

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 Mdewakanton Sioux Community. With the passing of Chairman Crooks on Saturday, August 25, the Shakopee Mdewakanton 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 Mdewakanton Sioux Community. A proud veteran of the United States Navy, Chairman Crooks was first elected chairman of the Shakopee Mdewakanton 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 Mdewakanton 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,