

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

of Directors, where he would serve the community for 18 years. Jim would also serve concurrently as a Trustee of the Auburn Union Elementary School District for 8 years.

In 2003, Jim was approached by community members of North Auburn and Auburn to run for the Placer County Board of Supervisors. Jim was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2004 where he would serve the next 5 terms as Supervisor.

As Supervisor, Jim was deeply involved in the advocacy of rural counties and representing the interests of Placer County. From the very beginning of his tenure, Jim served on: Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA), Air Pollution Control District Board, Criminal Justice Policy Committee, Area 4 Agency on Aging Advisory/Governing/JPA Boards, as well as many other committees and governing groups. Additionally, Jim has served as the Placer County Supervisor's Chairman of the Board in 2008, 2013, 2018, and 2023.

Jim and his wife, Pat, have three children: Stacy, Amy, and John, along with four grandchildren: Amber, Mandy, Lyla, and Mia.

We thank Supervisor Jim Holmes for his work to represent the good people of Placer County, and his many years of hard work promoting a pro-business and pro-agriculture sentiments to the Board of Supervisors. We wish him all the best in his retirement.

HONORING VFW POST 51 SPOKANE
CHAPLAIN WESLEY S. ANDERSON

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary individual who has dedicated his life to the principle of "honoring the dead by caring for the living." Chaplain Wesley S. "Wes" Anderson of VFW Post 51 in Spokane, Washington, has committed decades of service to ensuring that veterans, both past and present, are remembered, respected, and supported in every way possible.

Chaplain Anderson began his journey of service as a Hospital Corpsman with the 3rd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force in Vietnam from 1966 to 1969. Upon returning home, he joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars at Post 7480 in Davenport, Washington. Since then, he has dedicated more than five decades to supporting his fellow veterans through various roles including Post Commander, Post Chaplain, District Commander, and State Chaplain. Through his current roles as Chaplain, Service Officer, and Judge Advocate of VFW Post 51 in Spokane, he has continually demonstrated a profound commitment to veterans and their families.

Chaplain Anderson's dedication to honoring the dead is evident in his ongoing engagement in memorials that respect and commemorate veterans who have passed, providing solemn and respectful services that give peace to families and uphold the honor of those who have served. He serves as Chaplain on call at the Washington State Veterans Cemetery in Medical Lake, Washington, and has participated in the Missing in America Pro-

gram, which ensures that unclaimed veterans receive a proper and dignified burial.

At the same time, Chaplain Anderson has devoted himself to caring for the living, particularly in times of isolation and need. In 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic restricted visits at the Spokane Veterans Home, Chaplain Anderson launched the "Valentines for Veterans" initiative. Knowing how a simple card could brighten a lonely day, he worked with local organizations to bring heartfelt Valentine's Day messages to residents. The initiative quickly grew, sending a powerful message that these veterans remain valued and respected. For Chaplain Anderson, this program was driven by a commitment to let veterans know they are still cherished and valued members of the community.

Chaplain Anderson's service extends to his work with the Veterans Service Center in Spokane Valley, where he brings comfort and support to veterans transitioning back to civilian life. A certified drug and alcohol counselor and tireless advocate for the prevention of veteran suicide, he offers specialized assistance to veterans in need, meeting them with understanding and compassion.

Mr. Speaker, Chaplain Wes Anderson stands as a shining example of what it means to honor the dead by caring for the living. His compassion and dedication have touched the lives of countless veterans and families, ensuring that they know they are not forgotten. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Chaplain Anderson's extraordinary service and legacy.

May his example inspire us all to continue the important work of supporting our veterans, caring for those in need, and honoring the memory of those who have served.

DEPLOYMENT OF 114TH DELTA
INFANTRY COMPANY

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, today, I am recognizing the men and women of Delta Company, 114th Infantry Regiment from Woodstown, South Jersey. As they embark on their deployment, I want to thank them for their sacrifice to serve the people of New Jersey and the United States of America. The men and women from Delta Company who have come before them have left a great legacy for them to follow. Going back to the 1860s, their predecessors played a vital part in ending the American Civil War, contributing to the Confederate States surrender at Appomattox, ending the war, ending slavery, and reuniting our great country. Since then, Delta Company has served in both World Wars, the Global War on Terrorism, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. As they prepare for their deployment, I hope they remember the great men and women who have come before them and be proud that they are carrying on that invaluable tradition. Godspeed and God bless Delta Company, and God bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING CHARLES NEWTON
SIMPSON

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 Charles Newton Simpson, Major General, United States Air Force, of Southlake, Texas for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, and for his continued service to his community.

Major General Simpson was commissioned as an officer in the United States Air Force in 1972, serving as an aviator on the F-4 Phantom, F-16 Fighting Falcon, and Lockheed U-2, with assignments in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. He served as a former commander of the U.S. Air Force Demonstration Squadron, the Thunderbirds, as well as two operations groups and two wings, later serving on the Joint Staff and at Headquarters, U.S. European Command.

Major General Simpson's decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with oak leaf cluster, the Combat Readiness Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the National Defense Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, the Air Force Overseas Ribbon—Short with oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Overseas Ribbon—Long with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border, the Air Force Longevity Service with silver and three bronze oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

His dedication to service does not stop with his time in the military. He currently works with the ICW Texas Ramp project to build accessibility ramps for those with disabilities, delivers food for Metroport Meals on Wheels, and serves as the Air Force chair for the Dallas Military Ball. He has also been recognized by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution for his service to the community, earning him the DAR Medal of Honor.

Major General Simpson's service is consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Air Force and reflects great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.