

the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, the Guam Department of Education, the University of Guam, the Guam Community College, home care services, private clinics, and long term care facilities. GNA membership also includes a number of retired nurses, nurses working in non-health care areas, and nurses residing outside of Guam.

A reorganization in 1968 led to GNA's entry as a constituent member of the American Nurses Association (ANA). Its first delegate, Mabelclare Norman Dean of the School of Nursing College of Guam, attended ANA's 1968 convention in Dallas, Texas on behalf of the association's officers and members. Sister M. LeClare served as the first president of the reorganized GNA. Luz Abdece was vice-president, Veronica Camacho served as secretary and Connie Tolentino was named as Treasurer. This year, GNA marks its thirty-third year of affiliation with the ANA.

A charter member of the American Pacific Nursing Leaders Council (APLNC), GNA holds the distinction of having two of its members, Sally Tsuda and Mary Sanchez, as APLNC founding members. Founded in June 1978 in Hawaii, APLNC is another organization with which GNA retains affiliations and, for the past 22 years, actively supported.

In its fifty years of existence, GNA has evolved from a small congregation of local nurses to a professional organization which has gained both regional and national recognition. The association has worked to benefit not only its members but all who work in the health care profession and the people they serve. GNA has played a large role in maintaining the quality of healthcare on Guam. The association continually strives towards a bright future for the nursing profession on Guam.

As we celebrate "Nurses Month," we must take a moment to reflect upon the services provided by the people dedicated to the nursing profession. While the demand for nursing services continually increase nationwide, we look upon organizations such as GNA to provide the necessary guidance and direction that will enable us to cope with the needs and, hopefully, prevent future problems on our island of Guam.

I congratulate the members, officers and board of directors of the Guam Nurses Association as they celebrate their golden anniversary. I would like to submit for the RECORD the names of the GNA's golden anniversary officers and board of directors.

Guam Nurses Association, 2001 Officers and Board of Directors: Rosita Yamashita, President; Dave Hendricks, Vice-President; Rosette Rama, Rec. Secretary; Rosalia Ligon, Treasurer/Director at Large; Tina Blas, Corr. Secretary; Glynis Almonte, Executive Director.

Directors at Large: Mary Ann Gozum, Andrea Fung, Lou Leon Guerrero, Jo Ann Toves. Standing Committee Chairpersons: Lori Duenas (ByLaws), Perla DeLuna (Finance), Echie Macalino (Membership), Tina Blas (Newsletter), Lou Leon Guerrero (Program), Tina Blas (Annual Nurses' Celebration), Dave Hendricks (Recognition and Awards), Cecelia Santos (CNet), Ruth Gurusamy (Commission on Nursing Leadership).

They did their duty, literally saved the world, and returned home to raise their own families during one of America's greatest eras of prosperity. Their legacy is the peace, security and opportunity of today's America. It is a gift so precious we can never repay them except by promising each other to never forget. God bless the men of the U.S.S. *Boise*, their families, and the United States of America.

HONORING THE MEN OF THE U.S.S. "BOISE"

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the brave men of the cruiser U.S.S. *Boise*, who played such an important role in helping secure freedom from oppression during the second World War. They will be gathering once again for their annual reunion in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on May 3, 4, and 5 of 2001. It has been 56 years since the guns fell silent across the vast stretches of the Pacific and European theaters of combat. The passing of time has thinned their ranks, but the memories of their deeds in fighting for the liberty we enjoy today will never fade.

Representative of the sacrifices of this Greatest Generation, is the late Robert Brooks of Weymouth, Massachusetts, whose wife, Eleanor, will attend this year's reunion. Robert was only 18 years old when he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1941. During the next four years, Bob and his shipmates would witness some of the most famous and horrific battles in history. The *Boise* was at Guadalcanal in 1942 and participated in the Battle of Cape Esperance, where she suffered damage from Japanese shells. She provided cover to Allied troops during the invasions of Sicily and the Italian mainland in 1943. The year 1944 found the *Boise* operating along the coast of New Guinea, and in October of 1944 she took part in the Battle of Surigao Strait, which was a part of the larger Battle of Leyte Gulf, among the greatest naval battles in history. The ship also had the honor of hosting General Douglas MacArthur for a tour of the Philippines and Borneo during June of 1945 before returning stateside in July of 1945.

After the war, Robert Brooks, like most of his shipmates, returned to the States where he lived, worked, and provided for his family on the South Shore of Boston. When our country needed them, they answered the call.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. STARITA, RECIPIENT OF THE UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF HUDSON COUNTY "LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT" AWARD

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nick Starita, who will receive the United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) "Lifetime Achievement" Award on Saturday, May 5, 2001. Mr. Starita will receive his award at the 9th Annual Gala Dinner Dance, which is sponsored by the UCP of Hudson County, New Jersey. The Gala is an annual event that recognizes the contributions of distinguished individuals and their efforts to assist fellow community members with cerebral palsy.

Mr. Starita's involvement with the UCP began in 1973, when he joined the UCP Board of Directors. In 1985, as a result of years of hard work and dedication, his peers on the UCP Board appointed him to the position of Executive Director. During his tenure as Executive Director, Mr. Starita has increased the number of UCP therapy facilities from one to three. Through his efforts, Mr. Starita has helped the UCP vastly increase the number of services and programs offered to children suffering from cerebral palsy.

His zeal and devotion to improving the lives of those who suffer from disabilities has earned Mr. Starita strong praise from a number of organizations and associations including the United Way of Hudson County, the A. Harry Moore School, and the Latin American Kiwanis Club of West New York. These honors, along with being a recipient of the UCP "Lifetime Achievement" Award speaks volumes about his strong character and dedication.

Today I ask that my colleagues join with me in recognizing Nick Starita for his many contributions to the community of Hudson County and to the State of New Jersey.