

Mrs. Waiters continues to work at community outreach health fairs, passing on information to senior citizens to enhance their health and well being. She loves giving and sharing with others. Her mission in life is to help others. She is a lady of fashion and participates in numerous fashion shows. She is a member of the acting guild where she has performed in a play called "The Family Feud."

She was married to the late Andrew J. Waiters. She has two children, Bernard and Janet. She has four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She is affectionately known as "Grandma" Waiters by many.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Jennette Eichelberger Waiters.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER SHANTI
SETHI, USN

HON. GENE TAYLOR

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Commander Shanti Sethi, United States Navy, who provided invaluable service to this House on national security issues for the last two years as a liaison officer assigned to the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs and who will soon be on the front lines of our Nation's defense as the commanding officer of a United States Navy destroyer.

Commander Sethi is a native of Reno, Nevada but was raised in Connecticut, New York, Oregon, and California. Her step-father is Hall of Fame drag racer Conrad "Connie" Kalitta and she spent many of her formative years at the track honing her mechanical skills. She graduated from Norwich University in 1993 with a degree in International Affairs and commissioned through the NROTC program. She holds a Masters Degree in International Policy and Practice from The George Washington University.

At sea, Commander Sethi served on USS Butte (AE 27) from March 1994 to June of 1996 as Communications Officer and Electrical Officer, making a Mediterranean and Arabian Gulf deployment in support of Operations Deny Flight, Sharp Guard, and Southern Watch. From August of 1996 through October of 1998, she served as the commissioning Navigator onboard USS Hopper (DDG 70). During this tour she supported a Panama Canal transit, accelerated test and trials, and a Middle East Force deployment in support of Operation Southern Watch commencing within one year of the ship's commissioning. She served as the Weapons Officer and Combat Systems Officer on USS Higgins (DDG 76) from March of 2001 until May of 2003. Onboard USS Higgins, she completed an Arabian Gulf deployment for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom including missile defense tracking and cruise missile operations. She subsequently participated in the first test of crew exchange on destroyers serving as Combat Systems officer on USS Benfold (DDG 65) until her transfer in November of 2003. Commander Sethi was selected for early sea command and assumed command of MHC crew BOLD in April 2006 while embarked in USS Blackhawk (MHC 58). During her command she was responsible for

training Greek naval officers in the operation of MHC vessels prior to foreign military exchange. She subsequently assumed command of MHC crew Detector embarked on USS Kingfisher (MHC 56) where her ship provided valuable services to pre-deployment workups for Navy carrier strike groups.

Her shore assignments include serving as the Executive Assistant to the Commandant of Midshipmen at the United States Naval Academy, Resource Officer for Shipboard Protection Systems and Shipboard Radar Systems on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations where she was instrumental in the rapid fielding of systems to protect warships from small boat and unconventional attacks, and her current assignment as the surface warfare liaison officer assigned to the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs.

In her current assignment Commander Sethi's responsibilities included primary liaison for surface combatant construction, surface ship combat and weapons systems, ballistic missile defense, and a myriad of other logistical and operational issues affecting the surface fleet. CDR Sethi provided invaluable support to me, the Committee on Armed Services, and the various Members and personal staff of the subcommittee on Seapower and Expeditionary Forces. She displayed a unique ability to explain complex military requirements against the backdrop of uncertain future threats. In this she served this committee well and reflected great credit upon herself and the United States Navy.

Madam Speaker, I have the great honor to inform the House that Commander Sethi has been selected to assume command of the Arleigh Burke class destroyer USS Decatur (DDG 73). When she does so, she will be only the 15th female officer to command a capital ship of the line. For myself and the other Members of the subcommittee we wish Commander Sethi fair winds, following seas, and Godspeed as she leads her crew in the protection of our nation.

68TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIVIL
AIR PATROL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 68th Anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP). For nearly seven decades CAP has provided for the safety and defense of our nation.

Established on December 1, 1941, CAP responsibilities were initially liaison flying and interdiction of infiltrators on the United States' East Coast and southern border during World War II. CAP's role eventually expanded in response to the German submarine threat, and it began to provide vital coastal surveillance and defense capabilities. The vigilance of CAP pilots successfully deterred enemy submarines from operating along American coasts with relative impunity.

Today, CAP operates as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation and is designated as an all-volunteer civilian auxiliary to the United States Air Force. Since WWII, CAP has adopted a mission dedicated to three core pursuits: Aerospace education, cadet programs and emergency services.

CAP's Aerospace Education Program annually touches more than 900 educators, more than 20,000 cadets and thousands of other youths in classrooms across America. The education program teaches children multidisciplinary aviation concepts that emphasize aviation's connection to history, math, science, government and economics.

CAP provides exceptional educational and growth opportunities for youth through its nearly 22,000 member Cadet Program, which annually provides access to top national summer flight academies and to 30 national programs emphasizing leadership and careers in aviation, as well as flight training in powered and glider aircraft.

CAP's emergency services are its most high profile function and its members are routinely called upon to aid communities in response to natural disasters across the nation. CAP volunteers rose to the occasion during one of our nation's most trying times and provided assistance to rescuers and state agencies immediately following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Over 100 lives are saved each year by CAP search and rescue missions.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Civil Air Patrol for its commitment to aerospace education, cadet programs and emergency services. I am greatly appreciative for their contribution to the safety of all Americans.

CONGRATULATING THE INKSTER
ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF THE
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY
INC. ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR
50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Inkster Alumnae Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. On December 19, 2009, the Inkster Chapter will gather to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority has a remarkable history of service since its creation in 1913. As the largest Greek letter organization for African American women in the country, the Deltas do remarkable work to serve their communities and their nation. Several of our current and former colleagues were proud Delta women. They brought their passion, their vision and their leadership to the House of Representatives and helped make this institution a far better place.

The Inkster Alumnae Chapter has a proud tradition of service and community involvement. They have worked to tutor students and provide them with scholarships, as well as implement innovative service learning programs for middle and high school girls. In addition to these efforts, the Inkster Deltas have held health fairs and greatly enhanced the civic participation of their community. These are all great accomplishments, but the Inkster Deltas have much more in store for the future as they seek to build on and expand their great works.

Once again, I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Inkster Alumnae Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority as they gather in celebration of 50 wonderful years of service and accomplishment.