

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THOMAS G. GALLAGHER JR. ON THE OCCASION OF BEING RECOGNIZED FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE BY THE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Thomas G. Gallagher Jr. who is being honored by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, for 25 years of faithful service.

Mr. Gallagher has a long and distinguished history of service to his northeastern Pennsylvania community.

Mr. Gallagher was the President of the United Way of Lackawanna County from 1986 until his retirement in June of 2002.

A graduate of Scranton Preparatory School, Mr. Gallagher received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Notre Dame and a masters of social work degree from Fordham University. He also completed post graduate work at the National Academy of Volunteerism in Alexandria, Virginia.

Prior to his work with the United Way, Mr. Gallagher served as a caseworker for the Lackawanna County Institution District's Bureau of Aging and Bureau of Children's Services.

He also served as assistant director of the Planning Council for Social Services and Associate Director of the United Way of Lackawanna County,

In addition, he also served as a lieutenant senior grade in the United States Public Health Service at the National Institute of Health.

Mr. Gallagher serves on the board of directors of St. Francis Kitchen and the Margaret Briggs Foundation. He is also a member of the Rotary Club of Scranton and he is a past president of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Lackawanna County.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Gallagher on this special occasion. His exemplary performance in the area of community service has improved the quality of life for all and is well deserving of this honor. Indeed, his example is an inspiration for future generations to emulate.

CONGRATULATING THE HIGHLAND PARK GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate

the Highland Park Girls Swimming and Diving Team on winning the title of UIL 4A State Champions.

In his first year coaching at Highland Park, Jess Cole led the girls to their eighth consecutive win in the UIL Texas State Championship on Saturday, February 23, 2008. Those who competed at the state meet include Allison Arnold, Megan Arnold, Hannah Ferrin, Bolton Harris, Delaney Rolfe, Katy Streepey, Katy Tye, and Alex Weber. Their continued success can be attributed to their hard work, dedication, passion for swimming and a strong sense of team spirit. In addition to claiming the title of State Champions, the Highland Park Girls Swimming and Diving Team now holds the longest state record in UIL swimming and diving, matching Class A Booker's record in girls golf as the longest in Texas high school sports since record keeping began in 1910.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of the Highland Park Girls Swimming and Diving Team for their well-deserved victory and wish them all the best in future endeavors.

MR. CARL FISHER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pay tribute to one of the most caring, dedicated, and selfless citizens of Indiana's First Congressional District, Mr. Carl Fisher, longtime superintendent of the Portage Parks Department. After serving the people of Portage, IN, in this capacity for the past 24 years, Carl announced his retirement from this position. In honor of Carl, a retirement party will be held by friends and members of his staff on Friday, March 14, 2008, at Sycamore Hall of Woodland Park in Portage, IN.

Following his graduation in 1964 from Grace College in Winona Lake, IN, Carl, an avid nature enthusiast, eventually went on to pursue his master's degree in recreation park administration at Indiana University. After completing his master's degree in 1975, he was hired as the district recreation supervisor for the Montgomery County Recreation and Parks Department. Carl held this position until 1977, at which time he took over as the park supervisor for the Goshen Park and Recreation Department. Carl remained in this capacity until 1983 before relocating to Northwest Indiana, where he took over as superintendent of the Portage Parks Department, a position he would faithfully serve for the next 24 years.

Since taking over at the Portage Parks Department, Carl's contributions to Northwest Indiana have stretched far beyond his everyday responsibilities as superintendent. It was in large part through his efforts that the Portage Township Community Historical Society was created. This led to the acquisition and devel-

opment of Countryside Park as a historical attraction for the City of Portage.

In addition, Carl's vision and constant efforts to improving outdoor recreation, and more specifically, trail development, in Northwest Indiana have been unparalleled. Carl was a catalyst in the formation of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission's Regional Bikeways Committee, which would later become the Ped and Pedal Committee. Under his vision and leadership, which includes the establishment of the Portage Parks and Recreation Foundation, Northwest Indiana has seen a vast increase in acreage and funding obtained for the development of its parks and trails. Astonishingly, during Carl's tenure as superintendent, Portage has seen the establishment of 11 parks and 2 city-wide trails.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Carl Fisher for his lifetime of leadership, service, and dedication to the residents of Portage, IN. He has touched the lives of many residents and visitors in Northwest Indiana. While we will all miss Carl's true service and uncompromising dedication, I ask that you join me in wishing him well upon his retirement.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF BARNESVILLE, OHIO

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the dedicated people of Barnesville, Ohio celebrate the 200th anniversary of the found of Barnesville, Ohio with great joy; and

Whereas, this occasion is a time to look back at the origins of the town and appreciate how much it has grown from its first days as a hunting and trapping community in an infant country; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate to us that love mixed with hard work and perseverance will stand the test of time; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish of this body that you will continue to present this town as a beacon of light in the representation of America and maintain your stand as a symbol to this generation that our strength lies in your gracious commitment in unity to stand as a model community; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend Barnesville for your hard work and perseverance, recognizing that all great communities come from great people. With great appreciation and respect, we recognize the tremendous impact this town has had in Ohio and in the lives of those people you have touched.

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