



Remembering Our Heroes

Archived July 13

Dear Friend,

The sadness touching the Yarnell community stretches across the country. Together, we mourn the loss of 19 fallen heroes and honor their courageous sacrifice. Let us never forget the stories of these brave firefighters and may we remain committed to preventing future tragedies such as this.



(The packed auditorium at the memorial service for the 19 firefighters who lost their lives protecting Yarnell, July 9, 2013)

The overwhelming support and compassion shown this past Tuesday at the memorial service in Prescott was remarkable. Read more about the service [HERE](#).

The tremendous support we received came from around the globe. Notably, Israel sent a delegation to attend the memorial service. The compassion shown for the heartbroken families of the Yarnell 19 by fallen Israeli firefighter and hero Danny Hayat's mother, Bat-Sheva Hayat, is a sign of solidarity between our two nations for which I will forever be grateful. Bat-Sheva Hayat presented me with a poster to hang in my office, showing her son fighting the 2010 Mount Carmel fire before it engulfed the bus, full with 37 passengers, as well as her son.



(Bat-Sheva Hayat presents a poster for Rep. Gosar's office, July 9, 2013)

This week, I also led the House of Representatives in a moment of silence in remembrance of the 19 members of the Granite Mountain Hot Shot Fire Crew. Please click [HERE](#) or below to watch. Read more in [The Arizona Republic](#).



I also visited Wickenburg to meet with those displaced by the Yarnell fire. The community was beyond welcoming and my heart goes out to those who have lost so much.



(Rep. Gosar speaks with Yarnell fire victims in Wickenburg, July 8, 2013)

Avoiding Another Tragedy

In the wake of the tragic Yarnell Hill Fire, we must pass legislation that facilitates

wildfire prevention. In March, I introduced the [Catastrophic Wildfire Prevention Act of 2013](#), which aims to prevent destructive wildfires and stimulate rural economies. Specifically, the legislation renews and reforms the Forest Service's ability to partner with private industry and local governments to implement thinning and ecological restoration projects.

The bill provides the federal government with the tools and the expedited processes to proactively treat our forests, improve public safety and put people back to work. We must avoid future losses, both in life and property, due to preventable fires; Congress must act now.

This week, the House Natural resources committee, of which I'm a member, held a hearing on wildfire prevention. I urged my colleagues to act swiftly on passing a bill that could prevent future catastrophic wildfires. Read more from the *Arizona Capitol Times* [HERE](#).

In an exclusive interview with *Mohave Valley Daily News*, I discussed the need for wildfire prevention policies as well as other pressing issues in Congress including defunding the IRS, immigration reform and more. Click [HERE](#) to read more.

Do you support greater coordination between the federal government, local governments and private industry in regard to their ability to partner in fire prevention? Become a citizen co-sponsor [HERE](#).

Yarnell Hill Fire A True Disaster

On Tuesday, I sent a letter to President Barack Obama formally requesting that he "expeditiously" consider Arizona Governor Jan Brewer's request for a federal Major Disaster Declaration for the state of Arizona as a result of the damage caused by the Yarnell Hill Fire. This declaration would greatly assist our community, as the healing and rebuilding effort begins. Click [HERE](#) to read the letter.

Janet Napolitano Resigns

On Friday, Janet Napolitano resigned from her position as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. While Secretary Napolitano may be gone, she will not be forgotten. Her inaction and incompetence on border security will continue to plague our nation for years to come. 'See no evil, hear no evil and speak no evil' is no way to govern and yet it is exactly how she and this administration operates. The American public deserve better. Click [HERE](#) to read my statement or [HERE](#) to read more from *KTAR*.

Fast and Furious Again Results in Tragic Loss of Life

The consequences of Attorney General Eric Holder and the Department of Justice's botched gun-running operation continue to be deadly. On January 29, 2013, [Luis Lucio Rosales Astorga](#), police chief in the city of Hostotipaquillo, Mexico, was killed by a gun that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives allowed to be sold illegally during Operation Fast and Furious. Please click [HERE](#) or

below to see more.



This is a travesty. While the White House hopes we forget about the Fast and Furious scandal, my [Resolution of No Confidence](#) in Attorney General Eric Holder is gaining momentum. It now has 137 co-sponsors.

Gang of 8 Immigration Bill Passes The Senate

The Senate passed, what I consider to be, one of the worst bills I have seen since Obamacare. Riddled with pork, rewarding law breakers and making false promises, I cannot support this bill. I told the Wall Street Journal this as well, in an article [HERE](#).

As I stated before, I do support reforming our skilled and unskilled labor visa programs. Our farmers in Yuma desperately need a system that provides reliable labor. I intend to get them that reform. But granting amnesty to lawbreakers is contrary to everything we stand for as Americans. The Rule of Law governs all we do as a nation. The American people do not respond well to threats and do not want to be lied to again.

We need to establish trust with the American people. We do that by securing our border first and foremost.

Getting Our Priorities Right

On Wednesday, the House passed the Energy and Water Appropriations Act. As elected officials, we have a responsibility to make the tough decisions to cut spending while prioritizing and preserving our most vital programs. Passage of the Energy and Water Appropriations Act accomplishes just that.

The Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act included an amendment I introduced. This amendment would prohibit the Department of Energy from implementing the "Chu Memorandum." Issued by former Secretary of Energy Steven Chu in 2012, the "Chu Memorandum" outlines four specific directives that could increase energy costs dramatically. My amendment, which passed by voice vote with strong bipartisan support, prohibits these directives from being implemented. Please click [HERE](#) to read more.

House Passes Farm Bill

This week, the House of Representatives passed the FARRM Act. This bill represents a significant step toward reform and a change in how Washington does business. I proudly stand by my vote.

By voting for the FARRM Act, I voted for real reform and against the status quo of big government spending. For the first time in decades, the new farm bill removes food stamps from agricultural policy. As a conservative, I am proud to see the free-market reforms implemented because of this bill..

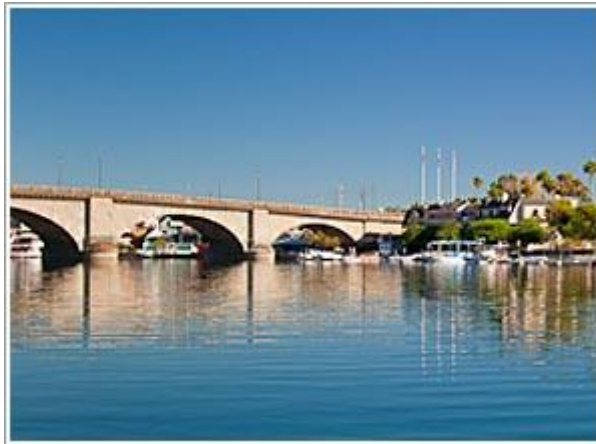
As a representative of a rural and heavily agricultural district, I am glad our farmers have the policy reform they needed. This bill even includes important forest health measures and other conservation policies that protect my constituents. I stand by my vote and hope to see this bill continue to improve throughout the conference process.

Obamacare Malady of the Week

Obamacare subsidies will essentially be distributed using the honor system. The likely result is obvious: billions of dollars of waste, fraud and abuse. Please read more [HERE](#).

Congressional District 4: DID YOU KNOW?

The London Bridge now located in Lake Havasu City was purchased for \$2,460,000 by Robert P. McCulloch. It opened in 1971.



(London Bridge in Lake Havasu City, photo taken from GoLakeHavasu.com)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Today, I will be at the grand opening of the Prescott Family Shelter.

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2013

Prescott Family Shelter Opening Ceremony

Time: 3pm - 5pm

LOCATION: Prescott Family Shelter

337 N. Rush St.

Prescott, AZ 86301

My staff is holding a Veterans Roundtable in Payson on Tuesday, July 23, 2013 for veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2013

Veterans Roundtable

TIME: 5:30pm - 7:00pm

LOCATION: Messingers Funeral Home

901 S. Westerly Road

Payson, AZ 85541

View the event flyer [HERE](#).

As always, you can follow everything I am working on in Arizona and Washington, D.C. through my website (<http://gosar.house.gov>) on Twitter [@repgosar](#), or through [Facebook](#) at Representative Paul Gosar.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul A. Gosar" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

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