trade agenda. And the dedicated USTR employees who serve with them also exhibit that intellectual rigor and high caliber. I'm proud of all that they have accomplished in opening markets and enforcing our rights under our trade agreements.

USTR is uniquely nimble, lean, and effective. In a world that has changed dramatically over the past 50 years, USTR's small size,