

HONORING ADMIRAL ROBERT J. PAPP, JR. FOR HIS SERVICE AS THE 24TH COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2014*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with Representatives HOWARD COBLE, FRANK LOBIONDO, and RICK LARSEN on behalf of the Congressional Coast Guard Caucus to recognize the dedication and unwavering leadership of Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr, who will complete his tour as the 24th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard on May 30, 2014. Serving our nation faithfully and selflessly for over 40 years, Admiral Papp has led the nearly 90,000 active duty, reserve, civilian and auxiliary members of the Coast Guard through an extraordinary period in the Coast Guard's history. Both as Commandant and Commander of the Coast Guard's Atlantic Area, Admiral Papp remained focused and resolute in directing the massive response and recovery operations for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. He served as the Operational Commander responsible for the Coast Guard response in the wake of the Haiti earthquake disaster, where Coast Guard cutters were the first U.S. assets on scene to provide humanitarian assistance to the devastated country.

Admiral Papp was instrumental in raising the national awareness of the continuously evolving challenges in the Arctic, including developing the Coast Guard's first Arctic Strategy and expanding Coast Guard operations and capabilities in the Region. He has also been integral to U.S. efforts to engage with other Arctic Nations to establish international governance protocols essential to protecting U.S. sovereignty, security and economic interests as access and activity in the Arctic continues to expand.

Through his leadership and staunch support of the Coast Guard men and women who place their lives on the line every day to serve the American people, he has remained steadfast in his commitment to recapitalize the Coast Guard's rapidly aging fleet of cutters, aircraft and small boats. Often overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles in an incredibly challenging fiscal environment, he has achieved extraordinary success in building out the fleet of National Security Cutters, Fast Response Cutters, Response Boats and Maritime Patrol Aircraft. Furthermore, he has laid the foundation for the acquisition of the Offshore Patrol Cutter, which will ensure the Coast Guard continues to remain "Semper Paratus" or Always Ready, to complete its maritime safety, security and stewardship missions in our ports and waterways as well as the over 4 millions square miles of U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone around the world.

Finally, for those of us who have had the privilege to know Admiral Papp personally, it does not take long to see and understand how passionate he is about the health and welfare of every member of the Coast Guard family—his "shipmates." His focus on professionalism and proficiency and his efforts to improve access to critical family support services such as childcare and family housing have been instrumental in improving the lives of all "Coasties."

His decision to protect the civilian workforce and not implement furloughs despite the devastating impacts of sequestration reflects his commitment to the concept that every member of the Coast Guard—active duty, reserve, civilian or auxiliary—is an indispensable partner in the success of the Service.

As the Co-Chairs of the Coast Guard Caucus, we are honored to join with our distinguished colleagues in recognizing the incredible service, dedication and leadership of Admiral Papp as the 24th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard. As we honor Admiral Papp, we also honor the service of the thousands of shipmates he has led as they rescue those in distress, protect our environment, secure our borders and keep dangerous drugs off our streets. To paraphrase Admiral Papp himself, "They are Coastguardsmen. This is their chosen profession. This is their way." We thank Admiral Papp, his wife Linda and his entire family for their service and sacrifice, and wish them all fair winds and following seas.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2014*

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, I was at home in Wisconsin taking care of my wife and our new baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following ways:

1) H.R. 3584—The Capital Access for Small Community Financial Institutions Act of 2013—Yea

2) H.R. 2672—CFPB Rural Designation Petition and Correction—Yea

3) H.R. 4386—Money Remittance Improvement Act of 2013—Yea

4) H.R. 3329—To enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes—Yea

5) H.R. 3468—The Credit Union Share Fund Insurance Parity Act—Yea

6) H.R. 2919—The Open Book on Equal Access to Justice Act—Yea

7) H.R. 4292—The Foreign Cultural Exchange Jurisdictional Immunity Clarification Act—Yea

### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF GEORGE NISHIO

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Dr. George Nishio, who passed away in November 2013 at the age of 97. George served the United States of America honorably during World War II and was a pillar in the community.

George was born in Fresno, California, to Japanese immigrant parents. He graduated from Fresno State College and went on to complete a Doctor of Optometry degree at the University of California, Berkeley. With his op-

tometry degree in hand, George returned to Fresno and began a private practice.

Following the attacks on Pearl Harbor, George was sent to a concentration camp in Jerome, Arkansas. Despite being driven from his home to a concentration camp, George volunteered for duty in the U.S. Army. Following basic training, George was selected for medical training. After being designated as an optometrist, George was assigned to a medical company and boarded a ship for the campaign in the European Theater.

The U.S. Army recognized George's expertise and leadership abilities and promoted him to Technical Sergeant. George would go on to serve in Europe as the allied forces fought their way into Germany. His unit received a meritorious unit citation and was designated a Distinguished U.S. Army Medical Regiment.

For his service, George received the World War II Medal, African-Middle Eastern Medal, European Campaign, Meritorious Unit Award, Army of Occupation Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

George married Michiko Saiki and returned to Fresno where he resumed his optometry practice. He and Michiko had six children in whom they instilled a strong sense of appreciation for nature and education. Eventually, George and his family moved to Chowchilla where he established a practice that still serves the community.

Believing that everyone should serve and be an active member in their community, George served as a member of the City Planning Commission, Chowchilla School Board, and was President of the Madera County Board of Education. He was also a longtime member and past president of the Chowchilla Rotary Club, and a Paul Harris Fellow.

In addition, George was a member of the American Optometric Association, serving as president of the Central California Chapter. He was named Optometrist of the Year by the Central California Optometry Association. He was a Life Member of Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 8986 and Nisei VFW Post 8985 in Sacramento.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of Dr. George Nishio who dedicated his life to serving his nation and community. His presence will be greatly missed, but his legacy will surely live on throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

### CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF CYPRESS WATERS

#### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2014*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the grand opening of the Cypress Waters commercial and residential planned community. Developed by Henry and Lucy Billingsley, Cypress Waters is a 1,000 acre development on the 362 acre North Lake. It is anchored by the City of Dallas, Texas, with parts also in the cities of Coppell and Irving. Cypress Waters is in close proximity to the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and sits in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

Once completed, the Neighborhoods of Cypress Waters will feature over 10,000 multi-