

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 DELEGA-
TION TO THE 2013 SUMMER
DEAFLYMPICS IN SOFIA, BUL-
GARIA

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

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