

Manhattan's most celebrated and historic neighborhoods.

The Turtle Bay Association has worked tirelessly to improve and preserve the quality of life in its community. In 1957, community members created the Turtle Bay Association to give residents a platform for voicing concerns about the ways in which robust development affected their neighborhood. TBA members, which number nearly 2,000, have conserved their area's low-rise architectural cohesiveness and aesthetic beauty by successfully fighting for rezoning efforts. They have also undertaken numerous neighborhood beautification initiatives, such as the Turtle Bay Association Tree Program and the Beautification of Second Avenue campaign resulting in tree and flower planting and graffiti elimination. They have spearheaded major renovations of public spaces at Peter Detmold Park, MacArthur Playground, and Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza. In the Plaza, they created the Katharine Hepburn Garden, a green and tranquil urban oasis named after one of America's most celebrated actresses.

Turtle Bay Association members have preserved Turtle Bay's quality of life by serving as community watchdogs through vigorous involvement in the New York Police Department's 17th Precinct Community Council and volunteer efforts such as repainting street furniture and supporting the National Night Out Against Crime every year. They have worked closely with local elected officials and municipal agencies to secure optimum government service, and kept Association members informed through the publication of regular newsletters, the TBA website, and bulletin board displayed on Second Avenue. The Turtle Bay Association is known for hosting annually recurring events such as a holiday season toy drive and a "Love Thy Neighborhood" Valentine's Day Party.

Currently, the Turtle Bay Association is keeping an eye on the impact of the many homeless shelters that are in and around the Turtle Bay area; and TBA continues to donate magazine subscriptions to the 30th Street Men's Shelter. The Association is also working to create bike lanes and improve security in the area to ensure the safety of pedestrians and cyclists in the neighborhood.

The Turtle Bay neighborhood dates back to 1639, when the Dutch rulers of Manhattan Island granted two English settlers a land grant. Turtle Bay's natural beauty was noted by famous Americans from Horace Greeley to Edgar Allan Poe. Its iconic past is outlined in the 2008 book by former TBA board member, Pamela Hanlon, *Manhattan's Turtle Bay: Story of a Midtown Neighborhood*. Today, as the home to the United Nations, Turtle Bay is a fitting symbol of New York City's status as the capital of the world. Famous Turtle Bay residents, in addition to Katharine Hepburn, have included Walter Cronkite, Kurt Vonnegut, Dorothy Thompson, Tyrone Power, Maxwell Perkins, Mary Martin, Derek Jeter, and the brilliant Broadway composer Stephen Sondheim. Today, the Turtle Bay Association's legacy of effectiveness and voluntarism is proudly led by its Board of Directors: President William E. Curtis, Vice Presidents Millie Margiotta, Dolores Marsh, and Bruce Silberblatt, Secretary Pascale Longuet, and Treasurer Dick Irwin.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the passionate

and dedicated Turtle Bay Association members for their ongoing success in helping to make Turtle Bay a wonderful place to live, and in saluting them on the occasion of the Association's 55th anniversary.

HONORING COMMANDER ROBERT
HADLEY BROWN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service career of Commander Robert Hadley Brown. Commander Brown served his country in the United States Navy and will soon be celebrating his upcoming retirement as District Attorney for Mariposa County.

In December of 1960, Commander Brown entered the United States Navy through Officer Candidate's School and was commissioned into the U.S. Naval Reserve. Robert then married his college sweetheart, Jo Ann, in Memphis, Tennessee on June 4, 1961. As the couple continued their lives together they were blessed with two children, Robert Hadley Brown, Jr. and Elizabeth Ann Brown Rinella, along with four grandchildren—Benjamin, Hadley, Dylan, and Shauna.

In 1963, Commander Brown was commissioned into the United States Navy as a Lieutenant Junior grade. After being commissioned, Commander Brown served on three warships, as well as commanding a River Patrol Division in Vietnam, where his division earned a Presidential Unit Citation. Robert was also awarded a Bronze Star in recognition of his superior service. While on active duty, Commander Brown and his family lived in Hawaii, Germany, Rhode Island, and San Diego. After twenty years of active service in the United States Navy, Robert honorably retired as a Commander in 1980.

After ending his U.S. Naval career, Commander Brown continued his education at the University of Memphis. Robert then attended Boston University earning his Master's Degree in Education. He finished his collegiate career at Thomas Jefferson University in 1985, where he received his Juris Doctorate and graduated fourth in his class. Commander Brown's dedication to his studies was rewarded that same year, when he passed the state bar.

In his new career path as a lawyer, Commander Brown joined a law firm in San Diego. After two years, he knew he wanted to be a prosecutor and joined the San Diego City Attorney's Office. In 1989, Robert and Jo Ann bought a ranch in Mariposa County and moved from San Diego. Robert became a Deputy District Attorney in Merced County in June of 1989, and was later promoted to a Supervising Deputy District Attorney. Commander Brown retired from this position in November, 2002.

In that same year, he was elected as the Mariposa County District Attorney. He was then reelected in 2006 and 2010. During his ten years of service in this capacity, Commander Brown dedicated his time to protecting the citizens of Mariposa County.

On October 31, 2012, Commander Brown will retire as the Mariposa County District Attorney.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Commander Robert Hadley Brown for his out-

standing achievements in his career. He is a true public servant. I congratulate him on his retirement, and wish him the best of success in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF PASTOR CHARLES J. BRISCOE

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the achievements of Pastor Emeritus Charles J. Briscoe, a graduate of Western Bible College, a studious teacher of the Holy Bible, and a member of the Fifth District of Missouri, which I am deeply honored to represent. Pastor Briscoe is a native of Kansas City. He attended elementary school and graduated from the R.T. Coles Vocational High School with music as his major.

Pastor Briscoe was honored by the National Center for Fathering with the 2004 "City Father" award. Offered to recipients who demonstrate community and family leadership and influence, the award was a fitting testament to the father of nine children and a man who has served Kansas City in various capacities for over 50 years.

Rev. Briscoe, a native Kansas Citian, has been involved with community services most of his life, including Goodwill Industries, the Neighborhood Alliance, and the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). From 1970 to 1974, he worked as President and then Chairman on the Kansas City, Missouri School Board. "This was shortly after Martin Luther King was assassinated" he says of the experience, "and so there was a lot of turmoil here in Kansas City." He remembers letting students vent their frustrations, rather than "giving it back to them. It helped diffuse some of the volatile situations."

Retired since February, 2003, Rev. Briscoe was senior pastor of the historic Paseo Baptist Church for 35 years. He has made mission trips with the church all over the world, including Africa, Israel, and Jamaica. While on a work and witness trip in South Africa, he, his wife Georgia Mae, and six other Paseo Baptist members helped start up their sister church in Johannesburg and conducted Vacation Bible School for the youths.

Pastor Briscoe, although retired, remains a much respected and admired religious leader. He continues his involvement with Paseo Baptist Church and serves on the Board of Directors of Salvation Army and as Secretary for the Carver Foreign Missions Board. He has served as a Co-Chair of the Billy Graham Evangelical Association's Heart of America Campaign.

Rev. Briscoe has been committed, throughout his ministry with building strong families with the church and the community. One of his greatest joys is building bridges of understanding between various peoples and helping families become wholesome influences to this community. He is considered Kansas City's supreme pastor and for that and numerous other roles of service, he is now inducted into the Missouri Walk of Fame.