

concept of a Black Cowboys parade. Some of the original organizers and riders were Lonnie Scoggins, Booker Emery, and Mr. Wright (now in his nineties). Other cities in Oklahoma and Texas have parades celebrating Black horsemen and horsewomen, but the City of Oakland has hosted the longest continuously staged celebration.

Blacks were cowboys before they were freed from slavery. Before California even became a state, they worked on cattle ranches in southern California. At the height of the cattle driving days, it is estimated that a fourth of all cowboys were black. The Buffalo Soldiers were proud and capable men who got the toughest and longest assignments while serving on the frontier. Although they have since been criticized for fighting Indians, these largely illiterate men were recruited starting in 1866 immediately after the end of the Civil War. By 1898, they were a disciplined fighting force who saved Theodore Roosevelt on San Juan Hill in Cuba during the Spanish American War.

This parade rights the portrayal of African Americans from history and media presentations by restoring the pride of black manhood. Northern California and Bay Area horsemen and horsewomen show that blacks can ride today as well and that this history is alive. This is also important to Mexican Americans, Chinese Americans and Native American as children of every background can reclaim their history and have pride in their special contribution to the settlement of the West.

This 25 year tradition of the Black Cowboys Parade is one of the ongoing and visible efforts to restore pride in young blacks and other youngsters. We salute the work of organizations such as the Northern California Black Horsemen Association, the Black Cowboys Association and Wildcat Canyon Ranch Youth Program for their ongoing programs to educate and honor the legacy of the black cowboy today.

TRIBUTE TO RODNEY HERO

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 5, 1999

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize and congratulate one of my constituents, Rodney Hero. Mr. Hero is a Professor at the University of Colorado, who was recently presented with the Woodrow Wilson Foundation Award for his book, 'Faces of Inequality: Social Diversity in American Politics'.

This distinguished annual award honors the author of the premier book published in the United States regarding government, politics or international affairs. Presented by the American Political Science Association, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation Award is one of the most prestigious awards in political science scholarship.

In his award-winning book, Professor Hero offers a unique social diversity theory regarding race and ethnicity in American politics. He argues that race and ethnicity significantly affect politics in all the states, not just the states with a high minority population. Professor Hero's social diversity theory challenges a 35-year-old theory regarding politics in our states.

Mr. Speaker, later this week, I will be visiting with Professor Hero and his introduction

to American Politics class. I look forward to the opportunity to join the Professor and his class for a spirited discussion on the issues facing our nation. I would like to thank Rodney Hero for the contribution he has made to the world of academia. His contribution truly exemplifies the academic commitment of Colorado's universities and colleges.

ALEXANDRIA, VA—250 YEARS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 5, 1999

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the record two resolutions in recognition of the 250th Anniversary of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

As Alexandria's former mayor, I am now proud to represent the city as part of the Commonwealth's 8th Congressional District. This historic seaport city, an early and continuing center of political, business and social life, has drawn from its rich cultural heritage up until the present day, and in so doing has become one of the most frequently visited tourist destinations in the nation today with 1.2 million visitors annually.

To mark this special anniversary year, Alexandria has hosted hundreds of additional cultural events, concerts, symposia, tours and exhibitions, and residents and visitors alike have benefited from the valuable history lessons this great city is able to provide.

I'm sure my colleagues here today will join me in congratulating Alexandria on its long and distinguished history.

May the next 250 years be as remarkable for this very fine American city.

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the site of Alexandria was occupied for several thousand years by Native Americans; and

Whereas, Captain John Smith and a party of explorers from Jamestown first visited the site of Alexandria in 1608; and

Whereas, a tobacco warehouse was established in 1730 at the foot of Oronoco Street in what is now Alexandria, and a settlement informally called Hunting Creek Warehouse grew up around the warehouse; and

Whereas, a group of Scottish merchants tried to name the area Belhaven, after Scottish patriot John Hamilton, Baron Belhaven, in 1749; and

Whereas, the Virginia House of Burgesses and Council, upon petition of other local residents, voted in May 1749 to establish a new town called Alexandria, named after the Alexander family on whose land the town was to be built; and

Whereas, Governor Gooch convened the House of Burgesses and Council in the Council Chamber on May 11, 1749, and gave his assent to the bill establishing the new town.

Now, therefore, I, Kerry J. Donley, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim May 11, 1999 to be the 250th anniversary of the creation of Alexandria, Virginia.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 11th day of May 1999.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Capt. John Smith and a party of explorers from Jamestown first visited the

site that was to become Alexandria in 1608; and

WHEREAS, a tobacco warehouse was established at the foot of Oronoco Street in what is now Alexandria in 1730, and a settlement informally called Hunting Creek Warehouse grew up around the warehouse; and

WHEREAS, a group of Scottish merchants tried to name the area Belhaven in 1749; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Assembly, upon petition of other local residents, voted on May 11, 1749, to establish a new town called Alexandria, named after the Alexander family on whose land the town was to be built; and

WHEREAS, the town was created by local landowners and Scottish merchants, with the first auction of town lots occurring on July 13-14, 1749; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria was the site of the adoption of the Fairfax Resolves in July of 1774 and the home town of Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army and first President of the United States George Washington, and of author of the Virginia Bill of Rights and father of the U.S. Bill of Rights George Mason; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria has been the home town of many people prominent in our nation's history, including Gens. Light Horse Harry Lee and Robert E. Lee, former President Gerald R. Ford, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, General Harold Spaatz, John L. Lewis, several Lords Fairfax, composer Richard Bales, musicians Jim Morrison and Mama Cass, and many Cabinet officers over the last 250 years; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria was ceded to the United States to form part of the District of Columbia in 1791 and at the wish of its citizens retroceded to Virginia in 1846; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria was the site in 1939 of a sit-in demonstration at the Alexandria Public Library, in which the participants demanded equal rights of use for black and white customers; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria is the site of the Alexandria Academy, which had among its three schools the Free School, established by George Washington's contribution of 50 annually to educate 20 boys and girls whose parents could not pay tuition, and which was the site of a school for children of freedmen from 1812 to 1823; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria is the home of institutions of higher learning including a branch of Virginia Tech and the Northern Virginia Community College; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria has many noteworthy museums, historic sites, and tourist attractions, including the internationally-renowned Torpedo Factory Arts Center, one of the highest concentrations of 18th and early 19th century buildings in the nation, and a rich and active cultural life; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria retains the prominent role it has had since 1749 as a transportation center, by sea, road, and rail; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria will mark its 250th anniversary throughout 1999 with a year-long series of diverse programs, activities, and public events; and

WHEREAS, all residents of Alexandria can look back with pride on their city's rich history and forward with anticipation to an exciting and challenging future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the City of Alexandria on the occasion of its 250th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Hon. Kerry J. Donley, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and best wishes for a glorious anniversary celebration.