

mail route between St. Louis and Chicago, our region has long been part of America's aviation story. In 1932, 261 local businessmen came together to purchase land for Peoria's first airfield, laying the foundation for what would become one of Illinois's most important regional airports. Over the decades, the airport has evolved from four shale runways to a modern international facility. In 2008, it was renamed in honor of Four-Star General Wayne A. Downing, a Peoria native and distinguished U.S. Army leader whose legacy continues to inspire our community. The airport expanded further in 2016 with the dedication of the Ray LaHood Terminal, recognizing the former Congressman and Transportation Secretary's lifelong commitment to infrastructure and service.

Peoria International Airport serves 12 non-stop destinations, offers the longest runway in Illinois outside of Chicago, and operates the state's only 24-hour FAA control tower beyond the Chicago area. From welcoming just 50,000 passengers in the 1950's to a record 689,000 passengers in 2019, PIA has become an indispensable hub for business, travel, and commerce in Central Illinois.

As we celebrate 75 years of service, we honor the vision of those who built and sustained this airport—leaders, workers, and community members whose dedication continues to strengthen our regional economy and connect Central Illinois to the world. I am proud to represent this remarkable community and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the General Wayne A. Downing Peoria International Airport and their leadership on 75 years of aviation excellence and progress.

HONORING EGUONOR  
ONOFEGHARA-OMOKO

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mrs. Eguonor Onofeghara-Omoko, a devoted wife, mother, and community leader whose life of service and faith has uplifted countless individuals across Contra Costa County. Together with her husband, she has raised six children, embodying the values of family, faith, and commitment that strengthen our communities. Guided by her Christian faith, Mrs. Onofeghara-Omoko serves as a Ministry Team Leader at Victory Place International Ministries, where she provides spiritual guidance and leadership to her congregation. As Volunteer Supervisor for the ministry's community outreach, she helps coordinate efforts to feed more than 500 people every week, ensuring that those facing hardship find nourishment, dignity and hope. Her compassion extends far beyond the walls of her church. For the past three years, she has volunteered with Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa, continuing her mission to serve the hungry and vulnerable. For more than 15 years, she has also served as a school chaperone, investing time and energy in the well-being and growth of young students. Her dedication stands as an inspiration to all who know her. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mrs. Eguonor Onofeghara-Omoko for her extraordinary contributions to her family,

her church, and her community. Her legacy of faith-driven service reminds us that true leadership begins with a heart to serve. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Mrs. Eguonor Onofeghara-Omoko for her outstanding devotion to service and her enduring impact on the lives of others.

CONGRATULATING THE EASTERN  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2025*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) as it celebrates a major milestone in the district's history. This year, EMWD will mark its 75th Anniversary and a proven legacy of service to our community.

EMWD was established on October 16, 1950, through a public vote by San Jacinto Valley property owners to help facilitate groundwater rights in the region. In the 75 years since, EMWD has grown from a small agency into California's sixth largest public retail water agency, and seventh largest wastewater agency, serving nearly 1 million customers across 682 square miles.

Throughout its history, EMWD has remained committed to delivering safe, reliable water, wastewater, and recycled water services. It serves one of California's fastest-growing regions and continues to balance the needs of current customers while planning for future growth. Through forward-thinking investments in infrastructure, including groundwater desalination and one of the Nation's most advanced recycled water programs, EMWD has emerged as a leader in water innovation and resiliency.

EMWD's success is driven by strong leadership and proactive engagement. Through active collaboration with state and federal partners and elected officials, the district has advanced policies that strengthen water reliability and promote long-term resource sustainability. EMWD and I have worked closely to advance critical water projects in both EMWD's service area, and the arid west.

On a local level, I have worked with EMWD on a sewer solution in Quail Valley a community that is reliant on antiquated, and failing septic systems. One part of the community's septic to sewer conversion is complete, and we continue to work together on subsequent phases.

Mr. Speaker, for 75 years, Eastern Municipal Water District has played a vital role in the development and sustainability of Southern California. I am proud to recognize EMWD for its decades of public service, and I join the community in celebrating this remarkable milestone. We look forward to EMWD's continued contributions and service for the next 75 years and beyond.

HONORING THE LIFELONG  
SERVICE OF MS. ROSE AMADOR

**HON. SAM T. LICCARDO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2025*

Mr. LICCARDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career and lifelong service of Ms. Rose Amador, who is retiring after 55 years of dedication to our community, including 44 years as President and CEO of ConXión to Community, a nonprofit organization providing education, workforce development, youth engagement, behavioral health, and social services across Santa Clara County.

Under Ms. Amador's visionary leadership, ConXión grew tremendously in both reach and impact—securing a permanent home on Story Road and expanding programs to meet the rapidly evolving needs of our diverse community. Her steadfast commitment to public service and San José are unmatched.

Born in San José, Ms. Amador was inspired early by her parents—both community activists—who introduced her to the Chicano movement, the American GI Forum, and César Chávez marches. She was part of De Anza College's inaugural class, earning an Associate of Arts in Chicano Studies before completing her Bachelor's Degree in Business Management at St. Mary's College.

Her leadership extended beyond our region. Within the National Council of La Raza—now UnidosUS—Ms. Amador served in several capacities, including as a steering committee member, where she helped establish the National Affiliate Council, now known as the California National Affiliate Network. As a longtime leader of the La Raza Roundtable in San José, she became known for her ability to be both passionate and pragmatic, collaborative and courageous.

Ms. Amador's trailblazing leadership has earned her some of our community's highest honors—including the La Raza Historical Society Award, recognition as one of Silicon Valley's Top 100 Most Influential Latinos, Woman of the Year by Assemblyman Joe Coto, and KQED's 2013 Local Hero—among countless other accolades that reflect her enduring impact. Being of Yaqui descent, Ms. Amador also proudly carries the name "Cihuapilli", meaning "noble woman."

Ms. Amador's life has been marked by devotion to advocacy, uplifting the most vulnerable among us, and preserving our community's vibrant culture. We are profoundly grateful for her decades of leadership and service and wish her a joyful and well-earned retirement.

HONORING FATIMAH HANIF

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fatimah Hanif, an inspiring community leader, educator, and advocate whose work in mindfulness, mental health, and youth empowerment has made a lasting impact on the City of Vallejo and the State of California.

Ms. Hanif is the founder of I Maintain, LLC., a company dedicated to personal growth, empowerment, and holistic wellness. She is also the author of a powerful book on self-journey and transformation, sharing her story and insight to uplift others navigating life's challenges. As Director of Mindfulness and Restorative Practices at Watch Me Grow, Inc. in Vallejo, Ms. Hanif integrates restorative approaches into youth and community programs that promote emotional wellness, conflict resolution, and resilience. Each month, she leads a free community sound bath at the Vallejo Library, creating a space for collective healing while also providing vital resources in mental health awareness and suicide prevention. Ms. Hanif has also collaborated with prestigious institutions such as Brown University, the University of Connecticut, and Compass Youth Collaborative, contributing her expertise to research and programming that promote youth leadership and trauma-informed practices. As an alumna of the Parent Leadership Training Initiative, she now serves as one of its Program Coordinators, continuing to empower parents as advocates and change-makers. Through her work, Ms. Hanif has demonstrated a deep and abiding commitment to the healing and empowerment of her community. Her vision, compassion, and leadership continue to inspire transformation and hope across Solano County and the greater Bay Area. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, I am proud to recognize Fatimah Hanif for her extraordinary contributions to wellness, education, and community empowerment.

HONORING THE THREE VALLEYS  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

**HON. NORMA J. TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2025*

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Three Valleys Municipal Water District as we celebrate its 75 years of service to the Pomona Valley.

First founded in 1950, the Three Valleys was originally called the "Pomona Valley Municipal Water District." It was established to provide a reliable water supply as orchards were converted into homes and businesses, when local leaders determined a new source of water was needed. In 1981, it adopted the name Three Valleys Municipal Water District to reflect the broader region it serves—the Pomona, Walnut, and San Gabriel Valleys.

Early in its history, the District joined the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, securing Colorado River water through a 242-mile-long aqueduct, ensuring a stable supply for the growing population residing in the 133 square miles it serves. This vision allowed the region to transition from an agricultural hub to a thriving residential and commercial community, while safeguarding one of its most vital resources.

In 1987, the District completed the Miramar Water and Hydroelectric Facility, a \$30 million project that strengthened water storage, distribution, and energy infrastructure, demonstrating the careful planning and collaboration executed by Three Valleys, the City of La Verne, and Golden State Water Company.

Today, Three Valleys provides water to 13 member agencies, continuing to support the Pomona Valley's growth and resilience.

The District has also earned recognition for excellence in governance, earning its District of Distinction accreditation in 2014 and again in 2024, along with the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence, reflecting its commitment to ethical leadership and public accountability.

For its long-standing service, visionary leadership, and lasting impact, made possible by its hard-working staff, it is my honor to recognize Three Valleys Municipal Water District. Its service to the Inland Empire is worthy of the highest commendation.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN AND ITS IMPACT ON SPECIAL OLYMPICS VIRGINIA

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2025*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Law Enforcement Torch Run and its impact on Special Olympics Virginia.

Special Olympics Virginia has provided year-round sports training and competition to thousands of athletes for decades, empowering them to achieve their personal best while fostering inclusion, respect, and community engagement. Through these programs, athletes not only develop athletic skills but also gain confidence, leadership abilities, and lifelong friendships. As we gather today to honor our athletes and their families, I am extremely thankful for our Special Olympics' extraordinary service to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Additionally, the Law Enforcement Torch Run exemplifies the incredible partnership between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve. Officers from across the Commonwealth have volunteered to carry the Flame of Hope, raising awareness and vital funds to support Special Olympics programs. This collaboration has helped break down barriers, build trust, and promote understanding for individuals with disabilities.

As we celebrate our athletes and their families, we recognize the dedication of their coaches, volunteers, and law enforcement officers whose commitment has transformed the lives of countless Virginians. The legacy of Special Olympics Virginia and the Law Enforcement Torch Run is one of inclusion, compassion, and unwavering support for every athlete's potential.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for joining me in honoring the 40th anniversary of the Law Enforcement Torch Run and its impact on Special Olympics Virginia.

HONORING GLORIA MALGAPO

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Gloria Malgapo, a distinguished

community leader, advocate, and early member of the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA), whose service has strengthened civic engagement and representation for Asian Americans across Solano County. Ms. Malgapo has been an integral leader within the APAPA organization since its earliest days, serving as one of the founding members of both the Solano County Chapter and the National Organization. Through her leadership, she helped lay the foundation for an enduring network dedicated to empowering Asian American and Pacific Islander communities through civic participation and public service. As Vice President of APAPA Solano County, Ms. Malgapo has played a pivotal role in expanding local outreach, building partnerships, and encouraging civic involvement among emerging leaders. She has been a tireless advocate for APAPA's internship program, ensuring that students and young professionals have meaningful opportunities to learn about government, leadership, and civic responsibility at the local, state, and federal level. Ms. Malgapo has been deeply involved in community and civic events throughout the City of Vallejo and the broader Filipino American community county-wide. Her efforts have elevated the voices of Asian Americans in local and regional decision-making. Her work reflects the very best of civic engagement. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Ms. Gloria Malgapo for her extraordinary leadership, her lifelong dedication to public service, and her enduring commitment to advancing civic engagement and representation for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF "MR. PALM SPRINGS" HAROLD MATZNER

**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2025*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to Harold Matzner—known to so many as "Mr. Palm Springs"—who passed away on September 4, 2025, at the age of 88.

Harold was larger than life, a man of vision, conviction, generosity, and deep love for the Coachella Valley.

As Chairman of the Palm Springs International Film Festival, McCallum Theatre, Palm Springs Art Museum, and Palm Springs Tennis Club, Harold helped shape the cultural and civic heart of our region. As a philanthropist he gave from his heart. For over nearly four decades, he donated more than \$70 million to local nonprofits, strengthening our hospitals, food banks, children's services, and LGBTQ+ organizations.

Under his leadership, the McCallum Theatre flourished, hosting world-class performances, community events, and educational programs that have touched countless lives. It is a place where students discover the arts for the first time, families share in the joy of music and dance, and audiences of all ages have their spirits lifted.

As a Board Member of Eisenhower Medical Center, Harold helped strengthen one of the