

through the UC Davis Annex Human Resources Certification Program and shows tremendous commitment to the patients in her work. She goes above and beyond to help any patient in need, from helping the under-insured to secure new sources of funding for medications to assisting patients with mobility and transportation challenges and in navigating their insurance benefits. Amy also serves on the Northern California Multiple Sclerosis Society Board of Trustees and the Dinner of Champions Committee, which raises over half a million dollars each year for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. This year, Amy was chosen to represent Northern California as a Delegate to the 2022 National Multiple Sclerosis Society Annual Leadership Conference and continues to be an active volunteer at local MS events, such as Waves to Wine Bike MS and Climb MS. Amy has served as the corporate Team Captain for the MS Walks in Sacramento, Reno, and Folsom where she helped raise funds and foster morale.

Kathie Kalafatis is the Founder and CEO of Clean Air Solutions Inc., a company that designs and installs clean rooms for the fabrication and manufacturing of scientific and medical equipment. Kathie is one of a handful of women in this industry and has earned recognition from the Institute of Environmental Sciences and Technology "for her contribution to the evolution of modular cleanrooms." Kathie has lived in Fairfield for over 20 years where she and her husband raised two children. In addition to her successful company, she has written three children's books, the first of which is a tribute to her children. Her books offer a message of hope and perseverance, and she is often invited to do public readings for children throughout her community. Kathie is also an advocate for women's rights, often attending rallies and sharing her passion through her paintings which depict the strength of women in the face of oppression. Seeing the need for women to come together in support of one another, Kathie created the "OWLS" Group (Offering Women Love and Support), a monthly gathering of women sharing inspirational messages of support and comradery. Kathie's kindness, wisdom, and positivity make her an inspiration to others, and she has a talent for motivating others to join her in serving her community.

Carol Kalamaras spent her career of over 30 years as a librarian and classroom teacher. When she retired from teaching, she became active with the California Retired Teachers Association, serving for over 12 years on the board, and several as co-president. Through her advocacy with California RTA, she works on many issues but has a keen focus on Social Security reform. Her main target for legislative change is the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset which currently harm teachers and widows throughout California and other states. Carol frequently travels to Washington, DC, to meet with my colleagues and advocate on this issue. She is also passionate about equal pay for women, drawing attention to the many women who pause or delay their careers to care for their children and end up diminishing their retirement benefits. This has affected countless women who work in education and other industries, and Carol continues to fight for Social Security reform that would help fill that gap. Through her volunteer work, she

also manages the California Retired Teachers Association's scholarship programs providing funds to students in teaching credential programs. She also continues her work as a substitute teacher in the Fairfield-Suisun School District where she continues to have a positive impact on students' lives. Carol acts as a mentor to many and a friend to all and gives tirelessly to her community.

Christine Katzenmeyer is a tireless community servant who has exhibited great commitment and dedication to the Dixon Unified School District. Her continuous service has been unmatched and greatly appreciated by teachers and administrators alike. Over the years, Christine has served on numerous site councils and district-wide advisory committees where she works to ensure her community's schools are the best they can be. For 14 years, she has been a consistent participant in the district Destination Imagination program, working with individuals and groups on an annual basis to help students discover their potential. Christine has also worked diligently to support the Dixon High School Water Polo Team by organizing and hosting fundraisers for the team as well as annual scholarships given to Dixon High School students. Her current work as a Solano County COVID liaison with both Dixon and Vacaville schools helps ensure our students receive the best school experience possible during a difficult time. Her service to the Dixon community has had an impact on countless students and families.

I congratulate each of them and commend them for their work. I am inspired by them and firmly believe when women succeed, America succeeds!

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND IMPACT OF RICHARD CALMA

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the incredible life and legacy of Richard A. "Rich" Calma. Rich dedicated his life to serving the Plattsburgh community and honoring American history.

Rich Calma began working at the Advocacy and Resource Center in Plattsburgh, New York in October of 2000. Rich carried out the mission of the Advocacy and Resource Center by providing job coaching to people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. He dedicated his life to this incredible service agency and worked towards supporting all individuals to ensure that everyone was able to fully participate and be accepted in all aspects of life. Rich started his career at the Advocacy and Resource Center as an employment specialist with the Workforce Network, Supported Employment Program. He worked his way up from being a relief job coach to the position of a full time employment specialist. For over twenty-one years, Rich was a beloved employee of the Advocacy and Resource Center, while he dedicated his life to serving the Plattsburgh community.

In addition to working at the Advocacy and Resource Center, Rich prioritized celebrating, remembering, and honoring America's military history. Rich actively participated in the annual

Battle of Plattsburgh events to ensure the North Country's role in American history continued to be remembered. He also spent a lot of time volunteering at the Air Force Museum and Marine recruitment center.

Rich is a glowing example of the devotion to community service that defines the North Country. His legacy will live on in the hearts of everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, it is my honor to remember and celebrate the life of Rich Calma.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MRS. BARBARA ELLEN PALAZZOLO MARULLO

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Barbara Ellen Palazzolo Marullo.

Mrs. Marullo peacefully passed away October 3, 2022, surrounded by her loving family. She was born the third of four children on April 17, 1941, in Queens, New York to Emma and Joe Palazzolo. Four years later, her family moved back to her father's hometown of New Orleans where they remained the rest of their lives. Barbara was a devout Catholic and believed in the blessing of family. As a young girl she would often spend long moments before bed praying for every single family member before going to sleep. Her faith remained strong until her death and was a hallmark of her character and personality. But it wasn't just faith which defined Barbara, she was a talented singer. In her senior year at John McDonogh High School in the Mid-City neighborhood of New Orleans, Barbara wrote and performed the class song for the graduation ceremony. So talented was she, that upon graduation, Barbara was offered a music scholarship to Southeastern University in Hammond, Louisiana, but turned it down opting to work and start a family. Though that didn't quell her desire to continue singing. And anyone who knew Barbara, knew faith, family and music defined her, and through the years she juggled all of them.

She met her first husband, Jack, in high school, and a couple of years later they married and started a family. Together they had three children, Jay, Gina and Nicolle. During this time Barbara continued singing and working with local bands as the lead singer at local music venues and clubs throughout New Orleans.

As time progressed, thoughts and feelings changed and Barbara moved on from her first marriage, and eventually met and married her second husband A.P. Marullo who brought two children of his own from a previous marriage, Joey and Anna. With their blended family in place, Barbara and A.P. had two more children together, Jude and Anthony. Through her life Barbara remained committed to her family and God, but music was never far from her heart. She continued singing in and around New Orleans, cut a few records and even performed on live TV during the local segments of the Jerry Lewis MDA Labor Day Telethon. As time passed, Barbara moved away from performing for entertainment, and combined

her love of music, and her devotion to her faith, and began singing in church.

Barbara sang regularly at her parish church, St. Peter, in Covington, Louisiana, as a cantor and choir member. She also made friends with the choir directors at the Catholic churches in Gulf Breeze and Pensacola Beach, Florida, and sang at Mass with their respective choirs during her frequent visits to the beach. Barbara remained independent and active up until her time in the hospital before her passing and will be most remembered for her God-given natural beauty, lovely singing voice, and her passion and love she had for her family and God.

Barbara was preceded in death by her mother Emma Palazzolo (Campioni) and her father Joseph Palazzolo; her brother Jerome Palazzolo, and her sister Joyce Chiusano (Palazzolo), and is survived by her husband Anthony P. (AP) Marullo, Jr., her former husband Jack W. Gallé Sr.; her five children, Jack (Jay) W. Gallé, Jr., Gina Bergeron (Gallé), Nicole Polit (Gallé), Jude D. Marullo, and A.P. (Anthony) Marullo, III; and her two step-children Joey C. Marullo, and Anna M. Marullo. Barbara is also survived by four adult grandchildren, Brittany A. Polit, Gabrielle A. Bergeron, Edward C. Bergeron III, and Private Second-Class Timothy J. King; nine grandchildren, Elizabeth, Mia, Rocco, Eli, Enzo, Ily, Cohen, Gage, and Mila; and two step-grandchildren, Kai and Elise. Barbara is also survived by her sister, Cynthia Hern (Palazzolo). May the Lord cradle His child Barbara; may she rest in peace.

So many people's lives have been enriched because of the love and passion she expressed in touching them along the way. While the grieving process never truly ends, I pray that the day will come when her memory brings a smile to their face before it brings a tear to their eyes. There are no words to describe how much she was loved, and how greatly she will be missed.

RECOGNIZING THE
GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY
OF THE NEW MONROE COUNTY
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate today's groundbreaking of the new Monroe County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This center, which combines several existing emergency organizations in one 28,321-square-foot space, will greatly assist county officials in the Florida Keys to prepare for future natural disasters in our resilient community.

Monroe County's EOC previously occupied the top floor of the Marathon Government Center. In 2017, Hurricane Irma forced EOC staff to evacuate the center just one day before it made landfall 30 miles west of Marathon, due to its lack of protections for Category 3 and above hurricanes.

The new EOC's features include a 20-foot first floor elevation, Category-5 hurricane-hardened walls, self-sustaining drinking water for up to 72 hours, and emergency power and

communications systems. In addition, the location, at the west end of Marathon International Airport, is highly strategic. If Overseas Highway becomes unusable, the EOC will be able to quickly facilitate the dispersal of aid coming in through the airfield. This critical infrastructure will improve the county's emergency response capacity and ensures Monroe County will have the necessary tools to maintain resiliency and preparedness when natural disasters impact our coast. I am proud that the state and federal governments assisted the county in securing \$30.2 million of the necessary funds to commence the project.

South Florida's residents face extreme weather every year, and improving hurricane resiliency is paramount. This long-overdue facility—Monroe County's first dedicated emergency operations center—will act as the crucial hub for all future emergency responses. As a lifelong first responder who served as Fire Chief of the City of Miami Fire Department during Hurricane Andrew and Mayor of Miami-Dade County for nine years, I know firsthand how important a rapid and effective disaster response is. I applaud all the individuals and agencies who worked hard to make this center a reality, and I look forward to the speedy completion of the project.

HONORING THE 2022 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2022 Women of the Year. The honorees represent some of the most outstanding and dedicated women in California's 3rd Congressional District. Nominated by their peers, these women are recognized for the integral and crucial roles they play in improving the lives of everyone in their communities. This year marks the 102nd anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed and protected women's constitutional right to vote. In securing the right to vote, suffragists broke through a seemingly impenetrable barrier to women's full and equal citizenship in our country, signaling a new era of equality. Yet, even today, women still face significant barriers to their rights and liberties from pay discrimination to criminalizing women's reproductive rights. I take heart that each of this year's honorees will be a vital part of the work left to be done to realize women's full equality and rights.

The 2022 Women of the Year are:

Tracy Lahr is a dedicated and passionate teacher who has touched the lives of countless students. Several of her students took the time to write letters nominating her as a Woman of the Year, describing her as loving, thoughtful, kind, supportive, uplifting, encouraging, and so much more. Their stories describe a woman who goes above and beyond to engage each and every one of her students, providing a supportive presence in their life as well as an inspirational force pushing them to pursue their passions and excel in school and beyond. Tracy teaches Drama, Show Choir, and Leadership classes at Lower Lake High School where students say she never stops working hard on their behalf. She

encourages students to become involved in the performing arts and to grow their leadership skills. Her work makes the school a more vibrant place for every student and helps many discover new talents and interests. Tracy truly cares about the health and well-being of each of her students and makes an effort to connect with every one of them, offering support whenever it is needed. Educators play such a critical role in our communities and the lives of every young person. Tracy is an exceptional teacher who is a shining example of what it means to be a positive force in a student's life. While her school is surely sorry to see her retire from teaching, it is well-earned through her years of dedication to her students.

Jill LeVake Abruzzini is an agricultural consultant and youth advocate who is an integral member of her community. She is a third-generation member of California Women for Agriculture and has served as a representative for the involvement of young women in agriculture in a variety of capacities. After graduating college, Jill went on to become one of the youngest women Pest Control Advisers in the state. As not only the youngest but one of only a handful of women in this male-dominated profession, one of her greatest accomplishments in the role has been mentoring other young women. She was invited to share her experiences as a panelist for the Grow by FarmHer event at the World Ag Expo and served as a member of the Cal Poly Crop Science Advisory Board. Over the past two decades, she has served in a variety of leadership positions and was recently promoted to Western Marketing Manager with Corteva AgriScience, overseeing operations in nine western states. She has dedicated her entire adult life to helping farmers with their crop protection needs and can frequently be found walking orchards, advising growers on how to manage pests and bring in a healthy crop. In addition to her professional accomplishments and active community involvement, she has three children who share her passions and are active in sports, 4-H and FFA. Her strong commitment to youth in the Yuba-Sutter area is demonstrated by her active involvement and leadership in 4-H and FFA programs. She serves on the Yuba Sutter Junior Livestock Auction Committee and has been a Governor appointee to the Yuba-Sutter Fair Board for six years. Jill is an integral member of the Yuba-Sutter agricultural community and an inspirational mentor for young women in agriculture.

Emily Lo is a dedicated first responder who has spent 31 years as a firefighter, excelling in a career that has not always welcomed women. She immigrated to the United States with her family in 1981 and after attending Solano Community College Fire Academy, was hired by the City of Fairfield Fire Department. A year and a half later, she joined the Davis Fire Department, where she has served ever since. Since then, she has earned an Associate of Science in Fire Technology from American River College, and a Bachelor of Science in Fire Service Management from California State University, Sacramento. She was promoted to Fire Captain in 2002, and in February 2022, after 31 years in the fire service, she became the first female and Asian-American Battalion Chief in Davis Fire Department history. The dedication and strength needed to serve for 31 years as a firefighter is impressive for anyone, but even more so for