



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, over the past three decades, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled and today nearly one in three children in America are overweight or obese;

WHEREAS, the numbers are even higher in African-American and Hispanic communities where nearly 40% of the children are overweight or obese;

WHEREAS, *Let's Move!* is a comprehensive initiative, launched by First Lady Michelle Obama, dedicated to solving the challenge of childhood obesity within a generation so that children born today will grow up healthier and able to pursue their dreams; and

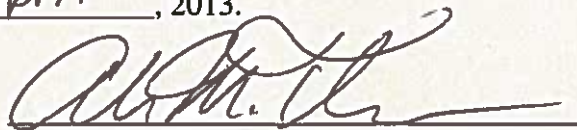
WHEREAS, *Let's Move!* combines comprehensive strategies with common sense to put children on the path to a healthy future, give parents helpful information, foster environments that support healthy choices, provide healthier foods to our schools, ensure that every family has access to healthy and affordable food, and help kids become more physically active.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Allen M. Thomas, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2013, as

LET'S MOVE! INITIATIVE APPRECIATION MONTH

in Greenville and encourage our citizens to play an active role in reducing childhood obesity to ensure a healthy future for our children.

This 15 day of April, 2013.


Allen M. Thomas, Mayor



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WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that attacks nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Motor neurons reach from the brain to the spinal cord and from the spinal cord to the muscles throughout the body. In ALS, when the motor neurons die, the ability of the brain to initiate and control muscle movement is lost;

WHEREAS, millions ALS is not just Lour Gehrig's disease and it knows no boundaries. The disease has cut short the lives of local notable and courageous individuals Jim "Catfish" Hunter (Hall of Fame Pitcher) and Keith LeClair (former East Carolina University baseball coach) as well as a long list of athletes, actors, politicians, family members, and friends;

WHEREAS, there is no known cause for ALS;

WHEREAS, there are approximately 30,000 people living with ALS in the United States at any given time;

WHEREAS, ALS is no respecter of persons and strikes without regard to gender, race, income level, occupation or any other demographic;

WHEREAS, there is no effective treatment of cure for ALS and it is difficult to diagnose; and

WHEREAS, promoting nationwide awareness and understanding of ALS is of great importance to the ALS community, which will launch a month-long series of awareness activities dedicated to the fight against ALS during the month of May 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Allen M. Thomas, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2013, as

NATIONAL ALS AWARENESS MONTH

in Greenville and encourage all citizens to support the fight against this disease.

This 6th day of May, 2013.

Allen M. Thomas, Mayor



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WHEREAS, the Violence in Aging Council of Pitt County (VIAC) will be sponsoring the Elder Abuse Awareness Walk to kick off Elder Abuse Awareness Month, which is held in June;

WHEREAS, each year, more than two million vulnerable and older adults are victims of abuse, neglect, and exploitation;

WHEREAS, research has shown that older adults who are abused, neglected and exploited are three times more likely to die within ten years than those who are not;

WHEREAS, according to national statistics, elder abuse is grossly under reported because vulnerable and older adults who are being abused find it very difficult to tell anyone due to shame and fear;

WHEREAS, elder abuse affects men and women of all ethnic backgrounds and social status;

WHEREAS, elder abuse occurs in private residences and facilities;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Allen M. Thomas, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as

ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Greenville, NC, and call upon citizens to recognize our elders and be vigilant against these cruel practices

This 6th day of May, 2013.

Allen M. Thomas, Mayor



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WHEREAS; mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being;

WHEREAS, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives;

WHEREAS, promotion and prevention are effective ways to reduce the burden of mental health conditions;

WHEREAS, there is a strong body of research that support user-friendly tools that all Americans can access to better handle challenges, and protect their health and well-being;

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation;

WHEREAS, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, faith-based organization, health care provider, and citizen has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Allen M. Thomas, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 30, 2013, as

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

in Greenville and call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Greenville to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.

This 17th day of May, 2013.

Allen M. Thomas, Mayor