

2015-K740

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 2nd Annual Matthew Wallace Scholarship 5K Walk on June 21, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 2nd Annual Matthew Wallace Scholarship 5K Walk, in remembrance of Matthew Wallace, to be held on Sunday, June 21, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Wallace was a bright, athletic, caring young man who tragically died in September of 2014, at the young age of 17; he will always be remembered for his wonderful attitude, tremendous humility and his lacrosse and football jersey number, 22; and

WHEREAS, The Matthew Wallace Foundation is a national, not-for-profit organization founded in 2014, as a living memorial to perpetuate the memory of Matthew Wallace through the advancement of private education among students in need; and

WHEREAS, The goal of this vital foundation is to award 22 annual scholarships to students who are as dynamic as Matthew Wallace and who exhibit the following traits that Matthew demonstrated: humility, courage, camaraderie, community service and humanitarian interest; and

WHEREAS, Since Matthew Wallace believed that grades alone were not a true barometer of one's potential, academic achievement will not weigh in the grantees' selection process; and

WHEREAS, Born on August 6, 1996, Matthew Wallace was the loving brother of his sister Hailey, and brother Mark; and

WHEREAS, As a child, Matthew Wallace exhibited nothing but happiness and joy; as a teenager, his charm was contagious and he became known for his quirky sense of humor, as well as his moral compass and religious dedication; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Wallace attended St. Barnabas School from pre-Kindergarten to eighth grade; while a student, he was the recipient of numerous academic awards, certificates and commendations; and

WHEREAS, At the young age of four, Matthew Wallace became a Cub Scout, earning several badges and awards; prior to his ascension to the Boy Scouts, he was awarded the highest Cub Scout honor, the Arrow of Light Award; and

WHEREAS, As a Boy Scout, Matthew Wallace achieved and received one of the most prestigious religious awards by the Boy Scouts of America, the Ad Altare Dei, which was presented by Cardinal Timothy Dolan at St. Patrick's Cathedral; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Wallace enjoyed playing sports; by the age of four, he was a member of the All Yonkers Soccer League, the East Yonkers Baseball Team, and the Wood-lean Boys and Girls Club where he played basketball and baseball; and

WHEREAS, Three years later, Matthew Wallace became an Eastchester Blue Devil; participation on these sports teams helped him foster his sense of identity as a dedicated and driven athlete; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Matthew Wallace learned the importance of good sportsmanship and would continue to display unprecedented loyalty and dedication to his teammates for the rest of his athletic career; he was also an Equestrian Champion and a junior golfer playing with the First Tee; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 13, Matthew Wallace graduated from St. Barnabas School and advanced to Mt. St. Michael Academy; he continued to excel in both academics and athletics, striving to be an exceptional student, and was named Captain of the Freshman football team; and

WHEREAS, Always seeking a challenge, Matthew Wallace became enamored with lacrosse and proved to be a remarkable player; he also exhibited a keen interest in politics and was able to offer informed, constructive commentary on world events and history; and

WHEREAS, Before his untimely passing, Matthew Wallace looked forward to his bright future, which included enlisting in the United States Air Force, graduating from college, and entering a career in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 2nd Annual Matthew Wallace Scholarship 5K Walk on June 21, 2015; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Matthew Wallace Foundation.