

"Why do you love Pacifica? It's always so foggy!" It was time to dispel this myth, poke fun at Pacifica's weather and hold the festival on a weekend that was almost guaranteed to be sunny and hot.

A new committee consisting of representatives from the city council, the Pacifica Tribune, the Chamber of Commerce, city staff and volunteers developed the idea further and eventually took its recommendation to the full city council. Not without controversy, the council voted 3-2 to create the Pacifica Coast Fog Fest on the last full weekend in September.

The City of Pacifica, with the help of a professional festival planner, produced the first Fog Fest. The only fog to be found was fog made by a rented fog machine. Some 30,000 visitors walked Palmetto Avenue, watched the Discover Pacifica parade, shopped at 100 arts and craft booths, listened to live music, sampled clam chowder, jambalaya and Fog Dogs, and sipped wine, beer and Fog Cutters. They also participated in a surfcasting contest, a Family Fun Fest, a God and Goddess of the Fog contest, a 7K beach run, a fog photo contest, an ocean kayak race and the Councours D'Pacifica.

Thanks to the creativity and hard work of the original steering committee the first Fog Fest was a success and a new tradition was born.

The city continued to produce Fog Fest until 1993 when it authorized a newly founded non-profit to take over. Pacifica Festivals Inc. (PFI) produced the event for the next seven years and kept many of the existing traditions such as the Discover Pacifica Parade, the Friday night Fandango at the Sanchez Adobe, Family Fun Fest, Classic Car show, the Fog Jog on Sunday morning and the beautiful Pacifica Historical Society photo display. KRQR Radio began broadcasting from the event bringing it to the entire Bay Area. In 1992, the Human Fog Horn contest had its debut. And of course the food and arts and craft booths continued to offer local delicacies and treasures.

In 2000, the Fog Fest Organizing Group (FFOG), a group of community minded residents, took on the leadership of the festival. Through tireless fundraising efforts the board members have spurred remarkable growth of sponsorships of Fog Fest. Today it features over 200 arts and crafts booths, three stages with live music, the Discover Pacifica parade and marching band competition on Saturday morning, the Family Fun Fest, the Great Sand Sculpture, Surf Art Experience, Fog Jog and Stride and many contests and games for every age.

In addition to offering family entertainment, Fog Fest has a conscience and is socially responsible. FFOG instituted a "Go Green Campaign" and in partnership with Recology of the Coast recycles anything that's recyclable. It created a "Gift to Pacifica Fund" in 2001 and has given a special gift to the community every year since then. For example, it purchased the original painting featured on the 2004 Fog Fest poster and today it hangs in the Community Center. It donated a bench that sits in the Rotary plaza at the Center for the Performing Arts. For the last 30 years, almost \$900,000 in proceeds from Fog Fest were given back to the community.

While Pacifica's signature event keeps growing and evolving with the times, some things haven't changed: Fog Fest is a celebration of sun, sand, surf and the mythical mist.

Fog Cutters will always be the cocktail of choice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor the 30th anniversary of the Pacifica Coast Fog Fest that lasts only one sunny weekend in September, but benefits the community all year around.

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HONORING MARGARET  
FERNANDEZ

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 24, 2015*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Margaret Fernandez a Community Leader for Hispanic Advancement, Business Development, and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Margaret Fernandez was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Margaret was born into a large family and raised in the Midwest. She came to Yuba-Sutter in 1985 where she studied business administration at Yuba Community College. A former Marketing Manager, Margaret currently works as Branch Operations manager for The Plus Group in Yuba City, a job placement agency. There are many moving pieces within the Marketing and Managing of the Human Resources industry today and it is a challenging job that Margaret has enjoyed for the past 10 years.

Whereas, Margaret is the President of the Alliance for Hispanic Advancement. As one of its founding members, Margaret has organized a project, 'Saber es Poder' (Knowledge is Power) to bring together residents with local, state, federal agencies to share and align need with services. She also serves on the Boards of the Yuba Sutter Economic Development Corporation and North Central Counties Consortium.

Whereas, what makes Margaret so special is that her passionate commitment is perfectly tempered by a kind heart and gentle and respectful demeanor combined with practical, progressive action.

*Resolved*, that I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Margaret Fernandez.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 24, 2015*

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on June 3, 2015, I travelled to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to attend the funeral of John P. "Jack" Peiffer. For this reason, I missed rollcall vote numbers 274 through 287 the floor of the House of Representatives.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF  
U.S. CAPITOL POLICE DETECTIVE  
WILLIAM J. ZIMMERMAN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 24, 2015*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the career of U.S. Capitol Police Detective William J. Zimmerman, who is retiring in October after thirty-two years with the force.

Since 1987, Det. Zimmerman has served with the Threat Assessment Section, the division responsible for investigating threats made against Members of Congress, their families, or others who receive special protection under the law. Det. Zimmerman currently serves as the Senior Investigator, playing a lead role in identifying threats and keeping Members of Congress safe as they serve this nation.

When an individual or group contacts a Member's office in a suspicious way, it is up to Threat Assessment Section investigators like Det. Zimmerman to assess whether a danger is present. As a longtime veteran of the process, Det. Zimmerman has helped establish threat assessment and management programs for other law enforcement services across the United States and in the United Kingdom as well. He has conducted training for House and Senate staff on security awareness and spoken at conferences around the country to share best practices.

Det. Zimmerman served as the first President of the Washington D.C. chapter of the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals and holds that position today. In 2004, he became the inaugural recipient of the Association's distinguished Meritorious Service Award for his work and leadership in the field.

The U.S. Capitol Police play an extraordinarily important and often-overlooked role in the functioning of our nation's democracy. Without the safe and secure space they provide, lawmakers would be unable to conduct the American people's work and carry out our functions under the Constitution. All of us who serve in Congress hold the U.S. Capitol Police and its personnel in high esteem, and we are grateful for those who put on its uniform every day.

I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Det. William J. Zimmerman for his more than three decades of service to the U.S. Capitol Police, to the Congress of the United States, and to our nation. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

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HONORING MARIE SPOONER

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 24, 2015*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Marie Spooner for a lifetime of community giving, and as one of my district's 2015 Women of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Marie Spooner was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Marie Spooner is a homemaker from Williams. Having lived through the Great

Depression and World War II, Marie was taught how to take care of and make do with what you have and to share with others, whether it be feast or famine. Marie has applied that life lesson throughout her entire life.

Whereas, whenever Marie has come across anyone in trouble, she has not turned her back but done what she could. She has fed countless children over the years and offered safe shelter to those who needed it. She has humbly and quietly opened her home and heart to strangers.

Whereas, as a skilled baker, Marie's locally renowned home baked pies have generated thousands of dollars for local charity in Glenn and Colusa counties. Marie's most famous pie sold at auction for \$4,000. The Buyer then sold the slices and collected an additional \$1,000 for a grand total of \$5,000 that a local family desperately needed for medical bills. When Marie discovered that the Buyer did not keep a piece of pie for himself, she baked him another.

Whereas, Marie, at 94 years old, is truly an amazing woman and has yet to decline a baking request for a worthy cause.

*Resolved*, that I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Marie Spooner.

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PYXERA GLOBAL'S 25TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 24, 2015*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating PYXERA Global, headquartered in Washington, D.C., on its 25th anniversary, and for its work to improve lives and build capacity of individuals and institutions around the world.

On January 1, 1990, President George H.W. Bush announced the formation of the Citizens Democracy Corps (CDC), created by executive order after the fall of the Berlin Wall. A New Vision for Global Engagement was launched. Americans wanted to help in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union to strengthen the foundations of free society. CDC sent American business professionals who volunteered their expertise to support the transition to a market economy and promote international understanding. The Corporate Assistance Program established an innovative approach wherein United States corporations provided free technical and business assistance to enterprises and institutions. These programs had a lasting and positive impact in Eastern Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union. In 1991, the Citizens Volunteer Program was launched. This program sent advisors to work with local municipal governments, nonprofits, and institutions of higher education. In 1995, CDC launched its first Local Content Development program in Russia, in which small and medium enterprises gained the capabilities to supply the rapidly expanding oil and gas industry, creating new jobs and mutually profitable, sustainable enterprises. The Enterprise and Economic Development Program was created, operating out of key cities to support local business development.

In 2000, the MBA Enterprise Corps joined the organization, and in 2002 the name changed to Citizens Development Corps, and later, CDC Development Solutions (CDS) with the inclusion of MBAs Without Borders. A landmark pro bono program for corporate employees was pioneered by IBM with CDS in 2008 with teams in Romania, Ghana, and Tanzania. The IBM Corporate Service Corps became a new model of global leadership development and corporate social responsibility. Following the publication of the Harvard Case Study, IBM: The Corporate Service Corps, CDS hosted the First International Corporate Volunteerism Conference, and IBM, USAID, and CDC Development Solutions formed the Center for Excellence in International Corporate Volunteerism. Today, more than 30 major companies send employees into underserved communities to build capability and capacity through skills-based volunteerism.

In 2012, the U.S. Center for Citizen Diplomacy (USCCD) became part of CDS, and with their expanded mission, the organization adopted a new name in 2013, PYXERA Global.

Today, PYXERA Global takes pride in the solutions that have inspired, enriched, and endured for a quarter century in more than 90 countries. They continue to facilitate groundbreaking partnerships between the public, private, and social sectors in dozens of countries, reinventing international development through purposeful global engagement to address the world's most pressing challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the 25th anniversary of PYXERA Global and its work enriching lives and livelihoods inclusively and sustainably.

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TRIBUTE TO RAY AND CHARLOTTE  
NEWBERG

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 24, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ray and Charlotte Newberg of Clarinda, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Ray and Charlotte's lifelong commitment to each other, their children, Kevin and Ken, their grandchildren and great-grandchildren truly embodies Iowa values. I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

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CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF NAVAL SUPPORT  
FACILITY INDIAN HEAD

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 24, 2015*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on September 26, 2015, people throughout Maryland and the Fifth District will celebrate the 125th anniversary

of the founding of the Naval Support Facility Indian Head and the unique role it has played in strengthening our national security and growing the local community.

The facility traces its beginnings to Assistant Naval Constructor Robert Brooke Dashiell, a graduate of the Naval Academy in Annapolis who was dispatched by the Bureau of Ordnance to build a testing ground to support America's growing naval power at the turn of the century. Opened in 1890 as the Naval Proving Ground, NSF Indian Head was the Navy's first installation in Southern Maryland, beginning a long tradition in the region. Throughout its history, NSF Indian Head has been the site of development and testing for some of the most important weapons in the Navy's arsenal. Some of the world's most powerful rockets were created there, along with technologies used in pilots' ejection seats and life-saving armor.

Today, NSF Indian Head is home to several Navy tenants, including the Indian Head Division of the Naval Surface Warfare Center; the Marine Corps Chemical, Biological Incident Response Force; the Joint Interoperability Test Center; and the Naval Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technology Division. The work these tenants carry out at NSF Indian Head is critical to helping our seamen and Marines conduct their missions around the world and to ensuring their safety as they do so. I've been proud to visit NSF Indian Head many times over the more than two decades I have represented the installation and meet with those who serve there—as well as to support robust funding in Congress for the Navy to continue doing great work at NSF Indian Head.

For 125 years, residents of the Town of Indian Head and of Charles County have been extraordinary in their support for the men and women stationed at NSF Indian Head. Since the early part of the twentieth century, the town has grown up around the base, and communities across Charles County have benefited from the economic activity that NSF Indian Head generates by employing some of our nation's top energetic scientists and engineers. NSF Indian Head continues to be important not only to our national security but as one of the largest employers in Charles County and Southern Maryland.

I join in congratulating the men and women of NSF Indian Head on the facility's 125th anniversary and look forward to continuing to work with the Indian Head community to make sure the base has every resource it needs to carry out its work, which is so critical to our national defense.

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IN RECOGNITION OF GARY LAMAR  
"SPARKY" REEVES

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 24, 2015*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished educator and the bulwark of South Georgia Technical College, President Gary Lamar "Sparky" Reeves. A retirement celebration in honor of President Reeves was held on Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the John M. Pope Industrial Technology Center on the campus in Americus, Georgia.