

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO TRACEY A. LYNCH

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Tracey A. Lynch, of Bronx, NY. Ms. Lynch is being honored for her leadership and service to the community by the Committee for Effective Leadership and the New York State Democratic Committee. Born and raised in the Throgs Neck/Silver Beach community, Ms. Lynch has been an active member of the community for over twenty-five years. She is a graduate of St. Helena's Business School, The Wood Secretarial School, and attended Pace University as an undergraduate. She has been married to Thomas Lynch for 20 years and is the proud mother of three.

Ms. Lynch has been the President of the Silver Beach Association (SBA) for the past 12 years and has coordinated a number of activities within the community to bring families together. Some of those events have included Irish step dancing classes, sign language classes, chess clubs, book clubs, and arts and crafts. Other organizations with which Ms. Lynch is involved are Throgs Neck Community Action Partnership, the Throgs Neck Homeowners Association, the Schuyler Hill Civic Association, and the 45th NYPD Precinct.

Ms. Lynch has been working for the Department of Education since 2003 and is a Parent Coordinator for P.S. 14, the Senator John D. Calandra High School. In this role she serves as a liaison between the Department of Education and parents and guardians and assists parents with education, social, medical and community needs. Ms. Lynch also organizes and facilitates workshops and meetings in conjunction with the principal, teachers, staff and community-based organizations.

Madam Speaker, I join to wish Ms. Lynch best wishes and good fortune in her future projects.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 177, passage of H.R. 1130—Judicial Disclosure Responsibility Act, I was unavoidably detained and unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

CELEBRATING MASTERFOODS USA GREENVILLE FACILITY EXPANSION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to commemorate the \$15 million expansion of the Masterfoods USA Mississippi Delta facility located in Greenville, Mississippi.

For nearly 30 years, the Greenville facility has produced America's favorite branded rice, Uncle Ben's®, in its many variations. This facility currently produces more than 100,000 tons of rice per year. As part of the expansion, Masterfoods USA will install state-of-the-art processing equipment which will improve capacity to produce the line of Uncle Ben's® 90-second microwavable Ready Rice®.

The facility is a significant contributor to the state and local economy, employing approximately 200 associates and contributing millions of dollars in salaries and taxes. Moreover, each year, Masterfoods USA purchases and processes more than 156,000 tons, or \$18 million, of Delta-grown rough rice through this facility.

Of equal importance is the commitment of Masterfoods USA and the Greenville facility to local community and charitable endeavors. For many years the company has been actively involved with the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce and many local charities including, the United Way, the American Heart Walk, the March of Dimes, the Salvation Army, the Boys and Girls Club, and America's Second Harvest. Through its long-standing partnership with the Mississippi Area Food Network, Masterfoods USA donates a large number of Uncle Ben's® products to regional food banks. For example, following Hurricane Katrina, Uncle Ben's® donated 150 tons of food to support relief efforts in the Gulf Region.

Through its partnership with America's Second Harvest, the company recently agreed to co-sponsor the construction of a Kids Café at the local Boys and Girls Club. Kids Café, the most expansive child feeding program in the United States, provides free meals and snacks to low-income children through a variety of existing community locations. In addition to providing hot meals to hungry kids, some Kids Cafe programs also offer a safe place, where under the supervision of trustworthy staff, a child can get involved in educational, recreational and social activities that draw on existing community programs and often include family members.

I am honored that the Masterfoods USA Greenville facility is located within my district. I ask you, Madam Speaker, and my colleagues to join me in commending Masterfoods USA, and in particular, its Greenville facility and its officials, for their many years of service and commitment to the Mississippi Delta region. I look forward to ap-

plauding their continued growth and success for many years to come.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COUNCIL'S SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 25th Anniversary of the Hispanic Community Affairs Council's Scholarship Awards Program. On May 3, 2007, members of the community will gather at Chabot Community College in Hayward, California to honor this milestone achievement.

The Hispanic Community Affairs Council (HCAC) is a community-based organization in Alameda County, California. It was organized in 1978 by a group of individuals interested in providing a forum to debate issues of interest to the Latino/Hispanic communities, to share information regarding employment opportunities and to develop a broad network of concerned individuals. The overall purpose of HCAC is to promote the value of education, cultural diversity, community involvement and political awareness.

A primary focus of the HCAC is the promotion of higher education in the Hispanic community through its annual Scholarship Awards Program. Since the establishment of this program, HCAC has awarded more than one million dollars to over 1,200 students for their pursuit of higher education. Scholarship recipients will attend 4-year colleges and universities, community, colleges, vocational training schools, or engage in graduate studies.

In 1983 HCAC awarded two scholarships. As the program continued to progress, HCAC celebrated its 20th year by awarding 100 scholarships. In 2005 HCAC awarded over 1,000 scholarships and in 2006, the organization reached a milestone of over one million dollars in scholarship awards.

One hundred percent of the money HCAC raises goes into its scholarship program. The organization does not have paid staff and everyone working on the scholarship program is a volunteer. Scholarships of \$1,500 to students attending a 4-year college or post graduate program and \$750 awards to students attending a community college are based on academic achievement, financial need, and a commitment by the students to give back to their respective communities after completing their education and achieving their career goals.

The Hispanic Community Affairs Council is an exemplary non-profit organization providing invaluable opportunities for Hispanic students to pursue their higher education. I applaud the efforts of the partners of HCAC who contribute

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