

TRIBUTE TO OPERATION
RECOGNITION CLASS OF 2016

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of the Operation Recognition Class of 2016. Operation Recognition is a program organized by the Riverside County Office of Education, with assistance from the Riverside County Department of Veteran's Services, that presents diplomas to residents of Riverside County who missed completing high school due to military service in World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, or due to internment in WWII Japanese-American relocation camps.

Riverside County's Operation Recognition is modeled after programs implemented in other states. Numerous county offices of education and school districts throughout California operate similar programs. The programs are yet another way to express our appreciation and gratitude for the significant contributions and sacrifices made by our veterans.

The Operation Recognition Class of 2016 includes: John Danahy, Wildomar, US Army, Vietnam War; James Milton Hannibal, Temecula, US Air Force, Vietnam War; Leonard W. Heiselt, Murrieta, US Navy, Vietnam War; James William Hicks, Cherry Valley, US Army, Vietnam War; Alvin C. Horn, Moreno Valley, US Air Force, Korean War; Edward Patrick Mata, Riverside, US Army, World War II (posthumously); Robert Navarro, Riverside, US Army, Korean War; Walter Schedler, Murrieta, US Army, World War II; and Tony M. Tovar, Riverside, US Army, Korean War.

On behalf of all Riverside County residents and a grateful nation, I want to thank these veterans for their service to our country and congratulate them on being part of the Operation Recognition Class of 2016.

A TRIBUTE TO ERNIE SMITH IN
THE SECOND SESSION OF THE
114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ernie Smith of Red Oak, Iowa, for being named by the Guinness Book of World Records as the oldest active pilot in the world.

Ernie has been a licensed pilot since September 15, 1942. For the past 74 years, local friends have known that, if you cannot find Ernie nearby, he is probably up in the sky. In January 2016, Red Oak Airport Manager Kevin McGrew and other community leaders nominated him for the distinction of "oldest active pilot in the world." Later this spring, they videotaped a flight to authenticate his activity in the air. The official pronouncement from the Guinness Book of World Records came recently, confirming that Ernie Smith, 98, is officially "the oldest active pilot in the world," soaring beyond the previous record by five years.

Ernie told Omaha, Nebraska-based KMTV-TV last December why he likes to fly: "I say,

well, I don't know how to tell you, but you come out some morning before daylight and go out and watch that sun come up over the horizon and you'll have your answer." Ernie still flies in a rented plane, usually two times a week. He even braved foggy weather conditions to celebrate his 98th birthday in the sky last December.

Mr. Speaker, it is because of lowans like Ernie that I'm proud to represent our great state in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating him for this outstanding accomplishment and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

RETIREMENT OF ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL, MAJOR GENERAL ALLEN E. BREWER OF MISSISSIPPI

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Allen E. Brewer, the Assistant Adjutant General of Mississippi, for his service in the National Guard. He will retire his time in uniform after 37 years of loyal service to Mississippi and the United States. Major General Brewer was appointed Assistant Adjutant General—Army, in October 2015. As the Assistant Adjutant General, he has guided the formulation, development and implementation of all programs and policies affecting the Mississippi Army National Guard and its nearly 10,000 Citizen Soldiers.

Beginning his service in July of 1979, Major General Brewer distinguished himself through exceptional meritorious service while performing in many positions of responsibility, culminating as The Assistant Adjutant General for the State of Mississippi. Major General Brewer demonstrated his professionalism, and a God-given gift for leadership while serving the Mississippi National Guard. He was selected as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations/G3 for the Mississippi National Guard. Due to his exceptional performance in readiness and planning, he was selected as Commander, Special Operations Detachment South where he was responsible for all aspects of a Special Operations Headquarters functions and commanded the unit during combat operations in Afghanistan in 2012.

During his command in Special Forces, Major General Brewer was requested by name to serve as the Land Component Commander for the 3RD Air Force—Blue Flag 10–1 exercise at Hurlburt Field, FL. His vast experience of producing results led to his election as national chairman for the Special Operations Advisory Committee.

Major General Brewer's exemplary service in positions of increasing responsibility led to his selection as the Director of the Joint Staff, Mississippi National Guard in July 2012 and a subsequent promotion to Brigadier General. Major General Brewer supervised and directed the Mississippi Army National Guard's accomplishment and management of budgets and resources for many of the major Army National Guard Programs. His service to the Adjutant General as an advisor and counsel for the development of Joint Strategic Plans and

Programs for Joint Training and Exercises was above reproach due to his extensive background during his career.

Receiving over 25 awards and honors in his time in the military, Major General Brewer's service in a myriad of positions was instrumental to the successes enjoyed by the Mississippi National Guard units during numerous combat deployments and domestic responses. He passionately displayed hard work and dedication focusing on providing ready Soldiers and units to the defense of the nation. Major General Brewer's service and accomplishments have had a positive and lasting impact on the Mississippi National Guard as well as the United States Army.

I would like to extend my best wishes to Major General Allen E. Brewer upon his retirement from the Mississippi National Guard and future endeavors and a heartfelt thank you to him and his family for their service to this nation, and our state.

A TRIBUTE TO JULIE WALTERS IN
THE SECOND SESSION OF THE
114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Julie Walters, of Villisca, Iowa, for being selected as a 2016 Women Impacting the Land award recipient.

The Women Impacting the Land award showcases Iowa women for their contributions to managing farmland and livestock. Ms. Walters is a farmer in addition to serving as the Page County Clerk of Court for 31 years. She has participated in Annie's Project and Women Managing Cattle in 2010 and 2014. She is constantly learning about her family's cattle operation and making changes to improve their farm's productivity.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Julie Walters demonstrates the rewards of harnessing one's talents and improving themselves and their business through education. Her efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Julie for her achievements and wish her nothing but continued success.

COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF MANGOLD FORD IN
EUREKA, IL

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commemorate Mike Mangold and Mangold Ford, in Eureka, Illinois, for 60 years of outstanding service to our community.

Charles and Mary Mangold first opened the doors of Mangold Ford in 1956 with the intention of providing quality service based on Christian principles. Because of their faith and acumen, their dealership now employs over

thirty dedicated employees varying from management, front office, and service teams who work tirelessly to ensure the utmost customer satisfaction.

The employees at Mangold Ford, throughout its history, continue to make car buying an enjoyable experience for all customers. For the past thirteen consecutive years, Mangold Ford has been awarded the President's Award, an honor given to dealerships that have a consistent record of customer satisfaction and high-quality service. Beyond exceptional service, Mangold Ford has also played a significant philanthropic role in our community, partaking in and contributing to many local charitable events.

I am thankful that America has been a country where hard-working families with a vision, such as the Mangold's, can grow their small business, employ others, and impact their community in a positive manner. I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Mike Mangold, his family, and the staff of Mangold Ford on an outstanding sixty years and I wish them sixty more prosperous years.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 2016 NODAWAY VALLEY BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Nodaway Valley High School Boys Cross Country team for winning the Iowa Class 1A State Cross Country Championship for two consecutive years.

I would like to congratulate each member of the team:

Runners: Shane Breheny, Tyler Breheny, Matthew Dickinson, Brayten Funke, Dallas Kreager, Skyler Rawlings, Brycen Wallace, Joel Blazek

Head Coach: Darrell Burmeister

Assistant Coaches: Dave Swanson, Phyllis Eshelman, Alyse Dreher

Mr. Speaker, the two-year-long success of this team validates the rewards of hard work, perseverance, and teamwork. I am honored to represent them in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating the entire team for another successful season and in wishing them all nothing but continued success.

COMMEMORATING TRI-VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR RECEIVING THE NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to honor Tri-Valley Elementary School in Downs, Illinois for receiving the U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon.

Since 1982, the U.S. Department of Education has awarded the Blue Ribbon to

schools across the country based on their overall academic excellence. This year, 329 schools in the nation were awarded the National Blue Ribbon, including Tri-Valley Elementary School in Illinois' 18th District. Tri-Valley prides itself on their academic excellence and a proactive student body. The school offers a variety of clubs, intramural sports, and volunteer opportunities for its students, faculty, and parents.

Additionally, Tri-Valley Elementary School has been awarded the Illinois State Board of Education Academic Excellence Award every year since the mid-2000's. Led by Principal Sara Burnett, the faculty has developed an effective curriculum to meet the academic needs of all students. Beginning in Pre-K, students at Tri-Valley develop the skills necessary to become life-long learners.

It is an honor to represent the students, faculty, and administrators at Tri-Valley Elementary School. Their dedication to education, and their students, makes them a deserving recipient of the National Blue Ribbon, and more importantly, an example for schools all across the nation.

A TRIBUTE TO THE VAN GELDER FAMILY IN THE SECOND SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate The Van Gelder Family of Creston, Iowa, for being honored with the Pork All-American Award from the Iowa Pork Producers Association (IPPA).

Since 1970, the All-American Award is the highest honor of the Iowa Pork Producers Association awards, requiring the producer to be under the age of 40 and recognized as a Master Pork Producer. Brad Van Gelder and his wife, Terri, have operated their 4,000-head operation for 17 years, currently serving 50 local barns. They apply 14 million gallons of manure annually to customers through his manure application business. The wean-to-finish operation prides itself on providing a comfortable, ventilated environment for the pigs, as well as a high level of bio-security for the health of the pigs and the employees who oversee them. The Van Gelder family is committed to conservation, using low disturbance application toolbars on their manure equipment, and maintaining a majority of their 820 row crops acres as no-till.

The Van Gelders are equally active in their community. With their two daughters, Alison and Morgan, they keep busy through their involvement in church, school, 4-H, the Union County Pork Producers, IPPA Youth Committee, as well as the Iowa Pork Tent Committee at the Iowa State Fair. Brad also serves as the Union County Fair Board President with his daughters showing cattle each year.

I congratulate the Van Gelders on earning this coveted award and for their dedication and commitment to Iowa agriculture. Their efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent them in the United States Congress. I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Brad and Terri Van Gelder family.

COMMEMORATING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JERRY TRECEK OF PEORIA RESCUE MINISTRIES

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Reverend Jerry Trecek for his work as the Executive Director of Peoria Rescue Ministries for the past 45 years.

As Executive Director, Rev. Trecek oversees the five divisions of Peoria Rescue Ministries, which include Peoria Rescue Mission, Victory Acres, Barnabas Center, Women's Pregnancy Center and Esther House. Peoria Rescue Ministries also supports international ministries in Latvia and the Ukraine, reaching beyond our border. Rev. Trecek has played an equally active role serving on the Board of Directors of these international ministries. With many professional and community service affiliations, Rev. Trecek remains an active part of the Peoria area community.

In 1968, Rev. Trecek and his wife, Barbara, founded the Peoria Rescue Mission, where today they provide shelter, food, and a warm bed to nearly one hundred men each night. Under the leadership of Rev. Trecek, the organization has expanded from a single rescue mission facility to a thriving 3 million dollar ministry serving the men, women, and children of Central Illinois.

Through community donations and the guidance of Rev. Trecek, Peoria Rescue Ministries housed 27,965 guests who were without shelter and served 70,737 meals to the hungry in 2015. More importantly, the ministry committed or rededicated 626 individuals in our community to Christ. In the words of Rev. Trecek, "My main goal is to introduce people to the saving grace found in Jesus Christ."

I would like to acknowledge Rev. Trecek's remarkable tenure as Executive Director of Peoria Rescue Ministries. Rev. Trecek's dedication to the Peoria Rescue Ministries has set a true example of community leadership and what it means to lead as the Lord leads day by day. It is an honor to represent such a charitable organization and I wish the best of luck to Rev. Jerry Trecek as he takes on the role of Director Emeritus focusing on the international ministries.

A TRIBUTE TO THE PERRY LUTHERAN HOME IN THE SECOND SESSION OF THE 114TH CONGRESS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Perry Lutheran Home in Perry, Iowa, as it celebrates its 60th anniversary this year.

With the help of the Lutheran Home for the Aged Association, the Perry Lutheran Home was opened in 1956 in the former Dallas County Hospital building. Over the years, the Home has continued to expand to better serve those who needed its care. Their mission remains constant: "to treat each resident and