

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING HENRY POSEY

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Henry Posey from the Memphis Fire Department.

Mr. Posey has devoted his life to a career of public service. As a fire fighter and the retiring Division Chief for the Memphis Fire Department, he worked to keep communities in the Eighth District of Tennessee safe for over 36 years. In this time, he has truly made a difference in people's lives, and in some cases his efforts have meant the difference between life and death.

I am proud to join Mr. Posey's family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating him for his many years of service. He deserves our deepest thanks and appreciation.

HONORING FATHER J. PATRICK GAZA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to recognize Father J. Patrick Gaza, Pastor of Saints Monica and Luke and Saint Mark Catholic Churches in Gary, as he celebrates his retirement after 44 years of selfless service to the Catholic Church and the countless individuals he has ministered to throughout his life. Father Pat will be honored at a retirement reception on Sunday, July 21, 2013, at Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana.

Father Gaza dedicated his life to becoming a priest from the time of his studies at Saints Peter and Paul School in Merrillville. Since then, he has not faltered in his commitment to God and to serving the people of his community, especially those most in need. He completed his higher education at Our Lady of the Lake Seminary in Wawasee, Indiana, Saint Meinrad College in Saint Meinrad, Indiana, and Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. In 1968, Father Gaza was ordained a Catholic priest at Saint Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. Through his experiences as an instructor of religion at Bishop Noll Institute in Hammond, as well as his supervision of theological field education at the North American College in Rome, Father Gaza has contributed tremendously to the religious schooling of youth. These stand as just a few teaching experiences among his extensive contributions to the younger generation.

In 1992, Father Patrick Gaza became Pastor of Saints Monica and Luke Catholic Church. With his devoted guidance, the church has thrived in the community and has expanded its community outreach efforts. In

2007, Father Pat was also assigned Pastor of Saint Mark Catholic Church in Gary. Throughout the years, Father Gaza has served in various organizations throughout Northwest Indiana and Gary, including the LaPorte County FEMA Food Program, the Gary Ten Point Coalition, the Gary Urban Enterprise Association, the Gary branch of the NAACP, Rebuilding Together, and the Catholic Youth Organization. Father Gaza's involvement with these organizations evidences his absolute commitment to minister and tirelessly work and advocate on behalf of "the least amongst us." Those who are without, those who suffer physically or are challenged physiologically, and those who need spiritual guidance have always found compassion, warmth, and a generosity of spirit in Father Pat. Father J. Patrick Gaza is a gifted, Godly, and good man. For his constant and passionate devotion to his God, his church and his flock, Father is worthy of our profound respect and gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Father Patrick Gaza for his lifetime of leadership and selfless service to others. Saints Monica and Luke and Saint Mark Catholic Churches, the community of Gary, and all of Northwest Indiana have certainly been blessed by the good work of Father Gaza.

FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in vehement opposition to H.R. 2642, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2013. Specifically, I oppose separating nutrition assistance programs from the agricultural subsidies programs and this is exactly what this bill does.

Agricultural and nutrition assistance programs have traditionally moved through Congress as part of the same authorizing legislation, allowing us to comprehensively address both issues.

This amalgamation has united urban and rural areas of America, serving as a manifestation of the connection shared between these seemingly disparate communities.

Divorcing food stamps from agricultural subsidies would halt much-needed action that insures funding for food assistance to low-income Americans.

Republicans accuse Democrats of playing politics with farm issues, yet they propose a two-bill strategy that is likely to stagnate any progress toward assisting the nation's most vulnerable populations.

The moment has arrived in our Congress where we have the ability to pass legislation that ensures a child can focus on a homework

assignment without the distraction of hunger, guarantees healthy meals to struggling families who have been hit hard by the recent economic downturn, and lends to the economic advancement of communities across the country.

Forty-seven million people experience food insecurity in the United States. In New York alone, over three million New Yorkers receive food stamps. This bill as it currently stands is an attack on the nutrition programs, specifically food stamps.

We have an unparalleled moment of opportunity to generate policy that is in tune with the circumstances of ALL of the American people—those in both rural and urban communities.

Decoupling the nutrition programs from the agricultural subsidies programs will in effect be the death nail for the food stamps program. There will be no incentives for conservatives to support nutritional programs if this decoupling occurs, which is why I oppose this bill.

CONGRATULATING JON MOWL AND THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO THE 2013 SUMMER DEAFLYMPICS IN SOFIA, BULGARIA

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jon Mowl and the 180 deaf and hard of hearing athletes and coaches heading to Sofia, Bulgaria for the 2013 Summer Deaflympics. Held quadrennially, the Deaflympics are the world's second oldest multiple sports games after the Olympics. From July 26 through August 4 this summer, Sofia will host 14,707 athletes from over 90 countries.

The Summer Deaflympics are built on 89 years of tradition. At the recent 2009 Summer Deaflympics in Taipei, Taiwan, more than 2,500 athletes from 77 nations participated, including 140 Americans. The Summer Deaflympics are sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee. For the 2013 Summer Deaflympics, the United States plans to bring its best team that has been training for four years for this opportunity. The need for separate games for deaf athletes is not just evident in the number of participants. Deaf athletes are distinguished from all others in their special communication needs on the sports field. Visual presentation of information during the Games for both athletes and visitors are a critical part of the Games infrastructure, which includes the use of video screens, captioning and information boards. A visual environment is critical for communication with deaf athletes, deaf officials and deaf spectators.

Unlike Olympians or Paralympians, elite deaf and hard of hearing athletes must

• 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.

fundraise to pay their way and do not receive financial support from the United States Olympic Committee. This presents a twofold challenge for the Deaflympics athletes: fundraising on top of training for the Games. People like you who support the mission of USADSF and its athletes are the ones who make it possible for the athletes to accomplish their lifelong dream. Each Deaflympian must fundraise \$2,350 (not including international travel and training camp expenses) to cover all costs at the 2013 Summer Deaflympics. Over 180 United States deaf and hard of hearing athletes and coaches are training for Sofia to represent the U.S. in 11 sports. Among them will be Jon Mowl of Alexandria, Virginia who will be competing in team handball.

An accomplished athlete, Jon scored over 1,300 in his four year career on the Gallaudet University basketball team and was on the team that went to the 2007 World Deaf Basketball Championships. This earned him a spot on the U.S. Deaflympics gold medal winning basketball team at the 2009 Deaflympics in Taiwan.

Mowl graduated from Gallaudet with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and went on to become an adjunct mathematics professor at Gallaudet for a semester before getting a job at the Department of Health and Human Services. He was hired into the Workforce Recruitment Program and later transitioned to DLA Finance Energy. Mowl's primary responsibilities are budget formulation and execution of the \$425 million sustainment, restoration and modernization program at DLA Finance Energy.

Since the 1935 London Summer Deaflympics, the United States of America Deaf Sports Federation has been sending elite deaf and hard of hearing Americans to compete in the Deaflympics. USA Deaf Sports Federation (USADSF) is the only national athletic association in the United States that coordinates the participation of American deaf and hard of hearing individuals in international sport competitions. USADSF is affiliated with the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). They support teams in 17 sports and represent over 100,000 deaf and hard of hearing athletes in the United States and have sent 2,031 Deaflympians to the Summer and Winter Deaflympics since 1935. The Deaflympics were the first international games for athletes with disabilities and, different from many other games, because athletes cannot be guided by sounds (i.e. a starters gun), they must rely on other methods of competition and refereeing.

Mr. Speaker, Jon Mowl and his 179 teammates deserve this body's support. Their success is an example of preserving talent through resilience and dedication in the face of hardship.

HONORING OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 75TH ANNUAL FEAST

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to join the many families, pa-

rishioners, and community leaders as Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church celebrates its 75th Annual Feast—a celebration which raises funds to support the Our Lady of Mount Carmel School and its students.

Over the last 75 years, the congregants of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church have to commemorate “the devotion that the Blessed Virgin Mary has to those who are committed to her.” The four-day feast features food, fun, and fellowship. After Sunday Mass at noon, there is a procession of the Our Lady of Mount Carmel statue and a float featuring a young girl chosen to portray the feast's icon. The procession travels through an arch located behind the church, which was permanently installed and then two smaller temporary arches which have been erected for the occasion.

Dozens of parishioners volunteer their time, working arduously for weeks preparing for this annual event. Two hundred pounds of ground beef, two hundred forty pounds of sausage, five hundred pounds of onions, over two thousand pounds of veal hearts and more than four thousand pounds of dough—the food preparation is a massive undertaking which utilizes the two permanent kitchens in the church hall as well as an industrial stove that is temporarily installed. Sausage and peppers, soffritto and fried dough are among the feast favorites.

Perhaps what is most special about the Feast is that it is a means to preserve, celebrate, and pass on the culture and traditions of this Italian-American community. People across the country struggle to create a sense of community—a sense of belonging. Over the course of its 75 year history, the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast has served as a way for the families of Waterbury to do just that.

It is events like the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast, those forged in the bonds of family and community, which allow generation after generation to understand and celebrate their shared heritage. They enrich our communities as well as renew our commitment to faith and family. I am honored to stand today to extend my warmest congratulations to the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish and its many families as they celebrate the 75th anniversary of their Feast. The annual tradition is a community treasure and I wish them all the best for many more successful years to come.

HONORING MARTINE THOMAS OF ROCHESTER, NY ON HER SELECTION TO THE NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a talented young musician from the 25th District of New York. Martine Thomas of Rochester was selected on March 4th to participate in the first National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America.

Ms. Thomas, a student at the Joseph C. Wilson Magnet High School, plays viola. She is also a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. In addition to her orchestral commitments Ms. Thomas is a

member of the Garth Fagan Student Dance Company and enjoys hiking, swimming, and biking. Ms. Thomas hopes to pursue a career in viola performance.

She will join a group of 120 of the finest young musicians in this country aged 16–19, each of whom was selected from over 1,200 applicants from all 50 states. Organized by the famed Carnegie Hall in New York City, it is truly a significant accomplishment. As part of their experience, in July the group will travel to New York for two weeks of rehearsals at SUNY-Purchase, and then embark on an international tour that includes a debut performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, as well as performances in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and London. The last concert in London will be broadcast as part of the BBC Proms.

While there are many terrific local and regional youth orchestras (such as the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra) in this country and several successful national youth orchestras in other countries, the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America is a unique and unparalleled opportunity for young, high school-aged musicians in the United States to be recognized as the pinnacle of our music training system. The success of Venezuela's El Sistema has generated increased international interest in the value of youth orchestras, and in my role as the Chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I am thrilled that Carnegie Hall has spearheaded this initiative to showcase America's finest young musicians and reinvigorate interest in youth musicianship at home and abroad.

I am proud of Ms. Thomas, and proud of the entire group of musicians selected to represent their hometowns and the United States as cultural ambassadors during their time with the National Youth Orchestra. I encourage all of my colleagues—many, many of whom also have constituents who were chosen—to join me in wishing these extraordinary young and talented individuals the best of luck on their tour. Many congratulations to Ms. Thomas and to Carnegie Hall in this endeavor.

HONORING DERREK COLLEY

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paris Police Patrolman Derrek Colley for his bravery in the line of duty. Because of Officer Colley's courage in the face of danger, the city of Paris, Tennessee narrowly avoided a tragedy.

On January 24, 2013, Officer Colley responded to a call at Pine Ridge Apartments, a local apartment complex. After hearing calls for help, he located a man standing in the doorway of Apartment 710. The man was engulfed in smoke, and he was unable to move himself to safety. Additionally, there were several oxygen tanks in the apartment, and the man feared a catastrophic explosion as the flames slowly spread toward them.

In spite of the chaos and confusion, Officer Colley remained calm and professional. Disregarding his own safety, Officer Colley rescued the immobilized man and pulled him to safety. Then, he called for additional backup