

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC ROLE OF VICTORY GARDENS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Earth Day by introducing a resolution recognizing the historic role Victory Gardens have served in strengthening our country's food security, health education, and community morale through the worst of times, including World War I, II and their current importance as we battle the current Coronavirus pandemic. I want to thank my dear colleague and proud son of Nebraska, Ranking Member JEFF FORTENBERRY, for partnering with me on this valiant endeavor.

America faced many challenges head-on during World War I and World War II, and even the youngest and oldest citizens across the country could participate. Millions came together to strengthen food security by planting Victory Gardens. Again today, we find ourselves facing a new enemy, an invisible enemy—COVID-19. Its devastation is broad and indiscriminate. Life as we have known it is forever changed. But as we seek comfort and higher purpose, the call to reignite the patriotism of Victory Gardens rings loud. Let us unite once more to strengthen community while we are apart and help supplement troubled food chains to defy and delay insecurity. The harvest of fresh fruits and vegetables in our own backyards would have an indelible impact for our families and neighbors.

This challenge presents a ripe opportunity to educate our children on the value of mother-Earth, as we implement home schooling lessons with schools shuttered. Investments, whether time, effort, or financial, in Victory Gardening will help teach our young citizens the fundamentals of healthy and nutritious food, and the sense of accomplishment that comes with cultivation. We must not let this opportunity or duty go to waste.

While we continue to combat the devastating effects of COVID-19, I urge citizens across our great nation to raise their spades and seeds, and join me in planting Victory Gardens. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

RECOGNIZING MR. CALEB LYDICK

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my sincerest gratitude to my constituent, Mr. Caleb Lydick, for his heroic actions on April 7, 2020.

On the afternoon of April 7, Missouri State Highway Patrol and deputies with the Mont-

gomery County Sheriff's Office responded to the report of a shooting on eastbound Interstate 70, near the 175-mile marker, in Montgomery County, Missouri. The initial investigation indicated the driver of a passenger car had fired shots from a moving vehicle, striking and disabling another vehicle also traveling eastbound, causing that vehicle to come to a rest near the 175-mile marker. Thankfully, no injuries were reported.

Troopers subsequently learned that, after the victim's vehicle came to a stop, two tractor-trailer drivers parked their trucks around the van to shield it from additional gun fire. I later learned that Caleb Lydick, of Springerton, Illinois, was one of the courageous drivers who placed himself, and his truck, in harm's way to protect the disabled van. Caleb's actions that day were both courageous and selfless, and I am grateful for the men and women, like Caleb, who rise to the occasion in a moment of danger.

Madam Speaker, I thank Caleb for his bravery and wish him safe travels as he continues his essential work.

XAVIER BANKS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Xavier Banks for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Xavier Banks is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Xavier Banks is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Xavier Banks for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF HARMONY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE CORONAVIRUS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Harmony Public School for their efforts to protect our hospital heroes on the front lines fighting the coronavirus.

As COVID-19 has rocked our communities and pushed our hospitals into overdrive, our healthcare professionals have faced a critical shortage of personal protective equipment, or PPE, such as face masks and rubber gloves. PPE provides critical protection for our doctors and nurses, shielding them from diseases like coronavirus and other biohazards.

Seeing our heroes needing help, Harmony Public School used their 3-D printer to create 2,000 plastic face shields over the course of six weeks, using modern technology to help medical professionals working to save lives.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, we send our sincerest thanks to the men and women at Harmony Public School for doing their part to help our community during these challenging times.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LAUREN OF MATHENY

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lauren Matheny of Greensboro, North Carolina.

Lauren was born on March 30, 1971 in Gainesville, Florida and spent many of her early years in Ormond Beach.

Beyond being a devoted wife, loving mother, and friend to many, Lauren was a proud teacher at Holy Trinity Episcopal Day School in Greensboro. Words cannot do justice to the impact she had on so many students' lives.

In 2018, Lauren was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. From that time on, she courageously fought against her ailment with determination and dignity. Lauren set an example in her battle against cancer that will live on for years to come.

As an educator, she enriched the lives of her students, her children, and so many in the community. Evidence of this enrichment was demonstrated when over 300 members of her community came together to organize a fundraiser on behalf of the Matheny family.

On April 8, 2020, Lauren passed away with her family by her side. Her contributions will not soon be forgotten.

Please join me in gratitude for Lauren's life and in praying for her husband, Zack, her three children, and the entire Matheny family.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF JACK BRYANT

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember one life of far too many we have lost to the sickness spread across our nation,

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

that of an impactful leader and my good friend, Stamford's own Jack Bryant. Jack's quiet dignity and ebullient approachability belied the immense work he accomplished throughout his life, whether most recently as a member on the Board of Education, his long service in the Stamford NAACP, including as its president, as a deacon at Faith Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church and involved community volunteer, and as a beloved father and family member. Whenever you needed something good for the community done, you didn't have to go to Jack. He was already there, and he welcomed your help with open arms.

Education and opportunity animated Jack. When he ran for Board of Education, he spoke movingly of his own education at Stamford's Westhill High, and watching his children achieve their own success. He dedicated his time and energy to removing the barriers too often found preventing educational attainment, particularly in communities of color. He did this civically, frequently coming to the Board of Education and Stamford's city government to testify and participate, and he did it through example in the community, leading local high school student visits to Historically Black Colleges and Universities for decades. Jack made sure these trips built more than resumes; they built character. Jack demonstrated how these young men and women could grow with the opportunities present today and build even stronger communities in the future by investing their talents in the following generation.

Nowhere was this more evident than his own family. One of those HBCU trips resulted in one daughter attending college at Howard University, then medical school. Today she is on the front lines of saving others from the devastating consequences of this pandemic. In her grief, his other daughter celebrates his life and encourages all in the community to follow in his footsteps. His son coaches at Stamford High, serving as the same kind of community role model that his father always did. And countless others are sharing their memories of "Uncle Jack," and how we can all model our lives in his legacy.

I worked most closely with Jack during his decade-long presidency of the Stamford NAACP, looking to achieve justice for those who too often lack it and making sure the least of ours in the community get what they need in a tough world. We've worked together to register and empower voters; to combat the scourge of gun violence that claims too many urban victims; to remedy the historic injustices of our criminal justice system; and of course to help the next generation seize opportunities to get a world-beating education and better understand and improve the world they will soon enter.

Whenever we talked, I came away hopeful. Whenever we worked, I saw the grateful faces of those he served. Whenever we prayed, I knew Jack's earnest and sincere pleas flew up to the heavens above.

This world has lost a great leader, and that leader left a great legacy. I dedicate today to mourning and remembrance, yes, but more so to furthering his legacy of service and sacrifice, uplifting those who follow in his path and commanding the others so inspired to do so now. To help feed the hungry, as the number of those who hunger grows; to provide a better future to the next generation, as the future grows more perilous; and to always keep fighting for justice and equality for all. May we all

be even half as successful at Jack Bryant was at leaving the world a better place than we found it and loving our neighbor even more than ourselves.

THOMAS WALLACE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Thomas Wallace for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Thomas Wallace is a student at Three Creeks K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Thomas Wallace is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Thomas Wallace for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PASTOR JOSEPH OWES

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I stand here today to announce that on April 2, we lost Pastor Joseph Owes of Pomona, California, to complications with COVID-19. Pastor Owes devoted 20 years of his life to providing hope and inspiration to the people of Pomona.

A Georgia native, Pastor Owes spent his formative elementary and junior high school years in the South, experiencing desegregation firsthand. As difficult as those times were, they taught Pastor Owes to "outlast the enemy" and forgive quickly. He immersed himself in football, earning an MVP award and 27 college scholarship offers. Eventually he landed on Texas Southern University, where he majored in mechanical engineering. After graduating, Pastor Owes worked hard in sales and management for five Fortune 500 Companies and married the love of his life, Michele Lipkins, in 1986. Together they raised four loving children.

Eventually, Pastor Owes found his way to preaching in 1989 and completed his ministerial training, receiving his ordination under the leadership of his mentor and friend, Pastor Reuben L. Monmouth II. Pastor Owes used his talents of bringing people together to start a church inside a maximum-security prison in Texas. There he mentored trustees and helped prepare them for the outside world. He later established a church and Christian School in Southwest Houston.

In February of 2000, Pastor Owes accepted an assignment to pastor From the Heart

Church Ministries of Pomona, serving as a pillar of inspiration and guidance for the community. During the economic crash of 2009, he was instrumental in bringing badly needed service to the Pomona Valley, using his church to host food banks and health fairs, and provide job and financial literacy workshops for those struggling with foreclosures. I was fortunate to have met him and partner with him in providing these services to our community.

Pastor Owes enjoyed the outdoors and working with his hands to create things like slingshots and bow and arrows. He often played racquetball, rode his bicycle, and participated in competitive bowling with his sons. His friends and family called him the "Grill Master" as he often cooked large meals for his loved ones. One of his greatest joys was spending time with his family and having all the children and grandchildren together under one roof.

For his exemplary life, Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Pastor Joseph Owes. His decades of service and contributions to our community are worthy of admiration, and his memory will live on through the countless lives he has impacted. Pastor Owes is survived by his wife of 22 years, Michele, their four children, six grandchildren, and a host of other family and friends. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING FORWARD SCIENCE'S CONTRIBUTION TO FIGHTING THE CORONAVIRUS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Forward Science, one of our many businesses in TX-22 for their efforts to aid those on the front lines fighting against coronavirus.

As our Houston hospital heroes face down the coronavirus pandemic, they need to stay healthy so that they can help others fighting to overcome this disease. Hand sanitizer plays a critical safety role in this fight, but our hospitals have faced a medical supply shortage.

Like many regions across the nation, our Houston hospitals faced a dire shortage of personal protective equipment or PPE's. Doctors and nurses have been forced to improvise and use their own makeshift PPE's, turning to raincoats and swim goggles to protect them from the coronavirus because the supply of masks and gowns was depleted.

TX-22 comes together to face challenges head on. Forward Science, an oral healthcare products company out of Stafford, Texas, has joined other companies in shifting their production to provide a needed supply of hand sanitizer for our healthcare heroes.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, we extend our deep gratitude to Forward Science for their commendable actions filling the gap and helping our healthcare professionals at this critical time.