

displayed by the U.S. service members who took part in the battle to recapture Guam. The resolution further encourages the American people to commemorate the Liberation of Guam and to observe the anniversary of the battles of the Pacific Theater during World War II. Lastly, the resolution requests the Secretary of the Interior to establish commemorative programs honoring the liberators and the people of Guam at the War in the Pacific National Historical Park. These commemorations, which precede the commemorations next year of the 60th Anniversary of the end of the War in the Pacific, give context to the extensive and difficult Pacific campaign.

I believe this Congressional recognition of the Liberation of Guam will enhance public understanding of and appreciation for the occupation experience of the people of Guam and the heroism of the liberators who took part in the battle to recapture Guam. I want to draw attention to the commendable efforts of the National Park Service, and, specifically, the efforts led by the personnel at the War in the Pacific National Historical Park, that have been made to date in the development of programs to commemorate the Liberation of Guam. These efforts notably include the recent enhancement of the Park's official Web site that now provides Internet access to many historical publications and approximately 700 historical photographs. These efforts are important in the absence of a restored museum and visitor contact facility following Super-typhoon Pongsona, which damaged Park property in December 2002. I encourage the continuation and expansion of such efforts consistent with the Park's mission. I also encourage a concerted effort to seek input from residents of Guam and veterans of World War II in the development of these and future commemorative programs.

Today, the Liberation of Guam is one of the most important commemorations held annually on the island. Liberation Day on Guam is a time of remembrance and celebration. The people of Guam commemorate the sacrifices of those who endured the occupation and those who gave their lives to liberate the island, and we celebrate the triumph of our people over adversity and oppression. As we move forward from July 21, 2004 to the 61st Anniversary on July 21, 2005, it is my hope we all reflect on our freedom and remember the sacrifices of those that came before us. I know this House has long been reminded of the Guam story. My predecessors, Mr. Won Pat, Mr. Blaz, and Mr. Underwood, would often take to the floor to speak to this body about the significance of Guam's role in World War II, the greatest conflict of the last century. Through their efforts the story of Guam's occupation and liberation has found its place in the national history of World War II. I, like they, seek to protect this history, to educate our country about our experience, and to bring appropriate and due recognition for our people and our veterans.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD
HOPKINS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on Sept. 11, 2004, teens from around the Third District gathered on the campus of Jacksonville State University to remember the events of 9/11, and to reflect on the impact of those events on their life today.

One of the speakers that day was Richard Hopkins, an eleventh grade student at the Donoho School in Anniston. In honor of his words and in recognition of his gift for writing, I am placing his entire speech in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD so that others may have the opportunity to hear his thoughts about that fateful day.

The text of his speech is as follows. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's attention to this important matter.

“BEYOND THE SHEER LOSS OF LIFE, WHY WAS THIS SO IMPORTANT?”

(By Richard Hopkins)

“This portion of our program will focus on the importance, beyond the sheer loss of life, of the 9/11 attacks and their aftermath. There were a number of significant shifts in policy and attitude in several major areas of American life in response to the September 11th attacks. One of those areas concerns the American populace as a whole, and I will briefly talk about the changes and reactions amongst American citizens. I will begin by focusing first on the general population of Americans, and then moving on specifically to teenagers.

“In the wake of the September 11th attacks, America's emotional spectrum was a kaleidoscope of mixed and contrasting feelings. People were confused, angry, hurt, sad, lonely, shocked, and grim. At the same time, feelings like hope, brotherhood, community unity, and national pride began to come to the fore. Since the closing of the Cold War, a sort of Pax Americana had come into existence. Americans more or less felt safe and secure within their own borders, and unaware of any problems around the world. This is not saying that Americans were indifferent to what was happening abroad, merely that these events did not fully emerge into the everyday public consciousness. Instead, Americans began to focus inward in facing their own dilemmas and social issues. Foreign policy and the issues that stem from it became abstract considerations to the average American citizen. They would occasionally read something in the newspaper, watch something in the news, or hear something on the radio that briefly aroused their interest, but only in a displaced and quickly passing manner. Even when events directly involved the United States, Americans could not bring themselves to become too concerned, because they couldn't quite grasp how these happenings directly linked to themselves, their livelihoods, and impacted upon their everyday lives. They had no conscious awareness of why it should matter to them. This is not intended as an attack upon the American people, merely, it is an observation of how to them, everything might as well have been placed in a white and murky fog, because they had nothing tangible with which they could relate their lives to.

“What happened on September 11th changed all of that. No longer were Americans dealing with distant facts, of attacks and kidnappings happening elsewhere, far

away. No longer did they have to consider something that they couldn't relate to their lives. No longer were the problems to be faced abroad, but instead, they were to be faced within our very own national borders. Instead, they were forced to confront ugly facts that affected their lives in every way. Not since the attack on Pearl Harbor during World War II, or more recently, the Cuban Missile Crisis, has there been such a clear cut and direct threat to American lives and properties at home. Air travel has become increasingly restricted. Security at public and federal locations has been stepped up. New laws and regulations have been passed, while new organizations with new responsibilities have been created. The economy has fluctuated, and the prices of everyday goods and services have gone with it. Wherever one looks, one can see the direct impacts of what happened on September 11th. This is what caused the incredible turmoil in the post 9/11 environment. Individuals could clearly see the consequences of an action, and realize how it affected them, and therefore they were able to become passionate and care about it. It has given the average citizen a reason to become concerned and active in today's political environment.

“Now, let us consider teenagers specifically within this post 9/11 America. In many ways, a significant number of teens remain unaffected by what transpired three years ago today. This is because, unlike adults, many have not been greatly inconvenienced or exposed to the results of the attacks. Their parents handle travel arrangements, buy groceries, and generally manage all of the details of life that go unnoticed by teenagers, leaving the teens to their own, smaller worlds that still remain detached from the reality that everyone else experiences. However, a great many teenagers have been just as affected, if not more so, as their adult counterparts.

“Immediately after 9/11, news coverage showed grief and fear evidenced across the spectrum of American citizenry, including teenagers. Afterwards, however, once fear and grief were reined in, and determination and strength were in control, focus shifted to older subjects and viewers. This meant that teenagers were left behind, with the final images of their reactions displaying a time of vulnerability, with none of the strength and determination that followed for them. Teens have last been portrayed as afraid, or mourning, and have yet been given a chance to truly speak again and show how they have adjusted and thrived like adults have.

“9/11 has stirred passions on both ends of the political scale amongst teenagers. Because of the terrible events of that day, teens have put significant thought into what happened, why, how they feel about it, and what should be done. Teens have powerful feelings on a number of political issues, be it the new measures and laws that have been passed in the interest of Homeland Security, to the war on Iraq, and to the United States' Un-relations. Unfortunately, teens have not been given an opportunity to express these feelings and vent this pressure that builds up inside of them. As a result, it is easy for them to become resentful towards adults, who tell the teenagers how the world is and give little thought to asking them if they disagree, or if they would like to respond.

“As a result of these pent up emotions and the uncertain environment that was created, many teenagers, especially those that are already troubled, have had increasing emotional problems. Heightened aggression, changing lifestyle and habits, depression, paranoia, increasing isolation, anxiety, and more are symptoms of these problems.

“This is why it is so important for Americans to turn to the younger members of our

society and ask them "How do you feel about this? What do you suggest? What would you like me to do?" This action will increase trust between teenagers and adults, as well as recognize the validity of teen opinions, and help them to express their inner feelings and feel like they are valued members of society. This is crucial, because many of those teenagers who witnessed the events of September 11th are now able to vote, and many more will soon be able to. It is important that they become recognized members of the political population, and not be devalued because they were never given a chance to express themselves or give voice to their beliefs. This attitude cannot be allowed to stand, because it would hamper the ability of future voters from fully forming their political identity, and fulfilling America's dream of a democratic government."

ARAPAHO AND ROOSEVELT NATIONAL FORESTS LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2004

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill, which would expedite an exchange of lands between the city of Golden, Colorado and the Federal Government.

The bill was introduced by Colorado's senior Senator, BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL. The House passed a similar measure last year. I joined my colleague from Colorado, Mr. BEAUPREZ, in introducing the House version.

Under the bill, the city of Golden will receive about 9.84 acres that now are part of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests. The City needs the land to construct a short pipeline—about 125 feet long—to bring water into a storage facility where it will be held for use by the city and its residents.

In return, the City will transfer to the United States several parcels of land that are now inholdings within National Forest boundaries.

These inholdings include lands near Argentine Pass, which straddles the divide between Clear Creek County and Summit County and are crossed by the Continental Divide Trail. Adding those lands to the National Forest will reduce possible conflicts and increase public access to areas of high recreational value. So, this exchange is not only in the interests of the city of Golden and its residents, but in the public interest as well.

The bill also includes a provision under which the City would be authorized to start work on the pipeline while the exchange proceeds, and further provides that if for some reason the exchange cannot be completed, the city will buy the lands that are needed for the pipeline.

I want to thank the leadership of the Resources Committee, especially Chairman POMBO and Ranking Member RAHALL for making it possible for the bill to be on the House floor today.

It is a modest bill but one that is very important for the city of Golden and its residents. It is bipartisan and non-controversial, and I urge the House to agree to its passage so it can go to the president to be signed into law without further delay.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF KUNDE ESTATE WINERY AND VINEYARDS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to four generations of a remarkable farming and winemaking family that has been producing award-winning California wines for 100 years.

Family patriarch Charles Louis Kunde immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1884, settling in Sonoma County, California. He grew Zinfandel grapes in Windsor for several years before acquiring the means to purchase the 650-acre Wildwood Ranch in Sonoma Valley in 1904. This site is the cornerstone of the family's current farming operation. Vines planted in 1882 on 28 acres of this initial purchase are still used to make the Kunde Century Vines Zinfandel.

The Kunde family won the first of many wine awards, including a gold medal for their estate Zinfandel, in 1915 at the Panama Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, the most prestigious pre-prohibition wine event in the country.

Arthur "Big Boy" Kunde took over operation of the winery and vineyards following his father's death in 1922. These were hard times for the family. Prohibition limited wine production to altar, sacramental and medicinal wines and the family had to diversify with a cattle ranching operation.

The original winery closed for good when Big Boy's two sons, Fred and Bob, were serving our country in World War II. The rest of the family continued to grow grapes and raise cattle to save the land.

After the war, the family continued to grow grapes and began to acquire land adjacent to their original ranch. Bob and Fred also began a meat cutting business on the ranch. They cut meat by night and planted vineyards by day.

By the mid 1980s the family had acquired nearly 2,000 acres of contiguous land surrounding the original purchase. The vineyards stretched from the floor of the Sonoma Valley to the Mayacamas Mountains. It was now time to rebuild the winery and Kunde Estate Winery opened its doors in 1990.

Today the winery produces 100,000 cases of wine annually. Ninety percent of the grapes are estate grown. There are 21 varietals and more than 100 clones grown on the estate property.

A new generation of winemakers, managers and growers: Kurt, Bill, Jeff, Keith and Marcia, the children of Bob and Fred, are carrying on the family tradition of fine wine making.

Mr. Speaker, the Kunde Estate Winery and Vineyards is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year and it is appropriate that we honor them today.

HONORING THE TOWN OF CHATOM, ALABAMA, ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the community of Chatom, Alabama, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of its founding.

Founded on October 4, 1904, Chatom was named the county seat of Washington County three years later. During the past 100 years, the citizens and officials of this community have created a very rich and diverse history, and have worked tirelessly to provide the best benefits possible for themselves and their county.

As a result of efforts by many individuals and community organizations, the county's first high school was located in Chatom, providing more readily-available educational opportunities for the families in the town and the surrounding area. Between 1952 and 1956, the Washington County Hospital and Nursing Home and the county's public library were both opened in Chatom, providing greater access to healthcare and cultural resources.

During the past four decades, the citizens and leaders of Chatom have worked tirelessly to put into place recreational and infrastructure resources which could be used to attract outside industry and lead to an increase in the population base. These innovations have included the construction of the Roy Wilcox Airport in 1963, the opening of an 18-hole public golf course in 1995, and the establishment of the Chatom Community Center in 2000.

Mr. Speaker, the 1,205 residents of Chatom, Alabama, are firmly rooted in their proud past, and at the same time are keeping a careful and optimistic eye on the road ahead. The vision displayed by their community leaders during the past 100 years has led to the creation of a stable community and an anchor for all of Washington County, and I have no doubt that the continued inspired leadership and vision of today's residents and leaders will lead to even greater successes in the years ahead.

It is my hope the Town of Chatom continues its story of success for another one hundred years.

TRIBUTE TO DENVER DISTRICT ATTORNEY WILLIAM RITTER, JR.

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the notable accomplishments and extraordinary service of Denver District Attorney William (Bill) Ritter, Jr. This eminent public servant merits both our recognition and esteem as his impressive record of leadership and invaluable service has done much to improve the lives of our residents.

Bill Ritter's standing within our community is unrivaled. His tenure has been defined by not only the skills and faculties that distinguish district attorneys, but by a deep and abiding commitment to justice, high ethical standards and professionalism.