

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING REBECCA GRASTY AS
ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S 8TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S WOMEN
OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 31, 2025

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Rebecca Grasty as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year. With over 15 years as a Family Child Care Professional, Rebecca Grasty has devoted her life to strengthening the early childhood education landscape in California. A credentialed educator in both Social Science and Family & Consumer Sciences, she is a leader whose influence extends far beyond the classroom. She currently serves as Vice President of the Bay Area Professional Family Child Care Network and was recently elected Chapter President for the California Association for the Education of Young Children. Rebecca's commitment to professional development and peer support is clear in her work revitalizing the Solano Association of Providers. Recognizing the isolating nature of the Family Child Care profession, she brought together providers from across Solano County for a leadership meeting to reignite collaboration and build a stronger sense of community. She has presented on financial literacy for providers at Solano Family & Children's Services, is a featured speaker at the 2025 Solano ECE Conference, and founded Save California Family Child Care, a grassroots initiative advocating for developmentally appropriate changes to state policy. She was also instrumental in organizing the "A Day Without Child Care" Advocacy Loop in Solano County, collaborating with the Children's Network, Napa providers, and the NorCal Family Child Care Alliance to highlight the urgent need for childcare reform. She also served on the organizing committee of the May 2025 Family Child Care Symposium and led planning for the upcoming "State of the Bay" Summit to bring together stakeholders from all nine Bay Area counties to advocate for children, families, and the providers who serve them. Her tireless efforts have uplifted families, empowered fellow professionals, and shaped policy conversations that will benefit generations to come. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Rebecca Grasty for her invaluable contributions to our community.

HONORING GRACE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 31, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Grace Episcopal Church

for the organization's 150 years of dedicated service and commitment to the people of our community.

Grace Episcopal Church was founded in 1875 in St. Helena and remains the oldest stone church in Napa County. Episcopal worship in St. Helena began in 1871, when a small group of parishioners gathered as a fledgling congregation. Their efforts culminated on December 12, 1875, when Bishop A.W.D. Wingfield consecrated the newly built church and confirmed fourteen founding members. In 1882, the congregation constructed the stone sanctuary at the corner of Oak and Spring Streets, where the church continues to stand today. What began as a small congregation without a permanent home grew into a mission and, in 1954, achieved full parish status. For nearly a century and a half, generations of families have sustained Grace Episcopal Church as a place of worship, service, and community life in our town.

Grace Episcopal Church's deep commitment to our community is reflected in its long history of service and outreach. For more than a century, the church has been a place of refuge and fellowship for the people of our St. Helena. Since 1975, Grace Church has hosted "Joe's Group," the oldest Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in St. Helena, continuing its tradition of providing support in times of need. Grace Church's "Common Table" program provides free community meals twice a month, offering nourishment and connection to all who attend. The church's community involvement also extends to youth development, with the Reverend Irving Baxter founding Troop One St. Helena Boy Scouts at Grace Church in 1920, just twelve years after the scouting movement began in the United Kingdom.

Grace Church has been recognized for its steadfast response to community needs during times of crisis. It serves as the Red Cross hub for our northern Napa County community, offering disaster relief and shelter when disaster strikes. During recent wildfires, the church distributed more than \$10,000 in assistance to low-income families who were displaced. During the pandemic, the Napa Valley New Deal was founded at Grace Church to provide free food, supplies, and prepared meals to vulnerable residents throughout our region. The church continues to partner with faith-based organizations to provide essential goods, collecting and distributing food staples to families in need.

Grace Church's dedication to service also extends to affordable housing advocacy and spiritual wellness. Its participation in the Adopt-a-Family program for more than 20 years has brought comfort and stability to families during the holidays. Its ongoing advocacy for affordable housing has helped secure homes for more than 30 low-income families. In 1997, the parish committed to tithing 10 percent of its income to support work beyond its walls, producing a lasting impact locally and around the globe. In 2015, the church built and dedicated a community labyrinth modeled after the Chartres Cathedral labyrinth

to serve as a public space for meditation and spiritual reflection. Periodic Taizé services continue this spirit of inclusion, offering ecumenical worship dedicated to Christian unity.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Grace Episcopal Church for its dedication and service to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor them here today on their 150th anniversary.

HONORING SARATOGA COUNTY
SHERIFF MICHAEL ZURLO

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 31, 2025

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Saratoga County Sheriff Michael Zurlo, a lifelong resident of Saratoga County who has dedicated his career to keeping our communities safe, strong, and connected.

Elected Sheriff on November 5, 2013, Sheriff Zurlo brought decades of hands-on experience to the office, having served as a deputy, sergeant, lieutenant, and senior criminal investigator within the Saratoga County Sheriffs Office. A graduate of Mechanicville High School and former Town of Stillwater Judge, Sheriff Zurlo embodies a deep understanding of both law enforcement and public service.

Over more than thirty years, he has worked tirelessly to protect the people of Saratoga County, leading with fairness, integrity, and respect for the men and women who serve beside him. His leadership has advanced several initiatives that have had a lasting impact on the county's safety and quality of life. He placed school resource officers in districts across the county to ensure students and staff have trusted and visible protection. He expanded street patrols to strengthen community policing and enhance public safety. He modernized the county's emergency communications system to improve coordination among first responders. He also built partnerships with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to better combat crime and support shared missions.

Sheriff Zurlo has also demonstrated a strong commitment to innovation and compassion. He implemented stricter penalties for those charged with driving while intoxicated, launched the "Blue Envelope" program to assist drivers on the autism spectrum during traffic stops, and oversaw the opening of the county's \$20 million Paul E. Lent Public Safety Facility. Under his leadership, the Sheriffs Office introduced programs in the county jail designed to support veteran inmates and individuals struggling with addiction, offering accountability, rehabilitation, and a path forward.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Sheriff Michael Zurlo for his dedicated service, steady leadership, and lifelong commitment to the people of Saratoga County. His work has strengthened the foundation of public safety

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and community trust that continues to define our region today.

HONORING MELISSA NICKSON AS ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S WOMEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 31, 2025

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Melissa Nickson as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year for her exceptional leadership, compassion, and unwavering commitment to survivors of violence across Solano County. Her dedication to trauma-informed advocacy and her tireless pursuit of justice have profoundly strengthened our community. Under her direction, Napa Solano SANE-SART's advocacy and case management programs have expanded to provide comprehensive, survivor-centered care for thousands affected by sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking. She has built an organization grounded in compassion and respect, ensuring that every survivor is met with dignity and the support needed to rebuild their life. One of Melissa's most significant contributions has been her leadership in the regional response to human trafficking. She has spearheaded collaborations with local law enforcement, county task forces, and community partners to create a coordinated and effective safety net for trafficking survivors. Her efforts have led to the development of a 24/7 human trafficking crisis line, the expansion of emergency housing options, and the implementation of long-term recovery pathways that address both immediate and systemic barriers to healing. Melissa has also been a tireless advocate and educator. She engages in civic organizations, professional groups, and schools to raise awareness about exploitation, victim rights, and prevention. Her outreach to youth is particularly impactful and through school presentations and youth programs, she has equipped young people with the knowledge and confidence to recognize and resist the signs of trafficking and abuse. Survivors and colleagues alike describe Melissa as a beacon of hope and a steady, empathetic presence in moments of crisis. Her courage, compassion, and tireless advocacy for survivors have restored lives and fostered community resilience. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Melissa Nickson for her invaluable contributions to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SUSAN L. ZOLOTOROFE

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 31, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the beautiful life, leg-

acy, and memory of my Constituent Susan L. Zolotorofe who was a cherished daughter, a treasured friend, and a beloved member of our Bucks County community. Susan passed away on October 24, 2025, at her home in Ivyland, Pennsylvania, at the age of 53, after courageously enduring complications stemming from radiation treatments she underwent as a teenager to overcome a brain tumor. Her life is a testament to courage, perseverance, and a heart overflowing with love.

Born on August 17, 1972, at Abington Hospital, Susan entered this world with a radiant smile. Her smile would go on to warm the hearts of everyone privileged enough to know her. From her early years, Susan possessed a gentleness of spirit that enriched the lives of all who crossed her path.

Susan dedicated her life to helping children grow, learn, and feel seen. She spent many years working in preschools and day care centers across Bucks County, including her service at the YMCA in Warminster. For Susan, child care was not merely a profession but a calling. She believed that every child deserved compassion, patience, and encouragement, and she gave those gifts freely. Her kindness was not loud but was quiet, steady, and deeply felt.

For over twenty years, Susan faithfully served at Addisville Church, assisting with Sunday School and Vacation Bible School alongside her devoted mother. Her work within the church reflected her strong faith and the values she lived each day. The values of care, humility, service, and love.

Some of Susan's happiest moments were spent near the water. From her childhood visits to Silver Bay on Lake George, New York, to cherished days walking the beaches of Ocean City, New Jersey, these places offered her peace and filled her with wonder. They were her sanctuaries, where the world slowed enough for her heart to feel light.

Though she was strikingly tall and beautiful, it was her smile, a smile that was warm, gentle, and unmistakably genuine that defined her. Even during her most difficult medical challenges, that smile remained. It was a symbol of her resilience, her faith, and her refusal to let hardship dim her spirit.

Susan is survived by her loving parents, Eileen (née Fetter) and Don Zolotorofe, along with a large, devoted family and a circle of friends who will forever hold her memory close. Each carries with them the profound imprint of her kindness and the example of how to live with grace.

Mr. Speaker, the true measure of a life is not found in what we accumulate, but in the hearts we touch. By that measure, Susan lived a life overflowing with purpose and love. She showed us what it means to persevere with dignity, to care without condition, and to walk through this world with a smile that reminds others they matter.

May her memory be a blessing, and may we honor her legacy by living as she did, with compassion, faith, and joy.

It is my pleasure to honor her in the United States Congress, so that future generations may know of the extraordinary kindness and courage of Susan L. Zolotorofe, a woman whose light continues to shine.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANTHONY "TONY" ANELLO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 31, 2025

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Anthony "Tony" Anello, who passed away at the age of 77 on September 28, 2025. Tony was a beloved and celebrated member of Bodega Bay, a renowned fisherman, and a pillar of this coastal community.

Born in San Francisco, California in 1948, Tony was raised in Guerneville, California. Tony was a rodeo calf roper when he married Carol Zucca, his wife of 58 years. To support their growing family, Tony began an excavation business, while earning additional income as a fisherman and selling produce.

In 1968, Tony joined the Guerneville Fire Department as a volunteer, launching his steadfast career as a firefighter and EMT. He served the Sonoma County fire departments for decades and rose through the ranks of captain, training officer, and battalion chief during his tenure. Tony's excellence and commitment as a training officer is credited for shaping generations of paramedics and firefighters in Sonoma County.

Most notably, Tony had a deep-rooted love for fishing. The grandson of a Sicilian fisherman, Tony purchased his first of many commercial fishing boats in 1969. On his days off from the fire department, Tony would go commercial salmon and crab fishing.

In 2004, Tony and Carol founded Spud Point Crab Co. in Bodega Bay, a small harbor stand that grew to become an iconic, homestyle restaurant for both tourists and locals. Tony and his son, Mark, provided seasonal crab and wild king salmon fresh from the dock of the marina across from the restaurant. The waterfront stand, inspired by Old Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco, still attracts lines of customers seeking Carol's prize-winning clam chowder and Tony's Dungeness crab. A beacon of the community, Spud Point Co. is a critical hub for the town and a charitable supporter of many local organizations.

Along with his well-respected work ethic, Tony was well known for his larger-than-life character, humor, and generous spirit. Tony was a stalwart advocate for the local fishing community and hosted many vital community gatherings to preserve the future of the fishing industry at Bodega Bay. While he will be greatly missed, Tony's legacy will live on through the innumerable positive impacts he has had on his community. Tony is survived by his wife and their four children, Lori, Gina, Lisa, and Mark, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, many of whom have carried on his passion for fishing and firefighting.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in extending condolences to Tony's family and many friends and in expressing deep appreciation for his decades of service to his community.