"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 nonprofit 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.

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.

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.

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