



MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS REPORT

JUNE 24, 2025

1.0 PROCLAMATIONS

--Dr. Carmin Mari Powell
2025 Rather Awardee
June 12, 2025

--Homelessness Prevention and Intervention Services Connector Team
2025 Rather Awardee
June 12, 2025

--Roberto Atilano Diaz
2025 Rather Awardee
June 12, 2025

--Larry Jacobs & Sandra Belin
Jacobs Farm/Del Cabo Co-owners
2025 Farmer of the Year
June 19, 2025



P *roclamation*
Dr. Carmin Mari Powell,
MD, FAAP
2025 Rather Awardee
June 12, 2025

WHEREAS, Dr. Carmin Mari Powell is a Clinical Associate Professor and Medical Director for Pediatrics at Watsonville Community Hospital, part of the Stanford Children's Health Network; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Powell co-founded the LEAD Program and directs the Black Faculty Affinity meetings at Stanford Medicine, supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion in academic medicine; and

WHEREAS, a Santa Cruz native, Dr. Powell advocates for child and maternal health equity through clinical care, leadership, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, her work has created lasting change in both local and academic communities; and

WHEREAS, she continues to mentor future healthcare leaders committed to justice and equity in medicine.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Maria Orozco, Mayor of the City of Watsonville, in the State of California, on behalf of the City Council hereby recognize Dr. Carmin Mari Powell, MD, FAAP for being a recipient of the 2025 Rather Awards, which recognize those who work tirelessly every day to uplift our community.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Watsonville to be affixed this 12th day of June, Two thousand and twenty-five.

Maria Orozco, Mayor



P ***roclamation***
***Homelessness Prevention
and Intervention Services
Connector Team
2025 Rather Awardee
June 12, 2025***

WHEREAS, the Homelessness Prevention and Intervention Services team at the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County works extensively to prevent and intervene in homelessness in Watsonville and the Pajaro Valley; and

WHEREAS, the team provides vital services including document obtainment such as driver's licenses, identification cards, and birth certificates; and

WHEREAS, they also make referrals and connections to health care and behavioral health, assist with housing navigation, and provide emergency temporary shelter during inclement weather in the winter months; and

WHEREAS, their commitment and unwavering support to the unhoused community is truly a labor of love.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Maria Orozco, Mayor of the City of Watsonville, in the State of California, on behalf of the City Council hereby recognize Homelessness Prevention and Intervention Services Connector Team, a program of Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, for being a recipient of the 2025 Rather Awards, which recognize those who work tirelessly every day to uplift our community.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Watsonville to be affixed this 12th day of June, Two thousand and twenty-five.

Maria Orozco, Mayor



P r o c l a m a t i o n

Roberto Atilano Diaz

2025 Rather Awardee

June 12, 2025

- WHEREAS,** Roberto is an Assistive Technology Instructor at Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired; and
- WHEREAS,** Roberto empowers individuals with vision loss to live independently through personalized training, support, and advocacy; and
- WHEREAS,** as someone with a progressive visual impairment and former client himself, Roberto brings empathy and firsthand experience to his work; and
- WHEREAS,** a Watsonville resident, Roberto's journey from client to staff member reflects his deep commitment to the Pajaro Valley community; and
- WHEREAS,** he provides bilingual services, participates in local outreach events, and has become a role model and trusted guide for those adjusting to vision loss; and
- WHEREAS,** through his teaching and outreach, Roberto helps individuals build confidence, regain independence, and access critical resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Maria Orozco, Mayor of the City of Watsonville, in the State of California, on behalf of the City Council hereby recognize Roberto Atilano Diaz for being a recipient of the 2025 Rather Awards, which recognize those who work tirelessly every day to uplift our community.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Watsonville to be affixed this 12th day of June, Two thousand and twenty-five.

Maria Orozco, Mayor



P r o c l a m a t i o n

Larry Jacobs & Sandra Belin Jacobs Farm/Del Cabo Co-owners 2025 Farmer of the Year June 19, 2025

- WHEREAS,** Larry Jacobs and Sandra Belin are deeply committed to growing organic food and protecting our land and soils to assure that there continues to be a place to plant and grow healthy flavorful food in the future; and
- WHEREAS,** Larry graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo where he studied soil science and plant pathology; and
- WHEREAS,** in the mid 1970's, Sandra apprenticed on an organic farm on the coast of Maine and later worked for a non-profit based in Guatemala developing low-cost appropriate technologies and earthen based cook stoves; and
- WHEREAS,** Larry and Sandra co-founded Jacobs Farm in 1980, a northern California organic farming operation specializing in culinary herbs, and currently they farm in San Mateo, Santa Cruz and Santa Clara Counties, growing herbs, tomatoes and pumpkins; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1985 Larry and Sandra started working with small family farmers in southern Mexico, connecting their crops with markets in California with a vision for the exchange to become a self-sustaining development project; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2007 they co-founded Farm Fuel Inc. to exploit the "hot stuff in mustard" and anaerobic soil disinfection to eliminate soil diseases in high value crops as a replacement to methyl bromide, a soil fumigant phased out under the Montreal Protocol and Clean Air Act; and
- WHEREAS,** Larry and Sandra were awarded the prestigious Organic Trade Association's (OTA) 2007 Organic Farming Leadership Award for "innovation in organic farming practices, his extensive work to educate farmers on organic conversion, and for being pioneers in their fields" according to OTA and were again honored to receive the "Stewards of Sustainable Agriculture" award at the Ecological Farming Association's 2009 Eco-Farm.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Maria Orozco, Mayor of the City of Watsonville, in the State of California, on behalf of the City Council hereby congratulate Larry Jacobs and Sandra Belin, Jacobs Farm/Del Cabo Co-owners, on receiving the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau 2025 Farmer of the Year award.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Watsonville to be affixed this 19th day of June, Two thousand and twenty-five.

Maria Orozco, Mayor

