

After four years of service, James returned the family dairy business with his three brothers, John, Jess, and Larry. After some deliberation, James thought it would be good to move the family business to 13621 W. Henry Miller Road in Los Banos.

James was a member of Our Lady of Fatima Society and president for 8 years, Director of the Los Banos Dairyman's Association many years, driver for cancer patients for 10 years, and volunteered at New Bethany Residential & Skilled Facility for 20 years, just a few of his interests. He was a member at the San Luis Canal Company over 60 years, U.S. American Legion in Los Banos, charter member for National WWII Museum in memory of his brother, was honored in 2013 for living in Merced County for over 50 years, and 2017 Honor for Outstanding Volunteer in Merced County.

James is survived by his wife of 68 years, Dolores; their sons, James Areias, Jr. and wife Janice, Dennis Areias and wife Kirsten; and daughters, Cynthia Arambel and husband Daniel, and Julie Areias.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and honoring the life of Mr. James Alexander Areias. A proud veteran, dedicated dairy farmer and an outstanding role model in the community. I join his family, friends and community in honoring his great life and contributions.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 250.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF THE HONORABLE MAX RODRIGUEZ

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of my good friend Max Rodriguez. Supervisor Rodriguez is a longtime Madera County Supervisor for District 4 and a trusted leader in our community. Supervisor Rodriguez is retiring after serving on the Board of Supervisors for the past 15 years.

Supervisor Rodriguez was born and raised in Madera, California. He graduated from Madera High School in 1958 and went to Fresno City College. Shortly after, Supervisor Rodriguez took jobs working in the fields in order to provide for his family. He then began working for American Forest Products, known as North Fork Sawmill, for 25 years. During his time at the sawmill, Supervisor Rodriguez was the Financial Secretary and President of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union. In 1985 when the sawmill closed, Supervisor Rodriguez went back to school and became a Farmers Insurance agent until his retirement in 2008.

Supervisor Rodriguez was appointed to the Madera District Fair Board by Governor Jerry

Brown, appointed to the Madera County Mosquito Abatement Board from 1982 to 2001, and served as a Madera County Planning Commissioner. In 2003, Supervisor Rodriguez decided to run for Madera County Board of Supervisors and won his current seat in 2004. During his tenure on the board, he has prioritized his constituents and worked hard for the people of Madera County. He was past member and vice-president of the Pan-American club, former volunteer for American Heart Association, past member of New Hope Madera, NAACP Branch 1084, and Madera Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He is currently the Chairman of First Five Commission, Madera County Transportation Commission, Local Agency Formation Commission, Tesoro Viejo Conservancy and sits on the High-Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility task force.

During his free time, Supervisor Rodriguez is an active member of St. Joachim's Catholic Church and enjoys spending time with his wife Sarah and their family. He also loves to fish and camp and enjoys being in nature.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career of Supervisor Max Rodriguez. His love for public service and Madera County is evident throughout the course of his career. I join his family and friends in congratulating Supervisor Max Rodriguez on a well-deserved retirement and wish him continued health and happiness in this new phase of life.

#### HONORING JOSH NUSS AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

### HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, today I want to honor an Iowan who is fighting for change and assistance for those who have amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ALS or also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Executive Director of the Iowa ALS Society, Josh Nuss, has been a leading champion in our state for those diagnosed with this tragic, progressive and misunderstood disease. I am proud to honor Josh as our Iowan of the Week.

Earlier in December, I was proud to vote for a bill that ensure those who have ALS can receive social security benefits as soon as they receive their diagnosis. I'm glad to see that bill signed into law, which is going to offer financial assistance to those with this disease. But perhaps no one was more excited to see this legislation pass than Josh, who listened to the vote happen live as it passed the Senate and then the House. Josh said it was amazing to hear Senators and Representatives from across the country speak on behalf of those with ALS. He hopes too that this bill will open the door to other rare diseases and illnesses who need assistance too.

Josh's work with ALS began in 2004 when he first met Iowans with this rare but fatal disease. When in 2014, he had the opportunity to join the Iowa ALS Chapter, he jumped at it. The work he does is deeply meaningful because he is "helping the best people at the worst time of their lives", he said. As part of Executive Director for Iowa ALS, Josh's work include advocacy and supporting our community. Iowa ALS helps those with ALS learn

about their care options, invest in research, and hold community events like the annual "Walk for ALS" here in Des Moines and the national Ice Bucket Challenge that raises money—and awareness—for those with ALS. As part of Josh's work, he makes multiple trips from Iowa to Washington D.C. each year, meeting with our lawmakers to rally support for ALS research, funding, and of course this bill. Josh made this trip on behalf of Iowans with ALS who could not, bringing their stories to legislators across Iowa and Washington.

Josh's passion for Iowa is clear. He's served our communities in so many ways and we're lucky to have him during this extremely difficult time, as the pandemic has not only been frightening for those with longterm illnesses, like ALS, but the economic strain on our nonprofits across the country. Although the pandemic has changed the way Josh and the Iowa ALS provide help, they still make sure they are providing the same level of care for Iowans and their families. Josh credits his amazing co-workers, caring board members, and volunteers across the state who all work together and of course his wife, Kate, and their twin daughters Lydia and Taylor—who would like the record to show they are 12 and a half. "We are Iowa" he said, explaining that Iowans pitch in and help each other in times of need. It is Josh's love for his fellow Iowans, passion for change, and service to our community that I am proud to name him Iowan of the Week.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JULIO AUGUST SANDINO

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Julio August Sandino, who passed away on November 17, 2020. Julio was a longtime Merced County resident and United States Army veteran.

Julio was born on September 29, 1933 in Merced, California to Guido Sr. and Carola Sandino, both Italian immigrants. He was the youngest of three boys. Growing up on a farm, Julio understood the value of hard work and the art of growing the best onions and tomatoes. After being a four-year basketball varsity player for Merced High School, setting several school scoring records and receiving the best student award in woodshop, Julio joined the United States Army from 1953 to 1955 as a corporal stationed in Germany during the Cold War. During that time, he made the regimental basketball team.

Julio returned home after serving honorably in the Army and met the love of his life, Rita Albani, a daughter of Italian immigrants from Livingston, California. In 1956, they were married at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Merced and started a family of their own. Julio started his own business, Sandino's Custom Cabinet Shop, which he owned for 40 years until retirement, and Rita worked as an accountant and managed medical offices.

Julio started his love of woodwork on his family's farm and converted animal and storage sheds into his cabinet shop. He made beautiful pieces of cabinet work that was well-known in Merced County, Tahoe, San Francisco, and Yosemite. During his career, Julio

later became a general contractor and built many beautiful homes in Merced, even building his family's custom homes.

Family was Julio's biggest joy in life. Every Sunday he would spend time with his extended family over Italian dishes that featured his award-winning tomatoes, garlic, and onions, prepared by his wife and mother. He would go mushroom hunting with his brother Guido, fishing with his friends, loved teaching basketball to his children, spending time with his lodge brothers, and winning bocce tournaments.

Julio was preceded in death by parents, oldest brother August who was killed in combat during World War II, and his best friend and older brother, Guido Jr.

Julio is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Rita, daughter Julie Sandino and husband Rusty Areias; grandchildren Alexis and Austin; and son David Sandino and wife Georgina Valencia.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Julio August Sandino. His service in the Cold War, and love for his family and community will be remembered by those who had the pleasure of knowing him. I join his family and friends in honoring his great life.

#### 2020 ELECTION IRREGULARITIES

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as a former Election Commissioner, not as a Member of Congress, I am disgusted of the irregularities of the 2020 election. The first duty of a commissioner is fairness and honesty, not facilitating fraud as has sadly so clearly occurred in 2020.

The failure to verify signatures, the omission of witnesses, the interruption of counting before completion, the denial of poll watchers for access to fully observe, the extension of ballots received beyond Election Day, registration of illegal aliens, the mailing of mass ballots requested or not, with all irregularities being uncontroverted, this is an open invitation of fraud with financing of hundreds of millions of dollars by elitist tech billionaires to pay for "get out the vote" for Democrats to maintain tech monopolies.

I was grateful to join my colleagues from South Carolina, JEFF DUNCAN of Laurens, RALPH NORMAN of Rock Hill, TOM RICE of Myrtle Beach, and WILLIAM TIMMONS of Greenville, as "friends of the court" along with 121 additional Members of Congress to support the legal challenge to the election irregularities.

In addition, Attorney General Alan Wilson of South Carolina courageously joined the suit with 16 additional states, but unfortunately the Supreme Court declined to accept the challenge. An excellent review of the Attorney General's actions was published December 15, 2020, in *The Post and Courier* of Charleston.

#### WHY I JOINED THE LAWSUIT

A number of critics have attacked South Carolina's involvement in the election lawsuit that went to the U.S. Supreme Court. Now that the court has decided not to hear the suit, I would like to address the attacks,

but first I will explain my position with a simple analogy.

Consider an example where two football teams are playing for the national championship, and in the final seconds of the game one team scores the game-winning touchdown. As the winning team celebrates, a camera angle of the touchdown shows that the player who ran the ball into the end zone might have stepped out of bounds before crossing the goal line.

The coach of the presumptive losing team challenges the last play by asking the referee for a review. The reason for this challenge is because if it is determined that the player stepped out of bounds before scoring, then the rules were violated and the touchdown is not legitimate. The coach has a duty to exhaust all remedies available to him; otherwise, he is not doing his job.

Just like football, elections have rules that must be followed to the letter before a winner can be declared. In this particular case, the rules for federal elections are given to us in the U.S. Constitution, and I interpret those rules to say basically that laws dictating the time, location and manner of elections should be determined by state legislatures and no one else.

A number of state officials from other states—well-intentioned or not—unilaterally rewrote the laws through executive fiat, which is, arguably, a violation of the "electors clause" of the Constitution. For example, in one state the legislature passed a law that said ballots must be received postmarked by 8 p.m. on Election Day. The court in that state, which is a non-legislative body, extended the deadline by three days and waived the requirement for a postmark on the mail-in ballot.

I believe the Constitution only grants the state legislature with the legal authority to change the deadline and postmark requirements, not another state official. This raises the question, in this particular example, of whether the ballots received days after the election with no postmark are in fact legal votes and, if they are not legal votes, should we still count them? Other examples can be cited, but either way, this is analogous to a player allegedly stepping out of bounds.

Normally I would never intervene in another state's business, nor should I. However, presidential elections are national elections where oftentimes the outcome is determined by only a few states. If state officials were to unilaterally change their state law and those changes might have affected the outcome of the national election, then the voters of all the other states who voted for the other candidate would be disenfranchised.

There is an appellate process in football that allows a coach to challenge the results of a play when that coach believes the other team may have violated the rules. The referee reviews the play and either agrees with the challenge or disagrees with the challenge. The losing team had the opportunity through that process to exercise its right to challenge. This process is what legitimizes the final results of the game.

In this case, the Supreme Court was our referee, and there was an allegation that a constitutional violation had occurred. The process for choosing our president allows the states the opportunity to challenge a questionable result. The Supreme Court had the authority to decline to hear the lawsuit, but we had the right to present this important issue. Even though the Supreme Court rejected the lawsuit, moving forward we should not allow election officials to unilaterally change election laws. Such changes severely diminish the integrity of elections.

It's amazing that so many have criticized the states for daring to raise this question before the court on behalf of so many who

believe the rules have been violated. I wonder if this righteous indignation would be as loud if the roles were reversed. History suggests that it would not.

#### APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUALS TO THE COMMISSION ON THE STATE OF U.S. OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS

### HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to section 11 of the "Empowering Olympic, Paralympic, and Amateur Athletes Act of 2020" (P.L. 116-189, S. 2330), I appoint the following individuals to the Commission on the State of U.S. Olympics and Paralympics: Ms. Melissa Stockwell, Colorado Springs, CO; Mr. Rob Mullens, Eugene, OR; The Honorable Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., West Lafayette, IN; and, The Honorable Joseph E. Schmitz, Falls Church, VA.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF DR. JOSEPH I. CASTRO

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a great leader and friend, Dr. Joseph I. Castro, President of California State University, Fresno (Fresno State) for being appointed as the eighth chancellor to lead the California State University System.

Dr. Castro was born in the city of Hanford in the San Joaquin Valley of California. He is a grandson of immigrants and farmworkers from Mexico, son of a single mother and the first in his family to graduate from a four-year institution. He earned his bachelor's degree in Political Science and a master's in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Ph.D. in higher education policy and leadership from Stanford University.

For 23 years, Dr. Castro has worked in the University of California system. He was Vice Chancellor of Student Academic Affairs at University of California San Francisco. Castro led UCSF programs that specialized in academic and health care needs of its talented students. He was part of the founding staff at University of California, Merced and held key leadership positions at three other UC campuses including Berkeley, Davis and Santa Barbara.

Mr. Castro currently serves as the President of the California State University, Fresno since 2013. Under his leadership, the university has become a national leader in recruiting, supporting and graduating students from diverse backgrounds. The university has also received national recognition from various publications, such as the *Washington Monthly* and *U.S. News and World Report*.

Dr. Castro's leadership and hard work has been recognized by various organizations. He was named CSU President of the Year by the California State Student Association, City of Fresno District 4 Man of the Year and a recipient of the Ohtli award, the highest honor