

structurally  
sound

# WEATHERING CONFLICT



**A NEW WAR MEMORIAL OPENED** this past fall at the aptly named Veterans Memorial Plaza at Anacortes High School's Seahawk Stadium in Anacortes, Wash.

The vision of a group of local retired U.S. military veterans—and one component of an overall renovation and expansion of the school—the memorial was designed by Brooks Middleton, Architect.

The installation is strong with imagery, from the buttress that anchors one end of the memorial and harkens back to the bunker style of architecture inherent to local Pacific Northwest coastal World War II forts, to the black granite “informational headstones” that have long signified placeholders in the landscape for those that have passed before. Additionally, the gabion stone wall represents many individuals unifying for a common cause. But most significantly, five steel plates, one for each branch of the military (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and National Guard), reach boldly into the sky, representing the rawness of conflict and the emotional hardship of our men and women in uniform. Made from weathering steel, the plates are 2 in. thick, 5 ft wide and 20 ft tall, and are highlighted by a series of 18 water jet-cut doves that convey a sense of freedom, hope and, above all, peace. ■