

Pearl Harbor veterans honored by Congress

By Shirlee Rose Iden
staff writer

On the closest day to Pearl Harbor Day possible, Rep. Sander Levin, D-Southfield, will commemorate the day the Japanese attacked the United States at Hawaii by honoring area residents who lived through it.

Levin will present Congressional Medals to survivors of the surprise attack on Dec. 7, 1941.

Approximately 22 Pearl Harbor survivors from the 17th Congressional District of Michigan will be the honorees at this special remembrance.

The event will take place at the Dunham-Ray Veterans of Foreign Wars Post on Nine Mile in Southfield according to Levin's spokesperson in Southfield.

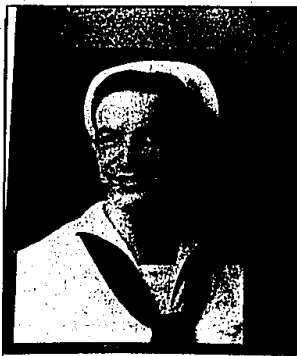
Since the representative is involved in meetings of the Ways and Means committee this week, the exact time and date is to be determined. The office will notify the Pearl Harbor veterans.

"I salute the brave survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor, 22 of whom reside in Michigan's 17th congressional district," Levin said. "Fifty years ago, these veterans

were serving their country when they survived one of the most devastating attacks this country has ever known.

"They were heroes then and they remain heroes now." Levin concluded that he looks forward to honoring them with a Congressional Medal "created to remember their service and their bravery during the attack on Pearl Harbor."

A number of area residents will return to Pearl Harbor for the ceremonies commemorating the attack of a half century ago.



Harold E. Shiffman
April 15, 1914 - Dec. 7, 1941

Born in Detroit, Michigan
Son of Morris and Ida Shiffman
Graduate of Central High School
Entered service June, 1940
Second Class Petty Officer in
U. S. Navy
Place of casualty - On U. S. S. Arizona,
Pearl Harbor
Awarded Purple Heart



Don Lark, Southfield resident, has never forgotten the sounds and sights of the attack on Pearl Harbor. One of the fortunate who survived the war, navy man Lark still takes time to meet with old shipmates at reunions. He is an active member of the Dunham Ray VFW Post and will be present when Rep. Sander Levin honors survivors of Pearl Harbor.



Detroit-born Harold E. Shiffman (above) died in the sinking of the U.S.S. Arizona on Dec. 7, 1941. A graduate of Central High School, he was attending college part time when he decided to join the Navy. The memorial (left) to the casualties of the Arizona includes the names of all who perished when she sank.

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