

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE PUEBLO OF LAGUNA FEAST DAYS

HON. DEBRA A. HAALAND

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Pueblo of Laguna for hosting annual Village Feast Days. I speak in honor of the Pueblo of Laguna, our tribal members and traditions. With Laguna Village's Saint Joseph Feast Day, celebrated on the 19th day of March and September. With Seam Village's Feast Day celebrated on July 26th. With Mesita Village's Feast Day celebrated on August 15th. With Encinal Village's Feast Day celebrated on September 8th. With Pagueate Village's Feast Day celebrated on September 25th. With Paraje Village's Feast Day celebrated on October 17th. Laguna Pueblo has six distinct villages, and they each celebrate respective feast days; expect for the September Saint Joseph's Feast day where all villages celebrate together.

Pueblo Feast Days commemorate the Catholic Saints that were given to each New Mexico pueblo when the Franciscan Priests descended upon the Pueblos beginning in the late 1500s. The Pueblo of Laguna feast is among the largest of Pueblo feast days in the Southwestern United States where thousands of people travel across New Mexico and the United States to attend. The Pueblo is located approximately forty miles west of Albuquerque.

The ancestors of the Pueblo of Laguna have occupied the region since at least 1300 A.D. When the Pueblo Indians migrated to the Rio Grande Valley from places such as Chaco Canyon, Mesa Verde and Bears Eats. Laguna is Spanish for "lago" or "lake" which is in reference to a small lake that was once located within the Pueblo. The Keres language is the Indigenous language that members of Laguna speak.

The Pueblo of Laguna feast days are times for members of the Pueblo of Laguna to celebrate our culture, heritage, art and traditions by members gathering on the pueblo village plaza for traditions by members gathering on the pueblo village plaza for traditional dances and opening our homes to visitors to share in traditional food. Feast days are open to the public, where visitors are given the opportunity to understand the Laguna peoples' traditions by observing ceremonial dances, cultural activities and purchasing arts and crafts.

The importance of understanding all native cultures cannot be understated. Diverse cultural understanding is in furtherance of a better-informed people and nation. Knowledge of Native American culture tears down racial and cultural barriers and promotes an inclusive society. An inclusive society is necessary to national progress and the prosperity of the people of the United States. Inclusion allows people to come together in support of each other,

promoting the well being of all people regardless of cultural and racial background.

Madam Speaker, today I request to honor the Pueblo of Laguna for hosting their annual Feast Days which are essential to the future of our community and the overall strength and resilience of all Native American people. I thank and honor the Pueblo of Laguna for their hard work and dedication to protecting their culture and traditions, which will stand for generations to come.

MARTY SEROTER

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Gibbsboro, New Jersey resident Marty Seroter, Camden County Town Hall Veteran Honoree.

After graduating from High School, in the late 1960s, Mr. Marty Seroter proudly enlisted and served in the United States Army. During his time of service, Mr. Seroter was stationed in Germany where he earned the rank of Specialist E-4 and as a musician, gladly served in the United States Army Band.

Following his return stateside, Mr. Seroter continued to serve his community through his career with Camden County as a Clerk Driver and Messenger for more than two decades. Through his distinguished career and lifetime of public service, and as an American Legion Post Bugler, Mr. Seroter actively participates in countless events performing Taps for formal County ceremonies, such as the Pearl Harbor Day services held annually on the Battleship New Jersey in the City of Camden and the County Memorial Day ceremony held to honor veterans and those interred at Potter's Field.

As a dedicated public servant, today and for the past 30 years, Mr. Seroter continues his service as an active member of the American Legion Post 371 Honor Guard. Serving his community and fellow veterans at the American Legion Post, Mr. Seroter presently oversees the Legion Hall rentals and manages the canteen and continues to participate in the Presentation of the Colors and Taps at formal ceremonies as the Post Bugler.

In recognition of his valiant and distinguished service to our nation, Mr. Seroter was awarded and has humbly received the National Defense Service Medal for his honorable active service as a member of the Armed Forces.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Mr. Marty Seroter of Gibbsboro, New Jersey who is a constant reminder of the sacrifices that our men and women of the Armed Forces make to protect and defend the liberty and freedom of all Americans.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ANNA MARIE TEODOSIO

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Anna Marie Teodosio who peacefully entered into eternal life on October 16, 2019 while surrounded by her loving family.

Anna was born to Mary and Giuseppe Tiano on February 5, 1928 in Derby, Connecticut. She grew up in Derby along with two sisters and eight brothers and attended Derby High School.

Anna eventually met the love of her life, Alexander "Al" Teodosio, at a local dance celebrating the end of World War II. After a long courtship, Al and Anna were married on August 19, 1950 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Derby, Connecticut. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Brooklyn, New York and eventually Akron, Ohio, where they began their family. Their love grew and flourished throughout an adventurous sixty-five year marriage.

Anna was a true inspiration and a beautiful human spirit to all that knew and loved her. Her passions were embracing her faith, spending time with family and friends, reading, playing Scrabble and card games, cooking, and rooting for Notre Dame football. She especially treasured preparing large traditional Italian Sunday afternoon dinners for her ever-growing family.

Anna, with her beloved husband Al, raised five loving children: MaryAnne Cort (Bill), Thomas Teodosio (Linda), Carol Anne Peter (Dave), Robert Teodosio (Tina), and Alex Teodosio (Stephanie).

She is survived by nine grandchildren, Christine Klaben, Kathleen Klaben (Dave Nulanz), Ellen Karns, Joseph Cort (Melissa), David Cort, Christopher Teodosio (Katherine), Alexandra Teodosio, Nicholas Teodosio and Joseph Teodosio. She is also survived by six great grandchildren, Emily Cort, Clara Cort, Charles Nulanz, Alice Karns, Charlotte Teodosio and Ava Teodosio; and by her beloved brother, William Tiano along with many close friends who knew her to be compassionate and caring through her faith and in her service to others. Anna was preceded in death by her parents; nine siblings; son, Alan; and granddaughter, Andrea Teodosio.

I am very proud to be a friend of Anna's son, Judge Thomas Teodosio, and her daughter-in-law, Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio. Anna touched many lives, and I extend my deepest sympathies to all who knew and loved her. She will be greatly missed.

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