

organization. She served as Secretary of Lady Lions, President of the local Parent Teacher Association, Vice President of the local American Legion Post, and Den Mother of the Cub Scouts. Winifred is the first woman to have been nominated to run for mayor of Buttonwillow. While the race was unsuccessful, Winifred would go on to serve on the staff of several mayors.

Vince sadly passed away in October of 1991, following nearly 46 years of marriage. Winifred later remarried Cliff White, a longtime friend and the builder of her Buttonwillow home. As both were previously widowed, it marked a new beginning of their future journey together as a loving couple.

Winifred White is the proud mother of three, grandmother of seven, great-grandmother of eight, and great-great-grandmother of two. Through marriage and love, Winifred has herself become a beloved matriarch and a beloved member of our community. Kern County is blessed with Winifred and other women like her, who serve as a model for community involvement and the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 100th birthday of Mrs. Winifred White, an amazing woman who has grown with Kern and helped our community thrive.

HONORING ALICIA AGUIRRE

HON. KEVIN MULLIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2024

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Alicia Aguirre, Councilmember for the City of Redwood City, upon the conclusion of her 19 years of service to our community.

Alicia is the daughter of immigrant parents from Mexico, first generation to graduate from college, and proud mother of two young men with three grandchildren. She holds an M.A. from Eastern Michigan University and has done Doctoral studies in Social Anthropology at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City. She was a Fulbright Exchange Professor in Argentina.

A 36-year resident of Redwood City, Alicia arrived in 1988 concurrent with her employment as a Professor at C  nada College in the English as a Second Language (ESL) and Spanish Departments. She currently serves as the ESL Department's Coordinator. She was also a former Visiting Dean at the Sequoia Union High School District as Director of English Learners. Her passion for education is evident in her volunteer and community activities that have empowered others to achieve. She served for six years as a Trustee, with one year as President, of the Redwood City Elementary School Board before her appointment to the City Council. She served as a Trustee for Notre Dame De Namur University in Belmont, on the Mt. Carmel and Garfield Charter School Boards, and as Board Member for the Redwood City Library Foundation.

Alicia was appointed to the City Council of Redwood City in January 2005 and was elected in November 2005, and re-elected in 2007, and 2011, 2015, and 2020 for a total of 19 years, amongst the longest-tenured City Councilmembers in San Mateo County. She

has served as both Vice Mayor and then Mayor from 2011–2013 and is the first Latina Mayor in the history of Redwood City.

As an engaged community leader, Alicia has served on various local boards and committees in several capacities including Service League of San Mateo County, Redwood City International, Philanthropic Ventures Foundation, Redwood City-San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce and its Leadership Program Committee, Latino Leadership Council of San Mateo County, and Latino Community Council of Redwood City. And in her capacity as a Redwood City Councilmember, Alicia represented the City and community on the State-wide Latino Caucus Executive Board, the Latino Political Action Committee, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the San Mateo County City/County Association of Governments, and the Peninsula Division of the League of California Cities.

Because of her numerous contributions, Alicia has been recognized for her accomplishments with many awards including being named California's Assembly District 21, Woman of the Year in 2012 by Assemblyman Rich Gordon, being inducted into the Chamber San Mateo County's Hall of Fame, receiving the Ohtli Award and medal by the Mexican Government for her support of the Mexican community abroad, and being honored for her contributions towards affordable housing with the Housing Hall of Fame award.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Alicia focused on keeping residents and business owners informed about County and State health orders, safely providing city services and funding for emergency rental assistance, and ensuring local hospitals were prepared for an evolving disease. Alicia also worked tirelessly during the pandemic to sustain Redwood City's local economy by supporting small business emergency grant programs, allowing safe business operations outdoors, advocating for childcare providers and promoting safe return to work for local companies to encourage workers to shop and dine again in Redwood City.

With improving housing access as one her primary policy goals, Alicia supported housing for all income levels, especially affordable housing for vulnerable groups like seniors, veterans and the homeless, and missing middle housing for young families and new residents. Alicia played an integral role in assisting the unhoused population through her work with LifeMoves, which strives to end homelessness by providing interim housing, supportive services, and building collaborative partnerships. She encouraged new housing in Downtown Redwood City near transit, jobs and walkable businesses. She was mindful about carefully balancing neighborhood preservation with private property rights regarding upgrades like ADU's and home additions. She supported Safe Routes to Schools and prioritized traffic safety on major thoroughfares by creating more opportunities for pedestrians and bicyclists to safely use closed streets through Slow Street Programs.

Alicia is a respected and admired regional leader focused on issues of social equity and immigrant rights, affordable housing, transportation, and economic empowerment for all socio-economic residents of Redwood City and in our community. Alicia Aguirre's hallmark is her diligent work, her deep compassion, and her profound connection with every

segment of our community. Her thoughtful approach, building bridges, and mentoring the next generation of leaders has been transformative and serves as model for others to emulate. The effectiveness of a leader can be judged by their lasting impact. By that measure, Alicia has excelled as she leaves Redwood City in a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues please join me in congratulating Alicia Aguirre for an exemplary record of service to Redwood City, commending her for her tireless dedication of time and talent, and wishing her all the best in the years ahead.

HONORING POSTMASTER JULIANA BURNS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Juliana Burns, an esteemed member of our Napa community, as she retires from 37 years of service with the United States Postal Service.

Postmaster Burns began her career as a letter carrier in Vallejo and Napa before advancing to serve as a postal customer service supervisor in multiple cities. She also worked as a postal instructor in Oakland, Maryland, and Oklahoma.

Postmaster Burns later managed Consumer and Industry Affairs at the Postal Headquarters in Washington, D.C. During this period of her career, she participated in a national roundtable on the development of new postal vehicles. Postmaster Burns was also instrumental in establishing postal customer call centers in New Jersey, Michigan, and Los Angeles. Additionally, she demonstrated her commitment to accountability by conducting financial audits under the direction of the Office of the Inspector General.

As Postmaster in St. Helena, Napa, and now Oakville, Postmaster Burns exhibited strong leadership. Following the Napa earthquake and devastating wildfires, she ensured uninterrupted mail service and introduced free P.O. Box delivery for residents who lost their homes, a lifeline to many rebuilding their lives.

The role of a postmaster requires meticulous organization, clear communication, and the ability to adapt under pressure. Postmaster Burns has consistently embodied these traits, guiding her teams with grace, and fostering trust and reliability among postal employees and the community she served. Her ability to lead through challenges while prioritizing the needs of others is a hallmark of her career.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Postmaster Burns has been a beacon of inspiration within our community. In 1983, she proudly held the title of Miss Napa County, a testament to her grace and charisma. She is affectionately known by many as their "Favorite Postmaster," a reflection of the respect and admiration she has earned in our community.

Postmaster Burns resides in Oakville with her husband, Steve. She is the proud mother of three adult children, Jordan, Samuel, and Addison, and is the loving grandmother of five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Postmaster Burns for her dedicated service to our community and

her lasting contributions to the United States Postal Service. I thank her for her tireless dedication and wish her the very best in her well-earned retirement.

HONORING SUPERVISOR GARY J.
EVANS

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2024

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the courageous public service career and rural advocacy of Colusa County Supervisor Gary Evans.

Gary is a fourth-generation life-long resident of Colusa County growing up in the Stonyford-Lodoga area. Gary proudly attended Maxwell High School graduating in 1973. Upon graduating, Gary would work for the United States

Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service in Fire Management for 12 years. He would then go on to open and manage a small sawmill, logging and contracting business in Colusa County for many years.

Gary decided to run for the Colusa County Board of Supervisors in 2004 earning his first term on the Board, since then he has been re-elected four times serving 20 years on the Board. As Supervisor, Gary would stand as a staunch defender of the Constitution and the Civil Rights of local citizens, businesses, schools, churches, and organizations. Additionally, Supervisor Evans served as Chairman of the Colusa County Board of Supervisors during the years of 2009, 2012, 2017, 2018, 2021 and 2024.

Gary has played a pivotal role in bringing the Sites Reservoir Project to reality and has made a point to see the project to completion which would help provide the larger region

and agricultural community with the essential water it needs.

Over the years, Supervisor Evans fought directly for the residents of Colusa County. During the statewide Stay at Home Order in the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, Supervisor Evans moved to allow those who choose to reopen for business and recreation to do so as they saw fit. This action would save many local businesses and allow for a quicker recovery.

Gary's leadership on the Board has proved instrumental as he personally introduced and coordinated a variety of projects in Colusa County that have included County, State, Federal agencies, and numerous private landowners working towards common goals with a positive. "we're all in this together" attitude.

We thank Supervisor Gary Evans for his twenty years of service on the Colusa County Board of Supervisors and commitment to the citizens of Colusa County. We wish him all the best in his retirement.