

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

STANDING WITH CHAR BAR IN COMBATING ANTISEMITISM

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, America stands in solidarity with Char Bar, which, as the only kosher restaurant in DC, was the target of antisemitic vandalism right on the eve of the 86th anniversary of Kristallnacht. Although the purpose of the attack was to strike terror in the heart of the Jewish community, the leadership and loyal clientele of Char Bar refuses to be cowered by hate. It has no intention of shying away from its proud Jewish identity.

An attack on Char Bar as a Jewish business is an attack on all of us. Every American has a moral obligation to fight antisemitism whenever, wherever, and among whomever it appears. The Jewish diaspora should have no greater friend than the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL LEE R. BOUMA

HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Lee R. Bouma, United States Air Force, for his exceptional dedication and selfless service to the United States of America. Colonel Bouma retired on November 6, 2024, from his current assignment as Commander of the 173d Fighter Wing at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls, Oregon. We thank him for his commitment to our country over the past 27 years.

Colonel Bouma graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1997. His service includes Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, Vance Air Force Base in Oklahoma, Moody Air Force Base in Georgia, and Balad Air Base in Iraq. In 2015, Colonel Bouma was stationed at Kingsley Field. After serving in several positions at Kingsley Field, he earned the Command of the 173rd Fighter Wing in 2022.

Kingsley Field serves as a critical asset for American national security as it serves as an outstanding training center for the Air National Guard and active-duty pilots. In his time as Commander, Kingsley Field was selected as the next F-35A Lightning II training squadron. Colonel Bouma has ensured that Kingsley Field will continue to be an integral piece of the Air Force's modernization plans, continuing their legacy of training the next generation of fighter pilots. As commander, Colonel Bouma commanded the sole F-15C Formal Training Unit in the United States Air Force, led over 1,050 personnel, and was responsible

for overseeing a total inventory of 23 F-15 aircraft and managing 26 primary assigned aircraft. Colonel Bouma has flown over 2,200 hours in multiple aircraft, including the F-16 and F-15, and has achieved the rating of Senior Pilot. Colonel Bouma's impressive operational experience includes flying 22 combat sorties in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, amassing over 75 hours of combat flight time. His contributions to international operations include serving as an F-15C Instructor Pilot in the Netherlands and supporting contingencies in South Korea. Colonel Bouma has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Air Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Air Force Achievement Medal. Colonel Bouma embodies the Air Force Core Values of Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do as Commander, leader, and Airman.

As our nation continues to face challenges around the world, no matter the trials and uncertainty that might come our way, we have confidence in the leadership of those who have served our country, and we owe a debt of gratitude to Colonel Bouma. His dedication to training the next generation of pilots and ensuring the readiness of our forces reflects the highest ideals of military service.

Colonel Bouma has dedicated his life to serving this nation, and we thank him. We thank him for his proud service, vision, leadership, and gratitude demonstrated both at home and abroad. As we reach the culmination of his distinguished career, I join my colleagues today and congratulate Colonel Bouma for a lifetime of service to his country. We wish him, and his wife Laureen, and his children Ashley, Kamron, and Brant the best wishes as he retires from the United States Air Force.

HONORING TERRY LINDLEY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON to recognize the enduring work of Terry Lindley on the occasion of his retirement from Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Board of Trustees after thirty years of supporting higher education.

Raised on a family ranch in Humboldt County, Terry developed an early appreciation for agriculture and respect for the community who farms it. While attending Ferndale High School, Terry met the agriculture instructor, Steve Olson, who became a trusted friend and mentor throughout his life. After graduating high school, Terry studied agricultural business at Santa Rosa Junior College while living with Steve and his wife in 1976. Steve, who eventually became Chairman of the Agriculture Department and the Dean of the College, provided counsel and guidance as Terry embarked on a distinguished career focusing on community leadership and agriculture.

After earning his degree, Terry was hired as a loan officer and appraiser at American AgCredit. Terry's excellence in agricultural business promoted him to many executive positions throughout his forty-year career, including senior vice president and chief marketing officer. Terry's aptitude for hard work, deep understanding of agriculture, and business acumen made him a remarkable pioneer in the agricultural business industry, establishing the first marketing department in the Farm Credit System.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Terry has made many enduring and positive impacts on the community during his decades of public service. For 30 years, Terry has been a trustee of Santa Rosa Junior College where he has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to providing high-quality education to the next generations of leaders in the North Bay. While he will be greatly missed in his retirement, Terry's enduring legacy will be remembered by the Lindley Center for STEM Education, a new facility to provide hands-on learning activities to support students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Terry has demonstrated a lifelong dedication to supporting agriculture and future agricultural leaders. He has been awarded numerous accolades in recognition of his service, including the SRJC's President's Medallion, 4-H Foundation's Shining Star Award, the Spirit of Sonoma County Award, and Sonoma County's North Bay Rancher of the Year award.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Terry Lindley has been an excellent steward of the Santa Rosa Junior College and a dedicated community member of Sonoma County. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING MS. ESSIE NORRIS

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ms. Essie Norris for her over thirty years of dedicated volunteer service with incarcerated women and men at the Alexandria City Jails. Ms. Norris was drawn to the jail ministry by a powerful scripture in Matthew 25:43-45, where Jesus said, "I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not." This scripture served as a clear call to action for her. In 1992, when Elsie Taylor Jordan, a prominent community leader and Sheriff with the Alexandria City Police Department, launched the Prison Ministry at a Women's church meeting at Ebenezer Baptist Church in 1992, Ms. Norris immediately joined to support the mission. The ministry's goal was to remind the inmates that, despite their circumstances, they were not forgotten by God and that a community of faith was there to encourage

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

them through their time in the Alexandria Jail. A year later, her sister and daughter joined her, singing, praying, and testifying about God to the incarnated men and women there, and together, they have continued to carry this legacy of service on.

Initially, the ministry visited every Sunday, with Essie pouring her heart into the work. As other community ministries emerged, the Ebenezer Baptist Church scaled back visiting twice a month, and now they visit once a month. One of the most memorable experiences for Ms. Norris and her family was their visit to Lorton Prison with the Missionaries of Ebenezer Baptist Church—an experience that profoundly shaped them.

Today, I am honored to recognize and celebrate Ms. Essie Norris for her work as a Prison Ministry. Her work has made a lasting impact in Northern Virginia and is a testament to her dedicated faith.

RECOGNIZING K9 HURRICANE'S HEROES EVENT

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the K9 Hurricane's Heroes for all the work they have done providing service to our nation's four legged heroes. Through the years, we have seen working dogs bring criminals to justice and serving alongside our servicemembers in uniform keeping our country safe. In 2014, secret service canine Hurricane stopped an intruder on the White House lawn and was awarded the Medal of Valor for it. Shortly after, K9 Hurricane's Heroes was established sponsoring 140 retired working dogs from the United States Secret Service, police departments, all five of our armed service branches and other government institutions. This organization makes sure that their service isn't forgotten and gets them the help they need to live long, happy lives after retirement. I thank them for helping our service dog heroes and keep up the great work. God bless K9 Hurricane's Heroes and God bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING MANDY GREWAL'S LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE TO PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mandy Grewal, Supervisor of Pittsfield Charter Township, Michigan, on the occasion of her retirement. Her decades of public service to the residents of Pittsfield Township and Washtenaw County are worthy of commendation.

Mandy was born in Chandigarh, India as the youngest of three children. Her father, a Brigadier General in the Indian Army who she describes as the "original feminist", and her mother encouraged Mandy and her sister, in the early 1990's, to move to the United States so they could pursue their graduate studies.

Mandy graduated with a Master's degree in Development, Trade & Planning from Eastern Michigan University. She went on to work as an Institutional Research Analyst at EMU before moving to the Great Lakes Commission where she found her passion for environmental preservation. This led to her pursuing a doctoral degree in Urban Planning at the University of Michigan.

After graduating with her doctoral degree in 2004, Mandy became active with the Washtenaw County Democratic Party and was appointed to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners in April 2006. Mandy campaigned for her first election later that year and was elected to the position of Pittsfield Charter Township Supervisor. She was the first woman and first person of color elected to the township supervisor's position and said she is proud to have been a part of a diversification of the township board, now majority women and among the most racially diverse elected bodies in the county.

Along with cultivating a culture of team work at Township Hall, Mandy credits her many successes to the partnerships she nurtured in the community, not just with Pittsfield residents but also through her civic engagement at Ann Arbor SPARK, Michigan Association of Planning, Washtenaw Area Transportation Study, Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority, SAFE House Center, Therapeutic Riding Inc., Urban County, and the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. Some notable accomplishments under her tenure include pioneering multimodal transportation in the Township by installing connecting sidewalks, bike lanes, and improving public transportation. She also was crucial in Canton acquiring over \$60 million in grant funding to push through such legacy projects as the Public Safety Building improvements and Michigan Avenue reconstruction. Outside of her position as Supervisor, Mandy serves as Chairperson of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) where she is also a member of both the Executive Committee and the Finance & Budget Committee. In 2021, she was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Michigan Municipal Services Authority and in 2022 was appointed to the Board of the Michigan Planning Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to celebrate the tremendous career of Mandy Grewal. Under Mandy's leadership, Pittsfield Township has become an example of how inclusive, respectful, and transparent planning practices, undertaken with patience and consistency, can yield a physical and cultural landscape that is both sustainable and equitable. I thank Mandy and we are excited to see what she accomplishes in her next chapter.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT G. BRIGGS

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the Citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas. The 2024 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Robert G. Briggs, Staff Sergeant, United States Army, of Keller,

Texas for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Mr. Briggs enlisted in the United States Army in 2003, serving as a signal intelligence analyst, with a combat deployment to Afghanistan. During his deployment he served as a low-level voice intercept team leader in remote areas of Afghanistan, supporting an infantry unit with signals intelligence collection and engaged in numerous firefights with insurgent forces.

Mr. Briggs' decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, the NATO Afghanistan Service Medal, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (2nd Award), the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M Device, and the Combat Action Badge.

His dedication to service does not stop with his time in the military. He is a public servant to the City of Southlake, serving as the Deputy Director of Economic Development & Tourism, and has worked tirelessly to establish a Veteran's Recognition Program for the city. He also volunteers as a youth baseball and soccer coach, serves at the Tarrant County Food Bank, and works in numerous capacities at St. Ann Catholic Parish.

Mr. Briggs' service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING SUPERVISOR JIM HOLMES

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. LaMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the two decades of public service of Supervisor Jim Holmes for the people of Placer County and Northern California.

Jim's roots run deep in Northern California, having descended from two of Placer County's pioneer families. His maternal great grandfather came to Placer County from Massachusetts in 1853 to settle and search for gold while his paternal great grandfather traveled west from Iowa and settled in Ophir, California in 1864 becoming an orchardist growing: pears, apples, cherries and peaches.

Jim was born in Auburn, California. He would attend Placer High School and Sierra College; he would then go on to receive a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from Humboldt State University in 1973. To help pay for his education, Jim worked at a gas station and auto repair facility.

Jim would go on to open his own auto repair shop, which he owned and managed for nearly 30 years. As a young business owner, Jim joined many community service organizations including the Auburn Area Chamber of Commerce, becoming a founding member of the Highway 49 Business Association and the North Auburn Municipal Advisory Board.

Due to his community leadership and involvement, Jim was asked to run for the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District Board