

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE TOWN OF YOUNTVILLE, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Town of Yountville as it celebrates the 60th anniversary of its incorporation.

Yountville's origins can be traced back to 1836, when George C. Yount received an 11,887-acre land grant from the Mexican government. Mr. Yount named his land Caymus Rancho after a local Native American tribe, and planted the Napa Valley's first vineyard, laying the foundation for what would become one of the most celebrated wine regions in the world. In the early 1850's, Mr. Yount laid out a six-block area with a public square, creating a village he named Yountville.

Yountville was officially incorporated on February 5, 1965, becoming the fourth incorporated community in Napa County. At that time, the population was approximately 2,600, which included 2,000 residents at the Veterans Home of California-Yountville, a cornerstone of our Yountville community.

Since its incorporation, Yountville has transformed into a world-renowned destination praised for its cuisine, wine, and art. The establishment of Domaine Chandon and Vintage 1870 in the 1970's set the stage for the town's evolution into a culinary and cultural hub, helping to establish the town's commitment to farmland preservation and as a place for the wine community to grow. Yountville has also become the home to renown establishments, including The French Laundry, which has earned international acclaim for its innovative dining experience.

In recent years, Yountville has achieved several significant milestones. In 2016, Yountville's Town Hall was added to the National Register of Historic Places, reflecting its architectural and historical significance in our Nation. In 2019, the LGBTQ+ flag was raised for the first time at the Yountville Town Hall during Pride Month, underscoring the town's commitment to inclusivity and equality. During the global pandemic in 2020, Yountville was resilient, supporting its residents and businesses through unprecedented challenges. In 2024, Yountville celebrated two key anniversaries: the 150th anniversary of the Yountville Community Church and the 140th anniversary of the founding of the Veterans Home of California-Yountville. Additionally in 2024, the town purchased the former Yountville Elementary School property, renaming it Yountville Commons to serve as a community space for future generations.

Today, Yountville remains committed to preserving its small-town charm while embracing sustainable growth and innovation. The town prioritizes maintaining a safe and healthy environment, respecting its agricultural heritage, and enhancing the quality of life for its resi-

dents with its services and amenities. Its parks, public art and vibrant local businesses continue to attract visitors from around the world, solidifying Yountville's place as a cherished town in our Napa Valley community.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that the Town of Yountville is a community rich in history, culture, and resilience. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor the town and its residents here today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2025

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 6, 2025, my vote on Roll Call No. 33 was not recorded.

There were two votes during the series, and I manually voted, delivering my vote cards directly to the clerk. Though I submitted two vote cards separately, both my votes were recorded during the first vote.

Had my vote for Roll Call No. 33 been recorded, I would have voted YES.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MYTRON LISBY

HON. MAXWELL FROST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2025

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a great man, who just so happened to be my high school Principal, Mr. Mytron Lisby.

As a kid, I was a bit of a troublemaker. One day I played a prank at school that landed me in Mr. Lisby's office. Honestly, I should've been expelled that day. But he told me: "Maxwell, I'm not expelling you. I think you can be great and I see something in you." He believed in me. And he gave me a second chance, and honestly I think that the second chance is one of the reasons I'm here today.

He came to know Jesus Christ as his savior at a young age and served Him faithfully. He served as a teacher and administrator for 43 years. And so on behalf of the thousands of students—tens of thousands of students—across this Nation you've inspired, I thank Mr. Lisby.

I have to think that at the gates of Heaven, God greeted him with that administrator's school radio, Cause maybe even heaven, sometimes needs help keeping things on track, just like a great Principal does. May Mr. Lisby rest in peace.

HONORING PHIL KIRBY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Phil Kirby, an educator who has dedicated 51 years of service to students and families, with 47 years in service to our Lake County community. His profound impact on education, particularly for those facing critical life challenges, is a testament to his compassion, leadership, and lifelong commitment to learning.

Mr. Kirby earned his Bachelor of Arts in English from Sacramento State University in 1971, followed by a Master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of San Francisco in 1980. His passion for education led him to begin his teaching career at Sacramento's Holy Spirit School before moving to Pittsburg Unified, where he pioneered a Community School program for expelled high school students, helping to transform countless lives.

In 1978, Mr. Kirby brought his expertise and vision to Lake County, where he provided strong leadership within the Upper Lake Union High and Lower Lake Unified School Districts for nearly a decade. His work in these districts laid a strong foundation for his future contributions to the broader educational landscape in Lake County.

In 1987, he joined the Lake County Office of Education, where he spent 20 years spearheading programs designed to support students during pivotal moments in their lives. Mr. Kirby worked tirelessly to ensure that students had access to education despite personal challenges through his work directing the Pregnant Minor program as well as developing and directing the Community and Court program. His service extended to roles as Director of Child Welfare and Attendance, where he established the Countywide School Attendance Review Board, facilitated Crisis Intervention Prevention courses, and played an integral role in Lake County's Emergency Preparedness efforts.

Even after his retirement from teaching in 2007, Mr. Kirby remained deeply engaged in education, serving as a member of the Lakeport Unified School District Board of Trustees and the North Coast Section of the California interscholastic Federation Board of Managers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we extend our deepest gratitude to Mr. Phil Kirby. His legacy of compassion and commitment to education will continue to inspire future generations in our Lake County community and beyond. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

• 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.

HONORING OSWALDO ORTIZ AS
THE FEBRUARY VETERAN OF
THE MONTH

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable service and enduring dedication of Oswaldo "Ozzie" Ortiz, a proud American patriot and our February 2025 Veteran of the Month from Michigan's 9th Congressional District. With over 20 years of service, Ozzie demonstrated unwavering commitment to his country, answering the call to duty in both peacetime and war. His story is one of resilience, sacrifice, and continued devotion to our Nation.

Ozzie was born in Connecticut to parents from El Salvador and Puerto Rico and was raised in Auburn Hills, Michigan. In 1986, at just 17 years old, he enlisted in the United States Army as a tanker, completing Basic and Advanced Training before being stationed in Germany with the 2nd Armored Division, known as "Hell on Wheels." He later served with the 1st Infantry at Fort Riley, Kansas, until his honorable discharge in 1990.

Ozzie's sense of duty has never wavered. Following the tragic events of September 11, 2001, he re-enlisted with the 1775th Military Police Battalion in Pontiac, Michigan. In 2003, he was deployed to Iraq as a tanker with the 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team, demonstrating extraordinary skill and bravery in combat operations. His service continued with the 144th Transportation Battalion in Washington State before he was deployed again to Iraq in 2008 with the 275th Heavy Transport Unit.

Upon returning, Ozzie played a critical role in training the next generation of soldiers at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, preparing troops for deployment to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Egypt as an Observer/Controller/Trainer. He completed his military service with the 181st Brigade Support Battalion in 2015, when he was again honorably discharged.

Ozzie's service was recognized with numerous commendations, including the Combat Action Badge, Army Commendation Award, three Army Achievement Awards, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. His dedication to his country earned him the respect of his fellow soldiers and a lasting legacy of service.

Even after leaving the military, Ozzie continues to serve his community. Today, he is a Master Mechanic for BMW Motorrad Motorcycles in Plymouth, Michigan, where he provides critical service for law enforcement agencies, including the Michigan State Police, Macomb County Sheriff, Oakland County Sheriff, and several local police departments.

Beyond his career, Ozzie is committed to supporting his fellow veterans. Drawing from

his experiences with both BMW and Harley-Davidson motorcycles, he is working to establish a nonprofit organization that will help veterans struggling with PTSD find healing and camaraderie through motorcycle building.

Mr. Speaker, Ozzie Ortiz's service to our Nation did not end with his military career—it continues today in his work, his mentorship, and his unwavering dedication to his fellow veterans. His story is one of courage, resilience, and an unbreakable commitment to those who have served.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH
JOHN GARBARINO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2025

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph (Joe) Garbarino who passed away at the age of 91 on December 19, 2024. Mr. Garbarino was an iconic public figure, one of the Nation's foremost leaders in recycling, and a beloved family member.

Born in 1933 to Italian immigrants, Mr. Garbarino grew up in San Francisco where his father and uncle ran the Scavengers Protective Association. They instilled in him the value of reusing materials, and this became a guiding principle throughout his life. Mr. Garbarino joined Marin Sanitary Service in 1955 and spent the next five decades establishing the company as a national leader in recycling.

Mr. Garbarino set the bar for leadership in the waste reduction industry. Many credit him with establishing modern recycling standards and practices. In 1980, Mr. Garbarino created the first county-wide curbside recycling program in the United States, reaching a national record by recycling over 74 percent of the two million pounds of waste collected. He founded Marin Recycling and Resource Recovery Association and built the Nation's first indoor dump, recycling 65 percent of materials that would otherwise be diverted to landfills. A decade before recycling ordinances were mandated by the State of California, he introduced a curbside food and yard waste program that reduced greenhouse gas emissions by collecting over 32,000 tons of organic waste. Applying his mantra, "an item should never be made that cannot be reused or recycled," Mr. Garbarino developed the Environmental Classroom to educate more than 200 students weekly about waste reduction.

A staunch advocate for recycling legislation and funding, Mr. Garbarino was well respected throughout the industry and by local and state elected officials. In 2000, Mr. Garbarino's eldest daughter Patricia (Patty) became President and CEO of Marin Sanitary Service, Marin Recycling Center, and Marin Resource Recovery Center, but he remained active as Chair of the Board until his passing, stopping by the facility every day to check in with his employees whom he considered his extended family.

Beyond his professional work, Mr. Garbarino was revered for the joy and goodwill he brought to the community. This included dressing up as Santa Claus and delivering gifts to children with disabilities during the holidays. He also served on the boards of Marin General Hospital and San Rafael Planning Commission, and was President of Marin Civic Center's Lions Club, San Rafael Chamber of Commerce and Marin County's Solid Waste Management Association. He also served on the boards of Marin General Hospital and the San Rafael Planning Commission, and was President of Marin Civic Center's Lions Club, San Rafael Chamber of Commerce and Marin County's Solid Waste Management Association. Perhaps most notably, Mr. Garbarino was a lifelong, avid supporter of veterans. Over four decades, Mr. Garbarino collected World War II memorabilia, building a fleet of more than 100 vehicles, which he shared with the public at his military museum, displayed outside funerals of veterans, and in parades throughout the country. Countless veterans speak to how Mr. Garbarino made them feel valued and important.

For his decades of leadership, Mr. Garbarino received numerous accolades, including San Rafael Chamber of Commerce's 1987 Citizen of the Year, California Refuse Removal Council's coveted John Moscone Award in 1994, and he was inducted into the National Waste and Recycling Association's Hall of Fame in 2014. His company was voted Best Curbside Recycling Program in California and Outstanding Solid Waste Recovery Program in California by the California Resource Recovery Association.

Mr. Garbarino was married to the love of his life, Sally Saffholm for 64 years before she passed. He is the proud father, grandfather and great grandfather of a large family, many of whom work beside him in the multi-generational family business he created. He is survived by his daughters and their families: Patty Garbarino, Judy and Steve Rosa, Joanne and Mike Pelfini, Suzi and John Oranje; his grandchildren, Joseph and John Rosa, Joseph, Gwen and James Pelfini, Jenna Oranje Erlich and Jonathan Oranje; and his great grandchildren, George, Giovanna, Rico, Dominic, Justin and Natalie; and his many cousins in Oregon and Italy whom he considered his brothers and sisters.

Mr. Garbarino was known for his larger-than-life personality and unwavering drive to serve his community. It was my privilege and honor to work with him, and witness firsthand his innovative approach to waste conservation. Mr. Speaker, Joe Garbarino's depth of character is surpassed only by the legacy of his good deeds in Marin County and beyond. I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing my sincere appreciation for his many decades of good work and expressing my deep condolences to his friends and family.