



C O U N T Y O F

Inyo

Proclamation

A PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF INYO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, RECOGNIZING CARL AND SUZI DENNETT'S SELFLESS CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOUTHEAST INYO COUNTY

Whereas, volunteerism, altruism, kindness, and trusted, fair leadership are all part of the foundation of a healthy, thriving community; and

Whereas, Inyo County proudly enjoys a reputation for spirited community service, philanthropy, and attentiveness in all of its communities, which is perhaps most impressively displayed in its small desert communities; and

Whereas, the residents of Tecopa, Shoshone, and Charleston View work hard, work together, care for one another, and champion each other with relatively few resources in a vast expanse of land; and

Whereas, Carl and Suzi Dennett are the personification of the dedication, community spirit, and determination on display in these small communities; and

Whereas, for more than a decade, the Dennetts devoted considerable time, talents, labor, and personal resources to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of their neighbors, visitors, and local businesses; and

Whereas, Carl and Suzi have contributed tirelessly to local organizations, causes, fundraisers, and community events – most of it on a purely volunteer basis; and

Whereas, both Carl and Suzi have been integral members of the Southern Inyo Fire Protection District since 2006, helping since 2007 to organize the SIFPD's annual fundraisers, as well as cooking, serving up barbecue, and cleaning up afterwards, gathering prizes, and working booths; and

Whereas, Carl embarked on a mission to build a thriving SIFPD, first as administrator and most recently as chief, working hard to recruit and retain personnel, secure funding for equipment and expenses, and train volunteers to become certified EMTs; and

Whereas, Suzi was right there alongside him, serving as clerk for the SIFPD Board of Directors and putting her heart, soul, and considerably sharp mind in to working with Carl to overcome the challenges presented by operating an organization that is always balanced on the financial edge; and

Whereas, for the last 12 years, Suzi has joined Carl's efforts with the Emergency Medical Care Committee to address critical staffing shortages – with the Dennetts often volunteering to travel to volunteer fire departments throughout the county to host EMT certification courses; and

Whereas, Suzi would go the extra mile for students, getting to know them personally and helping them succeed by offering unwavering support; and

Whereas, her support of the District also included delivering food, water, and coffee to volunteers in the field at all times of the day and night, as well as working on other fundraisers over the years that included a recycling project and T-shirt sales; and

Whereas, while Carl was running the District, Suzi was enthusiastically networking as she represented the SIFPD in a way that not only brought in donations, but earned the District friends; and

Whereas, there was seemingly no distance or inconvenience that would stop either of the Dennetts from contributing to the greater good, participating in local government, and advocating for causes and projects they believed would benefit Southeast Inyo County and the county as a whole; and

Whereas, much of this advocacy was made in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors – almost 200 miles from Tecopa – where they made frequent appearances to address their elected officials on behalf of the fire district, local businesses, and themselves as private citizens, on issues ranging from groundwater to desert protection legislation to cannabis; and

Whereas, Suzi, as Executive Director of the Death Valley Chamber of Commerce, invested much energy and many hours in assisting visitors, supporting small businesses, and promoting Southeast Inyo's attractions and resources; and

Whereas, Suzi and Carl could always be counted on to step up as leaders or volunteers for various community projects, including the water kiosk in Tecopa, the construction and maintenance of which was overseen by Carl; and

Whereas, the Dennetts, by virtue of their diligence and vigilance – and by their mere presence – have made Southeast Inyo and the entire County of Inyo a better place to live and visit.

Now, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed, this 9th day of June, 2020, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors acknowledges and thanks, with its deepest and most heartfelt gratitude, Carl and Suzi Dennett for their many years of service to the residents and visitors of Inyo County, and wishes them a fond farewell as they embark on what this Board hopes will be a healthy, happy, and rewarding new chapter in their lives.



Matt Kingsley, Chairperson, District 5

