

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

HONORING TOM HOUSE
FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE IN ESTABLISHING
THE PAJARO VALLEY SPORTS FOUNDATION SOCCER COMPLEX AT FREEDOM SCHOOL

WHEREAS, Tom House, retired attorney, has been a dedicated and visionary community leader who, through the Watsonville Rotary Club, played a pivotal role in making the Pajaro Valley Sports Foundation (PVSF) soccer fields at Freedom Elementary School a reality; and

WHEREAS, in late 2017, during a Watsonville Rotary Club meeting, a simple yet powerful question was asked: What do our youth need most? The answer—more soccer fields—sparked a movement that led to the founding of the Pajaro Valley Sports Foundation in 2018; and

WHEREAS, from the start, Tom House, spearheaded the effort—bringing together regional leaders, organizing countless meetings, and forging strong partnerships with key organizations including Driscoll's and the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County; and

WHEREAS, Tom led with both vision and hands-on commitment, contributing legal and organizational expertise while also restoring fences, digging ditches, pulling weeds, maintaining turf, and overseeing daily progress; and

WHEREAS, under Tom's tireless leadership, a 20-year joint use agreement was signed with Pajaro Valley Unified School District in April 2020, marking a major milestone in transforming Freedom Elementary's field into a safe and vibrant community sports complex; and

WHEREAS, between 2020 and 2021, Tom worked with partners and volunteers to oversee major improvements—grading, drainage, irrigation, and beautification—creating a soccer field that now serves Freedom Elementary, Pajaro Valley United, the Aztecas Soccer Program, and countless local youth; and

WHEREAS, Tom House's work has made a lasting impact on our community, providing safe, healthy, and inspiring spaces and today, the field will be officially dedicated in a celebration that honors the collective efforts of many, and especially the leadership of individuals like Tom.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Felipe Hernandez, Santa Cruz County Fourth District Supervisor, hereby honor Tom House for his exceptional leadership, dedication, and hands-on service in creating the Pajaro Valley Sports Foundation Soccer Complex at Freedom Elementary School.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Felipe Hernandez", is written over a horizontal line.

Member, Board of Supervisors

May 24, 2025

Date