

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN REMEMBRANCE OF TOM KIM

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2007

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to native San Franciscan Tom Kim, a trailblazing community leader, organizer, and youth activist of Korean heritage, who recently passed away at the age of 64. Tom Kim lived in San Francisco all his life, growing up in Chinatown, residing and organizing in the predominantly Hispanic Mission District, and in the predominantly African American and Japanese-American Western Addition.

Tom was a mentor to many of our local and national community and political leaders. He was a staunch unionist, having joined the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union upon becoming a longshoreman after graduating from high school.

Tom was a champion of the oppressed and underrepresented, especially for our youth. As a catalyst for social justice, Tom co-founded the Real Alternatives Program to help alienated and troubled youth find an alternative to street life and the juvenile justice system. He was one of the first to advocate for community-based alternatives to detention. Many of the modalities for which he advocated early on are now accepted as the best practices in youth work today.

Tom was in the forefront of founding numerous groundbreaking organizations that trained and inspired a lineage of professional social workers and psychologists serving the Asian American community—the first national Asian American Social Work Training Center; the first national Asian American Psychology Training Center; Asian American Social Work Training at one of California's State Universities—San Francisco State; San Francisco-based Asian American Communities for Education and Asian Youth Substance Abuse Prevention.

At San Francisco State University, Tom helped establish the College of Ethnic Studies and was an early faculty member, teaching juvenile law and community alternatives to detention, as well as Asian American Studies. In 1972, he helped organize the first Asian American Mental Health Conference, which was held in San Francisco. Sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health, this seminal conference gave voice to overlooked, underserved, and negatively understood Asian Americans to communicate their needs and concerns.

Tom was a leader in policy development. He held a number of policy positions—White House consultant for the International Year of the Child proclaimed by the United Nations in 1979; member of the California Bar Association Committee on Juvenile Justice; member of the President's Commission on Mental Health, Asian American Panel; consultant to

and witness before the United States Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy in 1979 and 1980; and member of the oversight committee for the 1980 United States Census.

I was honored to work with Tom when he co-founded the groundbreaking Asian Pacific Caucus of the Democratic Party, which debuted at the 1984 National Democratic Convention in San Francisco. The Caucus became a vehicle for Asian Americans to figure prominently in the democratic process.

Tom never forgot his own community. He co-founded the first bilingual, bicultural organization that provided Koreans in Northern California social services, a senior center, and direct service programs, such as immigration and crisis intervention. He was the first Executive Director of the Korean Community Service Center of San Francisco.

Tom also started the first Korean American ethnic heritage project in the United States, co-producing "Lest We Forget: Korean American Oral History Videos," featuring prominent Korean Americans such as Olympic diving champion Dr. Sammy Lee, and United States Army Col. Young Oak Kim, who served with the highly decorated 442nd all Japanese American regimental combat unit during World War II.

I extend my deepest sympathy to Tom's family, especially to his two beloved sons, to whom Tom was a devoted father.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
JOHN J. NYGARD ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2007

Mr. GILLMOR. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that John J. Nygard of Perrysburg, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

John's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this summer with the incoming cadet class of 2011. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. It is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

John brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force cadets. While attending St. John's Jesuit High School in Toledo, Ohio, John attained a grade point average which placed him at the top of his class. While an accomplished athlete, John has maintained

the highest standards of excellence in his academics, choosing to enroll and excel in Advanced Placement classes throughout high school. John has been a member of the National Honor Society, Honor Roll and has earned awards and accolades as a scholar.

Outside the classroom, John has remained extremely involved in his community by actively participating in the efforts of the Toledo Seagate Food Bank. In addition to assisting the less fortunate in Northwest Ohio, John has volunteered to assist the Central American Ministries this summer. By doing so, John will be working to improve the lives of the children of Guatemala. I have no doubt that John will employ the lessons of his student leadership as he excels among the leaders at the United States Air Force Academy.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating John J. Nygard on his appointment to the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that John will do very well during his career at the United States Air Force Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the nation.

RECOGNIZING THE FRENCH AND
PICKERING CREEKS CONSERVATION
TRUST ON ITS 40TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2007

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust on its 40th Anniversary of preserving open spaces and historic treasures throughout Chester County, Pennsylvania.

The Trust was founded by Samuel and Eleanor Morris as a vehicle for saving and protecting the valuable lands and natural resources in the watersheds of northern Chester County that they cherished so much. Spanning nearly 110 square miles, these watersheds contain some of the most beautiful and amazing open spaces, forests, streams and rivers in all of Pennsylvania.

Through the hard work and dedication of countless people, the Trust has successfully partnered with individuals, other organizations and government entities to preserve nearly 8,100 acres of valuable open space, build trails and promote greenways along the French and Pickering Creeks, and place more than 60 sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

So I ask, Madam Speaker, that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the founders, members, supporters and staff of the French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust for 40 years of preserving and protecting

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