

TRIBUTE TO JOE HOGAN

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 Joe Hogan of Altoona, 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.

Joe Hogan founded the non-profit organization, Train to Inspire, to improve the quality of life for individuals with mental and physical disabilities. He encourages participants to soar higher than their perceived limits while creating opportunities for them. Train to Inspire hosts free events that feature new experiences for participants including a Super Hero Obstacle Course. Participants are drawn to Joe and his huge heart. While overcoming addiction, Joe has developed a passion for helping others see what they can accomplish, not what they cannot accomplish.

Mr. Speaker, Joe is an Iowan who has made central Iowa citizens very proud. He has dedicated his life to quietly living with honor, doing what is right and not seeking much 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 Joe for his courage. I thank him for his service and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.

HONORING MR. PERCY PINKNEY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, and Congresswoman KAREN BASS, to honor the extraordinary life of an outstanding public servant and advocate, Mr. Percy Pinkney. With his passing on Saturday, March 18th, we honor his long, extraordinary life of service and the experiences he shared.

A native of McComb, Mississippi, Mr. Pinkney began his adult life as a member of the United States Army. He later received his Bachelor's degree at San Francisco State University, and went on to receive a Master's in Social Work from Lone Mountain College in San Francisco.

Mr. Pinkney was an active part of California politics for over 30 years, serving in prestigious positions with many influential leaders. During Governor Jerry Brown's first administration, Percy led his community relations department for seven years, beginning in 1975. In 1992, he joined Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN's

staff as a field representative, overseeing issues affecting Los Angeles' Black community. He faithfully served the community until his retirement in 2014.

Mr. Pinkney founded the Black American Political Association of California (BAPAC) in 1979. The organization has since become one of the largest political grassroots organizations in the state, with 60 chapters and more than 40,000 active members. Since its founding, BAPAC has continued its mission of developing, documenting, and identifying the resources necessary to achieve cultural, economic, and educational goals of underserved citizens in California. The organization has also played an effective role in increasing African Americans participation in the civic and political process.

Overall, Mr. Pinkney's commitment to community building and advancement is unrivaled and BAPAC's leadership has helped countless constituents develop their educational and economic goals. His love for his community and his neighbors will be remembered for years to come, and his achievements in public service have given many Americans the hope and prosperity they deserve.

Mr. Percy Pinkney is survived by his dutiful daughter, Delane Sims, his son in law, Jerry Sims, his brother, Salahudin Tulah, and many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He will forever be remembered as a beloved father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

On a personal note, we remember the support, strategic advice, and friendship Percy gave and owe him a debt of gratitude for his selfless contributions to our success as elected officials.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes the life of an exemplary individual and devoted community member, Mr. Percy Pinkney. I join all of Mr. Pinkney's loved ones in celebrating his inspirational life and achievements, and offer my sincerest condolences. I am joined in these sentiments today by my colleagues, MAXINE WATERS, of California's 43rd Congressional District, and KAREN BASS, of California's 37th Congressional District, who also knew Mr. Pinkney personally and valued his service.

HONORING TIM B. WITT

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true civil servant, Mr. Tim B. Witt, who after forty years with the United States Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency is retiring this year.

Initially hailing from Nebraska, Tim started with the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) in 1976, adjusting losses, conducting training and performing quality control work. From 1980 to 1985, he worked in the Kansas City Office with the United States Department of Agriculture, holding various insurance administrative positions including several assignments pertinent to the design, development and implementation of the Federal crop reinsurance delivery system. In 1985, Tim transferred to FCIC headquarters in Washington, D.C., where he assumed the responsibility for the design and implementation of FCIC regu-

latory and oversight program activities. From 1990 through 1992, Tim managed the Office of Insurance Services responsible for administering the delivery of crop insurance programs to America's producers through the Standard Reinsurance Agreement. In 1992, he returned to Kansas City and serves as the Deputy Administrator for Product Management responsible for the administration and management of corporate policies, underwriting standards and actuarial structures related to the various risk management programs reinsured by FCIC.

Tim has had a long and distinguished career, and his contributions to the Department of Agriculture for four decades cannot be overstated. I want to thank him for his service, and wish him nothing but the best in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed Roll Call vote number 130 regarding "Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2016" (H.R. 4314). Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea".

LIVENGRIN FOUNDATION 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 11, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the Livengrin Foundation on 50 years of providing hope and healing to those struggling with drug and alcohol addictions and for addressing the recent wave of opiate and heroin overdoses in the region. The mission-based, non-profit was one of the first Pennsylvania centers established for the treatment of alcoholism and drug addiction and has grown to include the original inpatient facility in Bensalem, Bucks County, and now eight outpatient locations throughout the Philadelphia region and Lehigh Valley. Livengrin has provided drug and alcohol addiction services to more than 4,000 patients and their families and disbursed more than \$1.6 million for subsidized and unreimbursed services. Livengrin's impact on the community goes beyond its treatment services to include innovative solutions that served as models for other programs throughout the country. Additionally, the Livengrin Foundation also offers specialty treatment tracks for young adults, nurses, other health care workers, first responders and veterans and numbers of support groups and seminars. Recently, Livengrin hosted Naloxone training and distributions to combat the wave of opiate and heroin overdoses in southeastern Pennsylvania. For a half-century, Livengrin has been a beacon of hope for thousands. We sincerely wish the Livengrin Foundation and all those who contribute to the mission continued success with utmost gratitude for the good work.

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,