

California, Los Angeles; Edward Sargent, Northwestern University; Charles Shoemaker, Tufts University; Daniel Siegwart, UT Southwestern Medical Center; Neal Sikka, The George Washington University; Blake Simmons, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Rajesh Singh, Morehouse School of Medicine; Anand Sivasubramaniam, The Pennsylvania State University; Yiqiao Song, Harvard University; Vivek Sujan, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Zhaoli Sun, Johns Hopkins University; Nian Sun, Northeastern University; Yang Tao, University of Maryland, College Park; Ravi Thadhani, Emory University; Voon-Yew (Aaron) Thean, National University of Singapore; Ashley Parkinson Thrall, University of Notre Dame; Martin Thuo, North Carolina State University; Theo T. Tsotsis, University of Southern California; Francisco Valero-Cuevas, University of Southern California; Omid Veisheh, Rice University; Victor Veliadis, North Carolina State University; Uzi Vishkin, University of Maryland, College Park; Edmund Waller, Emory University; Angela Wandinger-Ness, The University of New Mexico; Guoan Wang, University of South Carolina; Grace J. Wang, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; Dean C. Webster, North Dakota State University; Di Wei, University of Cambridge; Marc Steven Weinberg, Draper Laboratory (CDSL), Ulrich Wiesner, Cornell University; Hugh E. Williams, RMIT University.

Peter Wipf, University of Pittsburgh; Gary E. Wnek, Case Western Reserve University; Jang-Yen Wu, Florida Atlantic University; Wei Wu, University of Southern California; Younan Xia, Georgia Institute of Technology; Longya Xu, The Ohio State University; Zhen Xu, University of Michigan; Mengsu (Michael) Yang, City University of Hong Kong; Yang Yang, University of California, Los Angeles; Jianhua Yu, University of California, Irvine; Carlos A. Zarate Jr., National Institutes of Health; Junshan Zhang, University of California, Davis; Zhongfei (Mark) Zhang, Binghamton University, State University of New York; Ji-Guang (Jason) Zhang, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; Min Zou, University of Arkansas.

HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF TEMPLE ISRAEL OF STOCKTON

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 175th Anniversary of Temple Israel of Stockton, one of the oldest continuously operating Jewish congregations west of the Rocky Mountains. This milestone is a powerful testament to the endurance, faith, and contributions of Stockton's Jewish community since California's earliest days.

The Gold Rush of 1849 attracted several Jewish merchants to Stockton, who played a vital role in building Stockton's economic base, and in laying the foundations of both the city and the Jewish community. Founded in 1849 as Ryhim Ahoovim, a Jewish benevolent society, the congregation established a sacred foundation that has grown and thrived for generations. By 1851, Ryhim Ahoovim had acquired a cemetery for Jewish pioneers—still in use today—and the synagogue's first lot was gifted by Stockton's founder, Charles M.

Weber. Members of the congregation hauled lumber to the building site to complete the synagogue, which was dedicated in 1855.

Throughout its history, Temple Israel has reflected the resilience and leadership of Stockton's Jewish community—not only as a place of worship, but as a cornerstone of civic and cultural life. Under the guidance of devoted rabbis, the congregation grew in size and stature, creating a vibrant space for education, cultural programming, and social connection that continues to enrich Stockton to this day.

That spirit of compassion and responsibility was especially evident to the years leading up to World War II, when members of Temple Israel opened their arms to refugees fleeing Nazi Germany, and once again in the 1980's to Jews fleeing the Soviet Union. These new arrivals found safety and opportunity in Stockton, quickly becoming integral members of both the Jewish and broader Stockton communities. Their stories are a testament to the power of community and the enduring values that define Temple Israel's legacy.

Today, Temple Israel stands as a symbol of perseverance, compassion, and community. Temple Israel continues to nurture generations of Jewish life in Stockton, while honoring the vision and courage of those who laid its foundation 175 years ago.

I am proud to recognize Temple Israel of Stockton for its 175 years of spiritual guidance, community leadership, and enduring legacy. May it continue to inspire and uplift for generations to come.

HONORING RALPH VIGIL'S LIFE AND LEGACY

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ralph Vigil's life and legacy. He lived a life of passion—passion for the protection of the water, the land, the ecosystems, and the community of our beautiful Pecos, New Mexico.

The first time I heard Ralph, he was talking about the importance of protecting our land as a place for everyone and everything, including our wildlife. He repeated the *dicho*, or Spanish saying:

“Un poquito para mi, un poquito para vos, un poquito para las criaturas de Dios” (“A little for me, a little for you, and a little for the creatures of God”)

as he spoke of how he farmed and felt some of the bounties in the field.

Ralph was colorful and strong in his language when he asked me and others in leadership if we would stand with the people and the places we all loved. (You all are laughing because you can hear him now.) The lands we love don't fight for themselves. They need leaders like Ralph who understand our “herencia (heritage), cultura (culture), y futuro (future)”), to organize the parcientes, organize the meetings, organize the hikes, and the advocacy. He was a tireless advocate for an array of conservation issues, from the Caja del Rio to our beloved acequias to protecting the Pecos watershed. There aren't many people in the Pecos Valley or in the conservation community who don't know the great Ralph Vigil

because if there was ever a problem to fix or knowledge to learn, he was the person to call.

New Mexico is blessed with a beautiful landscape. Ralph understood this better than anyone because there wasn't a day he wasn't recording footage or capturing photos of this beauty. His social media was sprinkled with beautiful sunsets and sunrises, clean flowing water, and the oasis of green that evokes awe in our desert landscape.

With his collaboration and leadership, some of the victories for our cultura, herencia y futuro include the moratorium on mineral development on state trust lands in the Pecos with Stephanie Garcia Richards, the two-year protection of the Pecos River Watershed from mining claims put in place by Secretary Haaland, and the inspiration he gave to leaders from Santa Fe to D.C.

Love is at its most powerful when it is unconditional when nothing is asked in return and setbacks and faults do not diminish the passion. Ralph loved New Mexico's lands and people unconditionally. Ralph was connected to the land and people of Northern New Mexico as if there were an umbilical cord that was never severed. He was connected to the land through his farming, his gentle care of acequias, and his protection of the watershed that in turn protected the water that is our lifeline. He embodied the definition of *querencia* (no translation—a place where one feels safe, happy, and strong, a place where they can truly be themselves).

He was a son, a father, a brother, an uncle and friend that everyone could look to for leadership and wisdom. Like so many, I cried when I learned of his passing.

I am honored to recognize the legacy that is Ralph Vigil. We are living through a historic moment where we need leaders like Ralph whose ability to transcend and translate is needed more than ever. His legacy will not only live on in his beloved rural communities but, today, also in the records of our great Nation—a Nation that Ralph made endlessly better during his incredible life.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF MADERA COUNTY SHERIFF JOHN ANDERSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Madera County Sheriff John Anderson. Born and raised in Williams, California, John enlisted in the United States Army directly out of high school and served four years in active duty with most of his service being based in West Germany and as an adviser in Laos.

After his honorary time served in the United States Army, John returned home and was working in a local feed mill for just a few months when he was approached, by the Police Chief of the City of Williams, to work a graveyard shift with the Williams City Police Department. This offer would be the start of a long and fulfilling career in law enforcement, later serving as a Deputy Sheriff in Stanislaus County.

By 1964, John joined the California Highway Patrol where he held significant roles over the

span of 35 years. Some of his assignments included being a special representative with the California State Legislature and United States Congress. He had received an educational assignment to achieve a master's degree in public administration for professional advancement and had initiated the "El Protector Program" which impacted traffic safety by assisting non-English speaking drivers, which went from statewide to national implementation. His achievements had awarded him many recognitions for his dedication and leadership which led to an appointment as Commander of the CHP Academy, Division Commander of the Northern Divisions and additionally the Central Divisions.

Elected as Madera County Sheriff in 1998, John held this position for 16 years until his retirement in 2014. Sheriff Anderson played a critical role in modernizing the Madera County Sheriffs Office by rewriting the department's policies and procedures, ensuring they met the highest contemporary law enforcement standards. His vision led to numerous technological upgrades, enhancing the department's ability to efficiently serve and protect Madera County residents.

Following his retirement as Sheriff, John was appointed by California State Senator Anthony Cannella to serve as the 12th District Law Enforcement Liaison and as a representative of the Madera and Fresno communities, a role he proudly fulfilled until 2018.

His legacy of service, innovation, and dedication will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of working with him. As we mourn his loss, let us celebrate his life and the indelible mark he left on our community after dedicating more than five decades to law enforcement and the protection of the communities.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in commemorating the legacy of Madera County Sheriff John Anderson. John is survived by his wife Kathleen Anderson, his two sons John and Charles Anderson, stepson Dylan Stone and stepdaughter Tricia Stone, along with eight grandchildren.

HONORING KATHLEEN GAGNE

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible work of a lifelong leader in the Worcester community, Kathleen "Kathy" M. Gagne, as she ends her tenure as the Executive Director of Mechanics Hall.

Kathleen first arrived at Mechanics Hall in 1994 as the marketing communications and fundraising manager, eventually becoming Executive Director of the Hall in 2018. She has led Mechanics Hall's creative programming with recent initiatives including Many Voices: Mechanics Hall Youth Singers as well as a free choral program for 4th through 7th graders in Worcester, Massachusetts. She brought world-class performances to a wide range of audiences, fostering a love of the arts, and serving the rich diversity of cultures and communities in the region. During her tenure, the Hall commissioned three portraits of influential 19th century Black Americans and oversaw the installation of state-of-the-art lighting and sound upgrades in both performance halls.

Not only has Kathleen been a fabulous Executive Director at Mechanics Hall, but she has also been an important part of our vibrant Worcester community. Kathleen is a board member of the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, the WCIN radio community advisory board, and the American Antiquarian society. She is also a part of the Worcester Regional Research Bureau's Public Service Awards Committee and served as the board president for the Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester.

Beyond Worcester, Kathleen has been involved with so many initiatives to make not just her community, but the world a better place. She has been a freelance editor for clients that included the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Science Foundation. Kathleen has also served as the Director of the Vermont Institute for Teaching the Arts, doing writing workshops for middle schoolers and substitute teaching for secondary school students.

Mr. Speaker, Kathleen is an extraordinary leader and member of our community. And on behalf of both the United States Congress and the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am proud to honor her incredible achievements and extend to her our best wishes for her continued success.

HONORING WILLIAM "BILL" HANNA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William "Bill" Hanna, who has been selected as the recipient of the Napa Valley Grapegrowers Lifetime Achievement Award. This honor celebrates his decades of service as a steward of the land, a leader in sustainable agriculture, and a deeply respected member of our Napa Valley community.

Mr. Hanna is the great-grandson of legendary naturalist John Muir, whose legacy of environmental conservation shaped the Hanna family's enduring commitment to land stewardship and sustainability. He was born in Oakland, California, in 1945, and in 1950, his family moved to Napa, where they purchased a 100-acre ranch northwest of town. The property was originally planted with prunes and used for raising cattle, but in 1969, Mr. Hanna's father, John Hanna, began replanting the orchards with grapevines. After retiring in 1972, Mr. Hanna's father began farming full-time and laid the foundation for the family's future in viticulture.

Mr. Hanna graduated from the University of the Pacific in 1967 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and a minor in Geology. That same year, he began a 26-year career in the United States Air Force, where he served in roles including Nuclear Research Officer, Environmental Chemist, and Deputy of the Industrial Products Division. During his service, he completed advanced coursework in nuclear physics, electronics, and statistics, and graduated from the Air Command, Staff College, and the Air War College. He later pursued graduate studies at California State University, Sacramento.

In 1977, after transitioning from active-duty military service to the reserves, Mr. Hanna returned to Napa to join his father in managing the family vineyard. Together, Mr. Hanna and his father established Hanna Vineyards, Inc., which they operated together for two decades. In 2000, the family founded Muir-Hanna Vineyards and launched their first commercial wine. While the family has since retired the wine label, Muir-Hanna Vineyards continues to operate today, with Mr. Hanna serving as co-owner, growing and selling grapes to other producers.

Mr. Hanna's vineyard practices have long reflected a deep commitment to environmental responsibility. In the 1970's, his family eliminated insecticide use at their ranch, and by the 1980's, began adopting broader sustainable farming methods. In 2007, Mr. Hanna introduced organic practices across the vineyard's operations. These efforts, combined with cover cropping, composting vine prunings, and fostering wildlife habitat near irrigation channels, demonstrate his long-standing dedication to land stewardship as a grapegrower.

Mr. Hanna's commitment to the land is part of a broader family legacy in Napa Valley agriculture. Mr. Hanna's father, John Hanna, helped organize the Napa Valley Grapegrowers Association and played a key role in drafting language that shaped the Agricultural Preserve. That legacy continued through Mr. Hanna's son, Michael Hanna, who served as the winemaker for the family wine label and currently is the Vineyard Manager at Muir-Hanna Vineyards. Like his father and grandfather before him, Michael Hanna served as a board member of the Napa County Farm Bureau, cementing the Hanna family's agriculture legacy in our Napa Valley agriculture community.

In addition to his contributions to viticulture, Mr. Hanna has served our Napa Valley community through civic leadership. He is a past president and director of the Napa County Farm Bureau, where he helped shape local policy on land use, water, and natural resources. He also contributed to the development of ordinances protecting the Agricultural Preserve, refining winery definitions, and safeguarding environmental quality. Mr. Hanna also served as an advisor to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and spent 12 years on the ROP Agricultural Advisory Council. His local service also includes board positions with Napa County Farm Supply, the Napa Housing Foundation, and Jefferson Street Senior Housing. He currently chairs the Finance Committee at Napa First United Methodist Church.

Mr. Hanna is married to Claudia Hanna, and together they are the proud parents of Michael and Kristin. The Hanna family has long exemplified a life rooted in conservation, balance, and service to their community. From their passive-solar home to their shared love of hiking near Mono Lake, they continue to live out the environmental values passed down by their ancestor, John Muir.

Mr. Speaker, William Hanna's leadership in agriculture, conservation, and civic life reflects a lifetime of service grounded in science, tradition, and deep care for the land. It is fitting and proper that we recognize him today for receiving the Napa Valley Grapegrowers Lifetime Achievement Award.