

RECOGNIZING ART PING LEE FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CHINESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Art Ping Lee, who has spent his career advocating on behalf of the overseas Chinese community.

Born in Taishan County, Guangdong Province, Mr. Lee immigrated to the United States in 1936. After the Second Sino-Japanese War broke out, only a year after Mr. Lee's arrival in his new home in the District of Columbia, Mr. Lee began national fundraising efforts to support the Chinese army to resist the invasion of Japan. After World War II, Mr. Lee worked tirelessly to assist Chinese families affected by the war. Many Chinese families were kept from being reunited with their loved ones due to U.S. immigration laws and immigration quotas. Mr. Lee was one of the founding members of the National Chinese Welfare Council, in 1957, which campaigned aggressively for lifting of immigration quotas. As a result, 40,000 Chinese immigrants were allowed to enter the U.S. every year.

Mr. Lee has also advocated to enhance and strengthen the relationship between the United States and Taiwan. Mr. Lee is a founder of several organizations, including the Chinese Youth Club of Washington, D.C., the Washington, D.C. Lodge of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, and the Lee Federal Credit Union.

Mr. Lee, who turns 102 this year, continues to contribute to his community, where he serves as an Honorary Elder of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Washington, D.C., a Senior Advisor to the Overseas Community Affairs Council of the Republic of China (Taiwan), and an Honorary Elder to The Lee Family Association in the United States.

He has received the Hua Kuang Medal, First Class, which is given by Taiwan to Chinese people who have made special contributions in overseas Chinese affairs.

Mr. Lee has an impressive record of service and leadership to overseas Chinese communities throughout the United States, particularly in the Washington metropolitan area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mr. Lee and his lifetime of service to the Chinese American community in the District of Columbia and for his continued contributions and care for the people he serves.

TRIBUTE TO TREY RICE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Trey Rice of Grimes, Iowa, as one of Iowa's 2016 Heroes of the Heartland, sponsored by the American Red Cross of Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving greater Iowa honors individuals for their acts

of great bravery, dedication and service to the community. The winners are nominated by their peers, highlighting Iowa's most compassionate and caring individuals. These extraordinary people commit actions which demonstrate the potential heroism and kindness which is in all of us. Heroes of the Heartland reflect the values and vision of the American Red Cross, leaving a positive impact on central Iowa.

On Sunday July 12, 2015, Trey was floating down the Raccoon River with his cousin and friends. While resting on a sandbar, they heard a young boy yelling, scared and tangled in branches and floating debris. The victim seemed to be struggling to keep his head above the water and he was not wearing a life jacket. Without hesitation, Trey and his cousin jumped into the river, but the current pulled them rapidly downstream. After fighting their way back to shore, Trey again found a familiar place along the river where he knew he could reach the young boy. After jumping into the river for a second time, Trey was able to reach the young boy and pull him to safety.

I, too, grew up along this stretch of the Raccoon River and know that while still waters run deep, Iowa's rambling river can turn vicious in a moment's notice. Trey is a hero for all of us who swam the river.

Mr. Speaker, Trey is an Iowan who has made central Iowa citizens very proud. He has dedicated his young life to doing what is right and not seeking such attention. But it is with great honor that I recognize him today. I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring Trey for his courage. I thank him for his service and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL
MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the importance of April as National Minority Health Month.

As a senior member of the Congressional Black Caucus and co-chair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues Task Force on Women of Color, I have always believed that access to quality health care should be a universal right of all citizens.

National Minority Health Month is a time to reflect and renew our shared dedication and responsibility to eradicating racial disparities in health.

Commemorated every year, National Minority Health Month is to heighten public awareness of the importance of minimizing health disparities and improve the health status of minority populations.

National Minority Health Month was established 14 years ago when Congress passed H. Con. Res. 388, a concurrent resolution designating April as the month to "promote educational efforts on the health problems currently facing minorities and other health disparity populations."

H. Con. Res. 388 encouraged "all health organizations and Americans to conduct appropriate programs and activities to promote

healthfulness in minority and other health disparity communities."

Mr. Speaker, the differences in places where we live, work, and play frequently result in inequalities in opportunities like quality childcare and education, access to healthy foods, and safe places to be physically active.

"National Minority Cancer Awareness Week" is observed during the third full week in April and directs attention to the fact that cancer has a disproportionately severe impact on minorities and the economically disadvantaged.

The rate of premature death (death before age 75 years) from stroke and coronary heart disease are higher among non-Hispanic blacks than among whites.

In 2009, homicide rates were 263 percent higher among males than females and 665 percent higher among non-Hispanic blacks compared with non-Hispanic whites.

The motor vehicle-related death rate for men is approximately 2.5 times that for women.

In addition, the motor vehicle-related death rate for American Indians and Alaska Natives is more than twice as high as for other racial and ethnic groups.

Tuberculosis rates declined among all racial and ethnic minority groups and among both U.S. and foreign-born persons from 2006 to 2010.

Rates of tuberculosis cases, however, remained persistently higher among racial and ethnic minority groups than among whites in 2010.

Obesity rates remain higher among racial minorities than whites.

Non-Asian racial/ethnic minorities continue to experience higher rates of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) diagnoses than whites.

Diabetes prevalence is highest among males, persons aged 65 years and older, non-Hispanic blacks and those of mixed race, Hispanics, persons with less than high school education, those who were poor, and those with a disability.

During 2010, approximately 40 percent Hispanic adults and 25 percent of non-Hispanic black adults were classified as uninsured.

In my district, two outstanding organizations, African-American Breast Cancer Outreach and Gateway to Care, have dedicated themselves to advocacy efforts for minority health.

The African-American Breast Cancer Outreach program received "models of achievement" awards from the Center for Research on Minority Health of the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and Gateway to Care was awarded special recognition for its work to help uninsured and underinsured residents acquire health care.

Mr. Speaker, National Minority Health Month serves to remind each and every one of us of the importance of addressing the very real racial and ethnic health disparities that still plague our nation and to recognize and commend those community organizations that do yeoman work in eradicating them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on Monday, March 21, 2016, and Tuesday,