

Angeles represent the millions hoping for an end to cancer. I, too, look forward to a day without cancer.●

ASIAN-PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

● Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, today, I rise to speak about the importance of the Asian-Pacific American experience in my home State of Minnesota. During this month, designated Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, we are proud to celebrate the many ways in which the culture of our Asian citizens enriches us as Minnesotans and Americans.

In Minnesota, we celebrate with a myriad of public events throughout the State, including a Burmese cultural exhibition, dance workshops, musical performances, picnics, banquets, flea markets, and festivals. For this year's theme, the Minnesota State Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans has chosen "Experience Freedom," a thread which runs through the stories of so many Asian Americans.

Each generation of immigrants to this country has pursued a freedom not known in their homelands. Chinese, Japanese, and Filipino settlers sought out Minnesota in the late 19th century, hoping to find broad economic opportunities. This same goal motivated Korean and other Asian immigrants who left their countries to find unparalleled opportunities.

More recently, Asians have come to Minnesota seeking refuge from war. Tibetans, Hmong, Vietnamese, and Cambodians escaped from a country ravaged by war and unrest. Here, they found freedom, peace, and new avenues for fulfillment, and achievement. I am especially proud to say that with the recent election of State Representative Cy Thao, Minnesota now has two legislators of Hmong descent.

Thanks to the infusion of Asian-Pacific influences, Minnesota virtually vibrates with new ideas, philosophies, and folkways. Individually and collectively, Asian-Pacific citizens have made significant contributions to their communities, accomplishments which the State Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans recognizes by conferring four Annual Leadership Awards. I am pleased to join in honoring these outstanding individuals and organizations.

Jasmine Dinh has received the Professional Leadership and Community Service Award. Her commitment to public service has led her to cofound Asian Women United of Minnesota, a nonprofit organization devoted to ending violence against Asian women; to create a battered women's shelter in Minneapolis, one of the few focused on Asian American women; to serve on the staff of United States Representative Bill Luther; and to become deeply involved in the Vietnamese Community of Minnesota Organization. Recently, she opened her own business, Jasmine's Coffee and Tea House, while still working full time as a senior pro-

gram manager for the Minnesota Partnership for Action Against Tobacco.

Jodie Tanaka has been recognized with the Professional Leadership Award. The owner, CEO, and president of Tanaka Advertising, a business established by her father, Jodie developed the company into the highly successful entity it is today. Among her clients, she counts other notable Minnesota companies, including U.S. Bank, the Minnesota Twins, Northwest Airlines, and Davanni's. Her hard work and excellence in her field have consistently been acknowledged by awards from Minnesota's community of business professionals.

Dragon Festival Planning Committee is this year's Community Service Award winner. The committee has built on the original Asian American Festival, a lively and popular annual event since 1997. The newly named Dragon Festival has grown to include not only a parade but also a dragon boat race.

Kogen Taiko, players of traditional Japanese drums, have received this year's award for community service and excellence in the arts. The oldest taiko drumming ensemble in Minnesota, Kogen Taiko, preserves Japanese drumming techniques while also incorporating multiple American rhythms. The result is original Japanese-American music. The group's performances have movingly affirmed the sometimes painful Japanese experience in America. In addition, they are extensively involved in the community, having used proceeds from a benefit concert to help pay medical bills for a deceased friend and to establish an education fund for his children.

In addition to these distinguished Leadership Award winners, I would like to pay tribute to two other remarkable people.

Adeel Lari served as president of the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans from 1994 to 2002. Thanks to his leadership, the council has become a driving force in educating the larger community about matters important to Asians in Minnesota. Adeel has also spent the past 28 years at the Minnesota Department of Transportation. His dedication to his community is exemplary.

Minneapolis Police Officer Duy Ngo has served the department honorably for over 5 years and was recently assigned to the Minnesota Gang Strike Force, helping to curb gang membership and violence in our State. In addition, he is a sergeant in the Army Reserves. Officer Ngo is recovering well from injuries received when he was shot while working undercover. Like all Minnesotans, I deeply appreciate the bravery of officers like Duy Ngo who put their lives on the line every day to protect their fellow citizens.

It is entirely appropriate for us to designate a special time to pay tribute to the many contributions of Americans of Asian or Pacific ancestry. At the same time, I wish to emphasize the

value of the many talents, strengths, and unique qualities they consistently bring to us. We welcome and cherish their distinctive gifts and customs.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 100. An act to restate, clarify, and revise the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940.

H.R. 766. An act to provide for a National Nanotechnology Research and Development Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 866. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to enhance the security of wastewater treatment works.

H.R. 1609. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Boston Street in Brookfield, Missouri, as the "Admiral Donald Davis Post Office Building".

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 53. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

H. Con. Res. 96. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 1238(b) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Public Law 106-398), as amended by division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003, the Speaker reappoints the following members on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States-China Security Review Commission: Mr. Stephen D. Bryen of Maryland for a term to expire December 31, 2005; Ms. June Teufel Dryer of Florida for a term to expire December 31, 2003; Mr. Larry Wortzel of Virginia for a term to expire December 31, 2004.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1238(b) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Public Law 106-398), the Minority Leader appoints the following individual to the