

County of Monterey

— BOARD OF SUPERVISORS —

RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 25-002
Adopt a resolution honoring the life of Ruth Andresen...)

WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen was born on December 11, 1920, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, into a world recovering from the Great War and the flu pandemic of 1918; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen demonstrated remarkable academic and personal resilience, pursuing education with determination, traveling to Stanford University at the age of 18 to study Geology and Spanish, and forming lifelong relationships, including meeting her future husband, Norman P. Andresen; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen worked as an invasion planner in Washington, D.C during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen’s career as a petroleum geologist took her around the globe, where she faced challenges with courage, including surviving the Costa Rican revolution in 1948, before returning to Salinas, California, with Norman to build a family and contribute to their community; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen dedicated her life to public service and civic engagement as a member of numerous boards and commissions, including the California Coastal Commission, the Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art, Asilomar, the First Mayor’s House, the Salinas Woman’s Club, an honorary member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society, and the Lyceum of Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen was a 12-term member of the Monterey County Board of Education, being elected in 1963 to serve as a trustee for the Monterey County Office of Education for 48 years; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen being the first female Director of the Salinas City Chamber of Commerce, co-founded Founder’s Day to commemorate Salinas’ 150th birthday, fostering community pride and historical awareness; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen played a pioneering role in environmental sustainability by establishing the first recycling center in collaboration with Smuckers, mobilizing church groups and youth organizations to collect aluminum cans, bottles, newspapers, and magazines for recycling; and

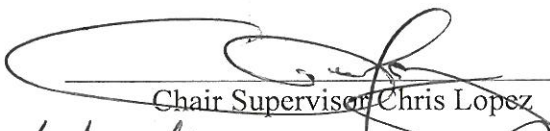
WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen and her ex-husband were instrumental in the establishment of the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital in 1952, providing a cornerstone for health and wellness in the community; and

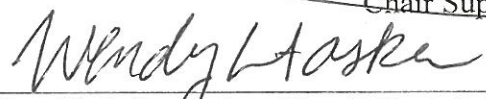
WHEREAS, Ruth Andresen passed away at home on the morning of October 31, 2022, surrounded by her family, just one month before her 102nd birthday, having lived a life filled with curiosity, resilience, and service.

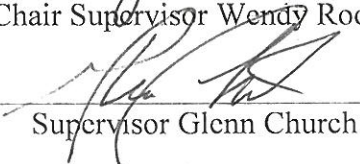
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, that we honor Ruth Andresen for her extraordinary contributions to the Salinas Valley and Monterey County, her unwavering dedication to environmental stewardship, education, and community service, and her enduring legacy that continues to inspire future generations; and

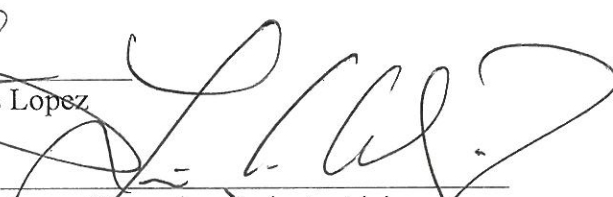
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution serves as a testament to Ruth Andresen and her exemplary life of service, commitment, and advocacy for the betterment of her community and beyond.

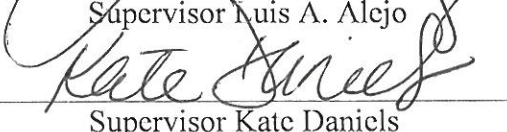
PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 14th day of January 2025


Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez


Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew


Supervisor Glenn Church


Supervisor Luis A. Alejo


Supervisor Kate Daniels

