

By: Dawson

H.R. No. 290

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Kenneth Thames of Bay City has been named as the 2004  
2 Man of the Year by the Bay City Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture  
3 in recognition of his exceptional service to his fellow citizens;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, Born and raised in Bay City, Mr. Thames has long  
6 worked without fanfare to foster patriotism and an appreciation of  
7 the tremendous sacrifices made by military veterans and their  
8 families; and

9           WHEREAS, A former member of the military himself, Mr. Thames  
10 served in the Vietnam War and has lived abroad in several countries;  
11 he belongs to a number of local organizations and is widely known  
12 and esteemed for doing the many essential tasks that often go  
13 unheralded but that add immeasurably to the special spirit of a  
14 community; and

15           WHEREAS, The senior vice commander and post historian for  
16 Philip H. Parker VFW Post 2438, he has devoted many hours to  
17 rebuilding that organization's archives and exhibits since the post  
18 building was damaged in a fire several years ago; moreover, he has  
19 provided furniture for the new post quarters and hung flags,  
20 pictures, and posters there to make it a comfortable, inviting  
21 home; and

22           WHEREAS, His work has provided the basis for several books  
23 about veterans buried in Matagorda County, together with a military  
24 discharge index; other projects to which he has given his time and

1 efforts include putting out flags and luminarias on Memorial Day,  
2 remembering POWs and MIAs, honoring both living and deceased  
3 veterans, paying tribute to Gold Star Mothers, and presenting  
4 programs about the U.S. flag to students and to members of various  
5 groups, as well as directing the folding of the flag at the  
6 graveside of veterans; and

7 WHEREAS, The residents of Bay City have benefited greatly  
8 from this gentleman's exemplary contributions, and it is a pleasure  
9 to join in honoring him at this time; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby congratulate Kenneth Thames on his selection as  
12 2004 Man of the Year by the Bay City Chamber of Commerce and  
13 Agriculture and extend to him sincere appreciation for his  
14 outstanding civic efforts; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
16 prepared for Mr. Thames as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
17 House of Representatives.