

JESSE AND JESSICA SWIFT

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jesse and Jessica Swift for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

Jesse and Jessica Swift serve the community as educators at Bell Middle School, are avid cyclists, and are active in many community events including the Golden Bike Cruise, Golden Gallup, Golden Giddyup, and the Back2Basics Cyclocross races. Jessica coaches a girls' ICE soccer team, and Jesse coaches the Bell Mountain Bike Club.

In addition to being active community members, the Swifts exemplify courage and grace, and are an inspiration to the community. In May of 2015, they were attacked in a home invasion. Jesse and Jessica fought back against the intruders and later worked with the Golden Police Department to bring the criminals to justice. As highly admired teachers, the Swifts have inspired thousands of students and their families by their personal story and their passion for knowledge.

I congratulate Jesse and Jessica Swift for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan, and I thank them for their continued commitment to the people and students they serve.

RECOGNIZING MARION HALEY

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of an extraordinary man and fellow Northeast Georgian, First Lieutenant Marion Holman Haley.

First Lieutenant Haley grew up on a farm in Elberton, Georgia and graduated from Rabun Gap Junior College. He shares his birthday with his beloved wife, Sara Vincent Haley.

In 1942, First Lieutenant Haley entered World War II as a bombardier and flew 50 combat missions over Italy, Northern Africa, and France in a B-17 bomber using one of the first Norden bombsights.

As a member of the Army Air Corps, First Lieutenant Haley was recognized for his exceptional ability as a bombardier by receiving 10 Air Medals for his combat missions in World War II.

Our nation owes a tremendous amount of gratitude to First Lieutenant Haley for his service and courage. He is a true American hero.

I am proud to represent First Lieutenant Haley in Congress, and I am grateful for his bravery in protecting our freedom.

As a member of the Air Force Reserves, the lives of our service members and veterans is very near to my heart. We have Mr. Marion Holman Haley to thank for his service to the greatest nation in the world.

First Lieutenant Haley represents a legacy that deserves our gratitude and respect, and I honor him on his 100th birthday. Happy Birthday Lieutenant Haley.

IN RECOGNITION OF TUSKEGEE AIRMEN, INC., ON ITS OUTSTANDING WORK AND 75TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. on its outstanding work and its exceptional service on the date of its 75th Anniversary Dinner. The Tuskegee Airmen were courageous individuals who served the United States with dignity during World War II while pioneering efforts to improve racial equality.

The Tuskegee Airmen were a group of young men and women who volunteered to become America's first African-American military airmen during World War II. These individuals distinguished themselves through an exemplary combat record, as well as their bravery and sacrifice. Approximately 1,000 pilots and 15,000 ground personnel served in thousands of combat sorties during the war, earning a record of distinction that persists to this day. The Tuskegee Airmen's record of service also broke down barriers and was instrumental in President Harry S. Truman's decision to desegregate the United States Armed Forces in 1948.

The Tuskegee Airmen were instrumental in helping the United States win the Second World War while furthering racial equality and equal opportunity. These brave men and women stand as a testament to the enduring spirit of the American ideals of bravery. The work of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. is critical to preserving the historic legacy of these individuals, and I congratulate them on the organization's success in raising awareness of the importance of their contribution to American progress. Events like the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.'s 75th Anniversary dinner are critical to keeping their legacy alive, and it is my hope that the group continues to build on its record of success to preserve the memory of these men and women and their historic accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the achievements of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. The organization has worked tirelessly to preserve the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen for future generations and raise awareness about their role in American history.

TRIBUTE TO SUE AND DENNIS NANCE

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sue and Dennis Nance of Shenandoah, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Sue and Dennis' lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish,

and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

GOLDEN HIGH SCHOOL INTERACT CLUB

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Golden High School Interact Club for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

The Golden High School Interact Club is a Rotary-sponsored service organization serving the greater Golden community. The 72 high-school members tackle important community issues through hands-on service projects. Locally, they participated in the Neighborhood Rehab Project Day of Service, helped raise money for schools by volunteering at fun-runs, assisted Golden Rotary to provide lunch and fellowship to senior residents, raked leaves for Golden residents, championed a food drive, and participated in a chili cook-off.

For an international effort, they held a carwash that generated \$2,000 to purchase two ShelterBoxes, which provide safe housing to families in disaster situations around the world. Out of 36 other clubs, the Rotary District identified the Golden group as the most outstanding Interact Club.

I congratulate the Golden High School Interact Club for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan, and I thank all the members for their continued commitment to the people and families they serve.

CELEBRATING MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT HALVERSON, U.S. ARMY, RETIRED

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of Major General Robert Halverson, retired, who served in the United States Army for 39 years and continues to work for his country and community following his retirement. He is a fitting recipient of a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

MG Halverson, of Georgetown, Texas, began his active duty career upon graduation from Colorado State University. After 15 years he left active duty service and entered the U.S. Army Reserves and transferred to the Texas National Guard in October of 1985. In 1998, he was promoted to Major General and took command of the 49th Armored Division.

During his time in service, MG Halverson acquired a long list of accomplishments and awards, including the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star,

and more. He also successfully commanded the first Active and Reserve Component integrated headquarters to serve in Bosnia.

Along with his Army National Guard service, MG Halverson continued his life of service in the State of Texas, where he served in the Governor's Division of Emergency Management and as a Deputy Insurance Commissioner for Safety. Following his retirement from military service in March 2002, MG Halverson continued to serve as a mentor for other National Guard Division and Brigade Commanders and Staff.

MG Halverson's skills as a strategic leader have improved every organization he's associated with. His commitment to community and his role as a mentor and friend to his colleagues make him a valuable asset to improving the quality of life in the Lone Star State.

I commend Major General Robert Halverson's selfless service to both the United States Army and his nation. His patriotism, citizenship, and commitment to excellence reflect the very best values of Central Texas. I join MG Halverson's friends, family, and colleagues in celebrating his outstanding achievements.

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SHIVAM ALBEE SHINES WITH  
SCHOOL PROJECT

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shivam Albee of Sugar Land, TX for his enthusiasm about government and in particular Congress.

Shivam has expressed a keen interest in how our government works. He and his parents recently visited Washington, DC with stops in their congressional office and our nation's Capitol building. As a result of his trip, he completed a school report on how Congress operates. His eagerness to learn and contribute to our representative democracy is heartwarming and gives us hope for our future leaders. America is at its best with an engaged and active citizenry. We hope more students and young leaders emerge as they become adults.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you Shivam Albee for reminding us of the importance of youthful enthusiasm. We are proud of his hard work and look forward to his future success.

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TRIBUTE TO PAM AND CHARLIE  
MANNING

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Pam and Charlie Manning of Glenwood, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 20, 1966 in Gary, Indiana.

Pam and Charlie's lifelong commitment to each other, their children, and their grandchild, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

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HONORING THE AIR FORCES  
ESCAPE AND EVASION SOCIETY

**HON. NIKI TSONGAS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, every November 11th, we stop to recognize the brave men and women who have served our country in our armed forces. Having just marked Veterans Day, I would like to recognize one group of extraordinary servicemembers in particular, the United States Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society, or AFEES.

Since the United States military first began using airplanes in foreign wars, members of the United States Air Forces have been forced to eject, crash land, or abandon their aircraft in an occupied country or territory. Once downed, these airmen had to evade capture by enemy forces, oftentimes while suffering from critical injuries.

Of the downed aircrew members that were captured, many escaped from the enemy who were holding them in captivity. Many times, downed servicemembers were aided in their escape and evasion by resistance organizations in those occupied countries. Thousands of brave, ordinary people took extraordinary risks at huge costs to both them and their families to help these brave Americans and help them return home.

In 1964, the United States Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society was created by the downed aircrew members who evaded capture. Today, AFEES includes downed aircrew members and people who directly aided them in escape and evasion and has more than 600 members, including members from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

I am proud to represent one brave AFEES member, the group's President, John Katsaros of Haverhill, Massachusetts. Today, I would like to recognize the United States Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society and the achievements made by its members: to never accept captivity and to constantly strive for their freedom. Thank you for your service and for the inspiration you are to all of us.

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GENE CHILD

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gene Child

for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

For decades, Gene has dedicated his time, resources, and abilities to preserving our community's history. He co-founded the Golden Landmarks Association to save the Astor House from demolition, assisted in converting the old Presbyterian Church into the Foothills Art Center, and helped move the Guy Hill School from the former Mitchell Elementary site to the Clear Creek History Park, then helped restore it. Even now he cares for the chickens that live in History Park. Gene and his beloved Arlone were part of the effort to create the 12th Street Historic District in 1984.

I congratulate Gene for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan, and I thank him for his continued commitment to the people and families he serves.

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IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF THE MESSIAS  
TEMPLE CHURCH

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2016*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Messiah Temple Church. It is my honor and privilege to recognize the contributions Messiah Temple Church has made to our community.

Established in 1941 by John T. Elder and Sister Laura Elder, the Ypsilanti Messiah Temple Church is dedicated to building a permanent sanctuary for people of the community to have a place to connect with each other, and strengthen their faith. Messiah was built on a principle that welcomed people of all walks of life, giving positions of leadership not common within the Church for its time. In 1949 after the passing of Elder John T. Elder, his widowed wife, Sister Laura Elder, was elected as Church Pastor and remained until her retirement in 1974, demonstrating that this Church would celebrate the diversity of Ypsilanti, and lead by progressive example. Jesse Ross was then chosen to serve as pastor, and personally led the congregation to its new permanent home on Harriet Street in 1984. Pastor Ross continued to serve until his death in 1991, when Harry Grayson was selected to continue the proud tradition of service and leadership. Today we celebrate the 75th anniversary of Messiah Temple Church, as well as the 25th anniversary of Suffragan Bishop Grayson's appointment. Providing strong leadership within the community has long been the cornerstone of Messiah Temple Church, and the tradition continues as the church looks forward to the next 75 years of serving the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in gratitude to honor the 75th anniversary of Messiah Temple Church. For seventy-five years now, Messiah Temple has displayed an immense passion and deep devotion for improving the lives of its members, and also the people of Ypsilanti, and we wish them many more years of success.