

restaurants around our state for being beloved destinations for both visitors and locals alike. Lagomarcino's earned this honor because of its long-standing customer services and tasty treats that attract visitors from all over the globe.

Lagomarcino's, a beloved ice cream parlor in downtown Moline, is famous for its hot fudge sundaes, sponge candy, filled chocolate eggs, and hand-dipped cones. The turn-of-the-century parlor features mahogany booths custom built by Moline Furniture Works, Tiffany lamps designed in New York, and the terrazzo floor was installed by Cassini Tile of Rock Island. In 1997, Lagomarcino's expanded and opened a second location in the Village of East Davenport, Iowa, and fans from all over the world can order delectable treats online.

Angelo Lagomarcino, an immigrant from Italy, opened Lagomarcino's Confectionery in Moline in 1908 after obtaining a secret recipe for hot fudge sauce from a traveling salesman in the early 1900s. Against his wife's wishes, he paid \$25 dollars for that recipe—a price that clearly paid off for the restaurant's many, many fans. That same recipe is used today and Lagomarcino's sauce has earned national and international recognition from food editors and culinary magazines.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to congratulate Lagomarcino's for achieving this honored distinction and wish them even more success in the future.

HONORING KEN VOGEL

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor San Joaquin County Supervisor Ken Vogel and to thank him for his leadership and dedication to the citizens of San Joaquin County.

Ken Vogel was born in Stockton, California on March 9, 1945, and moved to the Linden/Waterloo area in 1947. Mr. Vogel's family has been in the area since 1852 when his great-grandparents came to the Jackson Valley in Amador County, and in the early 1900s, moved to the Stockton/Lodi area.

Ken graduated from Linden High School in 1963, then went on to receive a BA, MA, and Teaching and Administrative credentials from Fresno State University. He worked as a teacher, vice principal, and principal in the Lodi Unified School District from 1980 until retirement in 2004 but continued as a substitute principal until his election to the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors.

Ken has had the honor of receiving the Lodi Lodge #256 of Masons Award for Outstanding Professional Service to Students of Public Schools and the John Terry Award from the Lodi School Administrators Association for Outstanding Educator. In 2001, he was named Boss of the Year by the Lodi CSEA group of classified employees.

Ken raises over a hundred acres of walnuts and cherries in the Linden and Farmington areas and has farmed in the area for over 30 years, marketing walnuts and cherries through local companies. In 2004, he received an award from Diamond Walnut as the Outstanding Hartley Walnut Grower of the area

for that year. He has been an active member of the San Joaquin County Cherry Growers Association and a Farm Bureau member for many years and, as a Supervisor, continues to attend Farm Bureau meetings regularly.

Ken's community involvement activities include: Trustee and Past President of the Board of the Linden Unified School District from 1992–2006, Trustee and Vice President of the Board of the Lodi Public Library from 2003–2006, Member and Past Director of the San Joaquin County Farm Bureau, Member of the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Water Committee, Member and Past Director of the Kiwanis of Greater Lodi, Member of the Escalon Kiwanis Club, Member of the Ripon Chamber of Commerce, Member of the Linden Chamber of Commerce, Member of the Linden Athletic Boosters Club, Member of the Friends of the Linden Library, Member of the Morada Area Association, Member of the Stockton Chamber of Commerce, Member of the Lodi Chamber of Commerce, Member of the Clements-Lockeford Chamber of Commerce, Member of the Historical Society of the Germans from Russia, Member of the San Joaquin County Historical Society, Member of the Lockeford Historical Society, Member of the Escalon Historical Society, Member of the Ripon Historical Society, and Member of the Lodi American Legion Post #22. He also served in the United States Army Reserve from 1968–2000 and was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain.

Ken is has always been committed to the economic development of his community, including the protection and expansion of our large agricultural industry. In addition, water has been one of his most focused areas of involvement as a member of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending Ken Vogel, San Joaquin County Supervisor, for his numerous years of selfless service to the betterment of our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOB MERWIN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Bob Merwin, the Chief Executive Officer of Mills-Peninsula Health Services, who is retiring after a remarkable 27-year-career there and a lifelong career in health care. Bob knew early on that hospital administration would be his future and his passion.

Under his leadership for almost three decades Bob proved what he often said—that he is not afraid of change. He led Mills-Peninsula through major changes and transitions and is leaving it prepared for a long and strong future.

Bob came to Mills-Peninsula in 1987 as the Executive Vice President, rose to Chief Operating Officer and then in 1991 to CEO. One of his biggest and most recent accomplishments was the building and opening of the state-of-the-art Mills-Peninsula Medical Center in 2011. The 241-bed, 450,000 square foot hospital features private rooms with 21st century patient life technology, electronic charting and online capabilities that allow for efficient communication, family sleeping accommodations,

advanced earthquake technology designed to withstand an 8.5 quake, and a top-notch emergency department. It also has its own chef preparing sustainably and locally grown food for patients, staff and for special events for the public.

Looking at the 241-bed hospital today, it is humbling to remember its beginnings. Founded by Elizabeth Mills Reid, the Church of St. Matthew Red Cross Guild opened in San Mateo in 1908 with just six beds. It was later renamed Mills Memorial Hospital. Due to significant growth during the following decades, Peninsula Hospital opened in 1954 in Burlingame. In 1985, Mills and Peninsula merged into Mills-Peninsula Health Services. Bob oversaw the integration of both hospitals. He was also at the helm for the next large merger with Sutter Health System in 1996 striving to further strengthening the system of care.

Under Bob's leadership, Mills-Peninsula developed and opened the first community hospital Breast Center with advanced diagnostic technologies, the Mack E. Mickelson Arthritis Center, the Family Birth Center, the Dorothy E. Schneider Cancer Center, the Women's Center, and a Behavioral Health facility. During the years leading up to national health reform, Bob kept his optimism and focus on building an organization that cares for its community.

In his career and in life, Bob has had a strong partner equally committed to health care. He married to Jean Merwin, a nurse for Sutter Care at Home, in 1999. The two first met in the early 70s when they both worked at Long Beach Community Hospital. Bob went on to earn his Master's Degree in Hospital Administration from UCLA and become the Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center in San Francisco. Jean moved to the Mendocino Coast and worked as an administrator for a non-profit clinic. Nearly 20 years later, Bob and Jean re-connected at a conference on the Mendocino Coast. Between the two of them they have three children, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

In their well-deserved retirement, Bob and Jean are looking forward to spending more time with family and pursue their common passion for golf.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Bob Merwin for his remarkable career and dedication to health care. He has built Mills-Peninsula Health Services into an organization that will serve patients, provide jobs and advance our health care system for decades to come.

PREVENTING TERMINATION OF UTILITY SERVICES IN BANKRUPTCY ACT OF 2015

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 6, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, utility companies provide many basic and life-saving services, such as electricity to light our homes, water to drink, and gas to heat our homes. Sometimes, however, individuals, through no fault of their own, struggle to pay for these services often in the face of devastating medical debt, job loss, or economic disruption