

Adoption changes lives—it changes families, neighborhoods, and communities. Adoption has also changed attitudes and beliefs. Through the advocacy and dedication of adoptive families and professionals, adoption has changed our nation and our world. My colleagues and I have seen adoption officials of other nations, upon experiencing the joy of the young children whom their government and people have allowed to be adopted by U.S. families, spontaneously make unexpected proclamations to expand their nation's adoption programs. I have heard powerful testimony of children in our foster care system describe their heart-moving desire for a forever family. As an adoptive parent, I also know the thrill and excitement of receiving "The Call" that told us that our son Ted would soon be with us.

The Nobel Prize Chilean poet, Gabriela Mistral wrote: "We are guilty of many errors and faults, but our worst crime is abandoning children, neglecting the fountain of life. Many things we need can wait; the child cannot. To the child, we cannot answer: 'Tomorrow'. The child's name is 'Today!'" Those words have particular meaning for the more than 117,000 children in foster care who are available for adoption, and to whom we must say: "TODAY".

Until recently, the wonderful adoption experiences that we celebrate this evening were unreal and intangible to those unfamiliar with adoption. The Hallmark Channel travels into the households of 45 million subscribers around the globe. Thanks to Hallmark, families in the United States and throughout the world now have the opportunity to see the real stories of adoptive families.

In June of this year, the Hallmark Channel initiated their first original series entitled "Adoption" which is a non-scripted, reality program, that captures the journey and real life experience of birth parents, adopted children and adoptive parents. I want to commend and congratulate the Hallmark Channel for your leadership and vision to bring these great stories to life.

With the premiere of "Adoption," Hallmark Channel has dedicated the network's inaugural national corporate outreach initiative to supporting and creating grassroots programs dedicated to positively impacting awareness of adoption in the U.S. By providing the tools that enable viewers to make a difference in their communities, Hallmark Channel hopes to dispel the myths surrounding adoption, and shed a positive light on the process. The Adoption initiative encompasses several elements that can be tailored to a variety of needs, including: turn-key promotions, public service announcements, educational tools, and programming elements to allow select markets to reach out and highlight relevant adoption stories in their community. This fall, as part of their corporate initiative, Hallmark will unveil a special ornament that celebrates adoption. They have generously included in each of your gift bags coupons that may be redeemed by mail for one of these ornaments.

At this time, I would like to direct your attention to the video monitors to see a short excerpt of the Hallmark Channel's programming from their wonderful "Adoption" series.

We are delighted to have Lana Corbi, President and CEO of Hallmark Channel, with us this evening to accept the 2002 National Angel in Adoption Award for the Hallmark Channel. Lana is a remarkable woman who has recently been named one of the "50 Most Powerful Black Executives in America" by Fortune Magazine. The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute is very pleased to present this award to Lana

Corbi in recognition of the Hallmark Channel's outstanding contributions to raise adoption awareness through leadership in television programming.

UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Ukrainian American Veterans, on the historic occasion of their 55th Annual National Convention.

American veterans of Ukrainian heritage have a rich and significant history in defending our nation's democracy and freedoms, during times of peace and times of war. American veterans of Ukrainian descent have been an ongoing and vital source of strength in every branch of the United States military, dating back to the dawn of America.

Ukrainian American Veterans, here in Cleveland, and across our country, have reflected a dedication to promoting peace, goodwill, faith and community for all citizens.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of all Americans of Ukrainian heritage—especially our veterans—who proudly joined the United States Armed Forces to defend the liberties of America. Let us not ever forget those veterans, of every heritage, who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of all Americans. Today, I congratulate the Ukrainian American Veterans on the significant occasion of their 55th Annual National Convention. The deep dedication to justice and significant contribution to American society by Ukrainian American Veterans has been, and continues to be, a vital strength within our community, and within our nation.

AMERICAN FRONTIERS: A PUBLIC LANDS JOURNEY

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, a unique expedition is now underway out West to draw attention to America's public lands legacy.

"American Frontiers: A Public Lands Journey", began July 31 and will conclude September 28 in Salt Lake City. Two teams of adventurers are traveling by foot, horseback, ATV, canoe, boat and bicycle entirely over public lands on this 3,000-mile trek. Along the way, they are sharing their experiences and thoughts with school children, local communities and the world via videophones and an interactive Internet website, www.americanfrontiers.net.

In Colorado, as in much of the rugged American West, our public lands play an important role in our lives, our economies, and our communities. We take pleasure in hiking, biking, skiing, rafting and hunting on public lands. And the natural resources on our public lands provide us with the timber, energy, water, minerals and livestock forage that support our unique quality of life. I applaud this effort to encourage a better understanding of the

importance of America's public lands spearheaded by the Public Lands Interpretive Association. Those participants in this endeavor who complete this journey should be congratulated for the pioneering and age-old spirit of the American West that they embody as they persevere along the trail.

I hope all Americans will join in celebrating our shared legacy—and the accomplishments of the American Frontiers adventurers—on National Public Lands Day, this Saturday, September 28.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP BEUFORD J. TERRY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Bishop Beuford J. Terry, on the occasion of his consecration to the office of Jurisdictional Bishop of the Ohio Northeast Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

Bishop Terry, who is also the Presiding Prelate to the Ohio Northeast Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, has dedicated his life to not only the spiritual enrichment of his congregation, but also to the overall enrichment and improvement of the East Cleveland community.

Bishop Terry continues to demonstrate his commitment and dedication to his faith, and to the individuals and families he serves. He is the reason why his church, the Community Temple Church of God in Christ, is an ongoing source of comfort and inspiration for its members. Moreover, Bishop Terry provides a light of hope and beacon of possibility for the entire East Cleveland neighborhood.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of Bishop Beuford J. Terry, on the momentous occasion of his consecration to the office of Jurisdictional Bishop of the Ohio Northeast Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction. Bishop Terry's life-long dedication to helping others, as well as his spiritual guidance, generosity, and activism, significantly inspires the lives of his family, friends and congregation, and continues to positively impact our entire community.

RECOGNIZING HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF 100 YEARS OF KOREAN IMMIGRATION TO UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, as a co-sponsor of this resolution, I am pleased to see it being considered by the House today and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

In 2003, communities throughout the United States will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Korean immigration to the United States. Many Korean immigrants came to the United States in the early 1950's, fleeing from war, poverty and the threat of communism. As the hope to return to a united and democratic Korea diminished, Korean immigrants were left

to build new communities and opportunities for themselves in the United States.

It was through sheer determination and hard work that many Korean Americans have been able to thrive in America, invigorating businesses, churches and academic communities throughout the United States. According to the United States Census, Korean Americans own and operate 135,571 businesses across the nation that have gross sales of \$46,000,000,000 annually and employ 333,649 individuals.

Korean Americans have also left an indelible mark in our communities and government. Korean American community activists such as Angela Oh and Bong Hwan Kim worked tirelessly to bridge the racial tensions during the Los Angeles riots of 1992.

The Korean-American population of the U.S. has greatly added to the rich fabric of our Nation. I want to take this opportunity to commend Korean Americans for their historical and cultural contributions to this Nation, and again urge a YES vote on this resolution.

SPANISH AMERICAN COMMITTEE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Spanish American Committee, as they celebrate thirty-five years of service to Hispanic Americans in the Cleveland area.

Established in 1966, the Spanish American Committee, a United Way agency, is the oldest and largest non-profit social service organization in Ohio, existing to provide assistance for citizenry of Hispanic/Latino heritage in Northeast Ohio. This invaluable agency, comprised of caring, dedicated and hardworking individuals, provides essential services that improve the lives of families and individuals.

Since the dawn of our nation, citizens of Hispanic/Latino heritage have greatly contributed to, and enhanced, every facet of our so-

ciety. And through their meaningful action, the members of this worthy organization have elevated the quality of life for thousands of Hispanic/Latino individuals and families. Some of the significant services provided by the Spanish American Committee include: Counseling and crisis intervention, employment services, daycare services, job referrals, housing services, tenant and landlord counseling, English language classes, translation services, and voter education and registration.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and admiration of the Spanish American Committee, as we join them in celebration of their 35th Anniversary. Please join me as I extend my deepest admiration and congratulations to the Spanish American Society, as its members continue to empower and assist Hispanic Americans to secure a brighter future for themselves—casting a light of hope and accomplishment over our entire community.