

Jackie is the President of the Wynmoor Community Council, President and Council Representative for Martinique III Village Condominium Association, and Special Events Vice President of the Wynmoor Golf Association. Jackie's service to Wynmoor spans many years, during which she has taken on a wide range of roles, from advocating for improved amenities and recreational spaces to leading social programs that bring residents together. Her initiatives have fostered a sense of unity within the community and have enriched the lives of all who call Wynmoor home. As a City Commissioner and a devoted community volunteer, Jackie has shown exceptional leadership, integrity, and commitment to her constituents. Her legacy of service is an inspiration to all who work alongside her.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Jackie Railey's invaluable contributions to the community. Her years of service as a City Commissioner and community leader have left an indelible mark, and we are deeply grateful for her unwavering dedication. I thank Jackie Railey for her exceptional commitment to our community and look forward to the lasting impact of her work.

HONORING VIETNAM WAR
VETERAN RICH ALLEN

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Rich Allen, a distinguished military veteran and the longest tenured employee at Lansing Community College. Rich Allen's life exemplifies dedication to both education and service. His story is one of unwavering commitment to his country and to higher education.

Born on June 11, 1945 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Rich moved with his family to Michigan in the 1950s. He grew up in Michigan and graduated from Chelsea High School in 1963. After earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from Cleary University, Rich chose to enlist in the U.S. Army in 1967 during the height of the Vietnam War. He served with the Army Security Agency, a predecessor of today's National Security Agency, which was tasked with electronic intelligence and warfare. Agency operators played a critical role in intercepting and decoding enemy radio transmissions to provide vital intelligence to American forces.

As a Morse Intercept Operator, Rich underwent rigorous training, mastering Morse code. In 1968, he was deployed to Vietnam stationed at the 303rd Radio Research Battalion, an undercover unit for Army Security Agency operators. Rich performed critical tasks such as tracking enemy radio transmissions and triangulating positions to support military operations. His work, which often included helicopter reconnaissance to gather frontline intelligence, was crucial to the war effort, coordinating intelligence that informed artillery and airstrikes.

Rich's distinguished service earned him numerous commendations, including the Bronze Star Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal, all recognizing his technical expertise and steadfast commitment.

After his honorable discharge in 1971, Rich returned to Michigan and enrolled at Lansing

Community College, marking the beginning of a 50-year career. While pursuing a degree in computer programming, he began as a student programmer in 1973 and soon transitioned to a full-time position in the Information Technology Department, where he helped advance the college's technological capabilities. From writing code on punch cards and using early computer systems to developing the college's first online system in 1975, his work laid the foundation for modern IT practices at Lansing Community College.

Over his tenure spanning more than five decades, Rich Allen has served under seven college presidents and held various job titles, adapting to each new wave of technology. His expertise and collaborative spirit has helped countless colleagues, earning him deep respect within the Lansing community.

Rich's legacy is marked not only by his military service and professional accomplishments but also by his dedication to his family. He finds joy in spending time with his son and grandchildren, fishing, camping, and gardening—a testament to living a well-rounded life. It is with profound respect and gratitude that I recognize his service.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN GOODWIN

HON. KEVIN MULLIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2024

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor John Goodwin, Councilmember and current Mayor of the Town of Colma, upon his retirement after 35 years of serving the public.

Mr. Goodwin was born in a small community near Denver, Colorado, in 1960. His love of the outdoors and passion for serving others led him to begin his career as a National Park Service law enforcement ranger. For 27 years, Mr. Goodwin worked in National Parks across the continental United States, traveling from the Rocky Mountains in Colorado, to Mount Rainier in Washington State, to the Everglades in Florida, and finally to Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Mr. Goodwin's extensive career as a National Park Service ranger is emblematic of his commitment to helping others. He put his life on the line numerous times, saving many others in the process as well as nearly losing his own from two devastating lightning strikes. Mr. Goodwin endured the physical and mental costs of the dangers of his career, including a decade-long battle with post-traumatic stress disorder. However, with the help of his family and friends, Mr. Goodwin persevered, seeking treatment at the West Coast Post Trauma Retreat and continuing his mission to help others. He later documented many of his unforgettable stories in his memoir "Echoes of the Badge: Stories from a National Park Service Career" where he poignantly shared the joys and tribulations of his 27 years as a ranger.

In 2016, after retiring from the National Park Service, Mr. Goodwin decided to continue his career of public service by successfully running for an elected seat on Town of Colma City Council. Referred to as the "City of Souls," this small community just south of San Francisco is unique in that much of its land is dominated by cemeteries—the population of

the dead is speculated to outnumber the living by a ratio of one thousand to one. During his tenure as a councilmember, Mr. Goodwin embarked on numerous initiatives to cultivate the vitality of the town. He pushed for increased multi-cultural recreation events, supported public art projects, championed flag-raising to honor the diversity of the town's residents, and offered his unwavering support for local businesses. He additionally welcomed Colma's Veteran's Village with open arms, providing 65 units of housing for formerly homeless veterans and their families. Mr. Goodwin served as Mayor of Colma in 2020, where he worked tirelessly to protect his constituents and the town's local businesses during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2024, he again took office as Mayor, serving the town on the 100th anniversary of the town's incorporation.

Mr. Goodwin has also demonstrated exemplary community service outside of his official leadership positions in Colma. He has volunteered and raised thousands of dollars for various mental illness and veteran support organizations, including the Wounded Warrior Project, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and for 9/11 survivors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring the extraordinary service to the public that John Goodwin has presented over his 35-year career. All of the lives that he has touched are better off through his dedication and commitment.

CONGRATULATING ENVISION DALLAS ON A NEW FACILITY IN FARMERS BRANCH

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Envision Dallas on the grand opening of its new facility in Farmers Branch, Texas. Envision Dallas has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to our community and dedicated countless hours to the development of a state-of-the-art facility that will serve as a beacon of hope, opportunity, and empowerment for many North Texans.

The transformation of the long-abandoned AT&T call center in Farmers Branch is nothing short of remarkable. This building, which had stood vacant for over a decade, has now been revitalized into a hub of economic growth and empowerment. The project has not only breathed new life into this space, but it has also created over 100 jobs for individuals who are blind or visually impaired, providing them with meaningful employment through the AbilityOne program. This level of investment and impact is precisely the kind of initiative that strengthens our communities.

In addition to its direct contributions to economic development, Envision Dallas plays a critical role in supporting our national defense. Through its work as a key AbilityOne provider, Envision Dallas supplies essential items such as battle dress uniforms, office supplies, presentation binders, printing support, and eyeglass cases to our military. This commitment underscores its vital role in supporting those who ensure our national security every day.

Envision Dallas also extends its impact closer to home by directly supporting the State of

Texas through its provision of essential safety gear to our road and highway workers through the Texas Workforce Commission and food products to the Texas prison system. Beyond its contributions to defense and state operations, Envision Dallas offers an array of essential services that will benefit countless families in North Texas. The Cathy G. Hudson Envision Child Development Center will nurture our youngest learners, ensuring children of all abilities have the foundation they need to succeed. The Perot Welcome Center will serve as a vital resource for families and individuals seeking support. The newly established Envision Vision and Rehabilitation Clinic will provide cutting-edge care to those with vision impairments, while the William L. Hudson Workforce Innovation Center will empower individuals who are blind or visually impaired to gain the skills and confidence necessary to excel in today's workforce.

Envision Dallas is setting a powerful example of what it means to truly invest in people, infrastructure, and the future of our community. This transformative facility will no doubt have a positive impact on North Texas for years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FRED
POWELL

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable constituent from my district, Fred Powell, as he approaches his 103rd birthday in May 2025. With over a century of life experiences, Fred's journey is one of service, dedication, and community that deserves recognition.

After his honorable discharge from the Army, Fred joined the family business, Powell's Electric Shop, which was founded in 1922

by his father and great-uncle. What began as a small appliance store on York Road in Hatboro grew over the decades into a full-service electrical company serving Bucks and Montgomery counties. Fred took the reins of the business in the 1950s, working alongside his father until he eventually purchased the business and expanded it further.

Fred's dedication to Powell's Electric Shop laid the foundation for the company's success, and in 1990, after nearly 40 years of leadership, he passed the torch to his son Doug, continuing the Powell family legacy into its third generation. Today, Powell's Electric Shop remains a trusted family-owned business, with Doug at the helm, continuing to provide excellent service to the community.

In his retirement, Fred enjoys spending time with his children and grandchildren. He remains an active member of his community, attending resident meetings and participating in social events at The Manor at York Town. Fred also stays connected with friends and neighbors through various programs and classes at the Manor.

As we celebrate Fred Powell's incredible life over 100 years, we honor his service to our country, his contributions to the success of his family business, and his unwavering commitment to his community. Fred's legacy is one of hard work, dedication, and an enduring love for his family and friends. We are deeply grateful for his many contributions and wish him continued health and happiness in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING LA PURISIMA
CATHOLIC CHURCH'S 100-YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 8, 2024

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize La Purisima Catholic Church, a pil-

lar of our community that has served parishioners in the City of Orange for the last century.

Established in 1924 on Center Street as La Purisima Mission, the church opened through the generous donation of Mr. Remedios Mares and originally served local residents and seasonal workers from Mexico. In October of 1957, La Purisima Mission came under the spiritual caretaking of the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity, who oversaw the mission's growth partly due to the influx of new residents to the area from Orange's burgeoning aerospace industry. This period also saw an expansion of services provided to local residents, including the first "Fiestas" beginning in 1958 and the parochial school opened by Sisters of the Company of Mary in 1964.

In 1962, La Purisima's "old church" building was constructed. It was in this building where La Purisima was granted Parish status on May 8, 1964, by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. La Purisima would join the newly formed Diocese of Orange on June 18, 1976.

The growth of Vietnamese and Hispanic American communities in and around the parish of La Purisima led to some of the first trilingual liturgies in the Diocese of Orange. Due to the popularity of the trilingual liturgies and the growth of the community at La Purisima, parishioners received permission in 1999 to begin efforts to build a larger church building that remains in use today, dedicated on June 4, 2005, by Bishop Tod Brown.

This year the La Purisima Catholic Church celebrates its 100th anniversary, a testament to its commitment to service in the community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing La Purisima Catholic Church's 100 years of service to the residents of the City of Orange, and in wishing them a bright future of faith and service.