

Chief McDonald recently concluded his loyal service to the community he has been faithfully serving since 1972.

Assistant Chief McDonald first volunteered for the Itasca FPD for 13 years and rose to the rank of captain. Following this period of service he was promoted to Assistant Chief in 1991.

Day in and day out Assistant Chief McDonald led the men and women of the Itasca Fire Protection District as they risked their lives to protect Itasca. His leadership is reflected in their bravery and courage.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in celebrating this special occasion and the long years of service and commitment that it represents.

HONORING KINSEY KIRIAKOS FOR HIS SERVICE TO TENNESSEE'S SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Kinsey Kiriakos, who has served as my Communications Director and has helped me to be a better congressman as I represent the people of Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

While Kinsey grew up in southern California and far from the rolling hills of Tennessee, he quickly proved himself to be an ambitious and creative addition to the staff, with a clear passion for politics that rivals only his passion for the Los Angeles Dodgers. One of Kinsey's first tasks in the office was revamping my congressional Web site, and he put in long hours to get the job done well. His hard work and dedication on that project has made my Web site a more effective tool for communicating with my constituents.

Prior to joining my staff, Kinsey worked for Rep. BRAD SHERMAN and Sen. EVAN BAYH. Now, he is moving on to the next phase of his career. Kinsey departed my office on Friday for a new job as the Communications Director for the Joint Economic Committee, and I know he looks forward to being involved in efforts to get our nation's economy back on track. His experience with both the House and Senate, and his easy rapport with reporters will serve him well in this new position.

Madam Speaker, my staff and I have enjoyed having Kinsey with us over the last year, and we wish him all the best in his new position. He is young and talented, and I look forward to watching his professional skills continue to grow.

HONORING MRS. SUZANNE M. PILON FOR BEING AWARDED THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING AWARD

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN LEE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mrs. Suzanne M. Pilon of Hilton, New York for being awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, the highest recognition that a kindergarten through 12th-grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States.

A first and second grade science and mathematics teacher at Quest Elementary School in Hilton, Suzanne has been teaching at the Hilton Central School District for the past 14 years.

Known for her strong motivational skills, Suzanne also serves as a Teacher Leader for the Investigating Science program, is a Child Study Team Grade Level Leader, a Technology Committee Representative, an Administrative Team member, and a Parent-Teacher-Student Organization Team Representative.

Suzanne offers a daily science workshop to her students and tries to weave science into as many other subjects as she can. She continues to pursue many professional development activities and has previously been recognized as the District Teacher of the Year for Quest School of Choice.

Suzanne is an exceptional educator and Western New York is fortunate to have her teaching in our community. I'd like to once again congratulate Suzanne on this wonderful accomplishment and thank her for her dedication to our nation's youth.

HONORING THE NEBRASKA FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Nebraska Firefighters Museum and Education Center in Kearney, Nebraska. In addition, I also want to thank Linsay Schluntz and Wayne Olson for their energy, dedication and hard work in making the museum a reality.

The museum covers Nebraska's firefighting history from 1856 to the present and its exhibits feature restored fire trucks, uniforms, breathing equipment, fire extinguishers and other various firefighting implements.

Additionally, I'm proud to note a portion of the museum is dedicated to fire prevention education and features interactive exhibits targeted to school-age children.

Opened on August 14, 2009, the museum has seen more than 3000 visitors with many more expected to tour the facilities in the com-

ing months. Later this year, construction will begin on a memorial garden featuring several granite tablets with the engraved names of Nebraska firefighters who have dedicated their lives and safety to protecting their communities.

It has been a great honor of mine to work with Nebraska's firefighters and other emergency personnel. The Nebraska Firefighters Museum is a reminder of the sacrifices and dedication these brave men and women make to our state.

HONORING DAVID M. BISSONETTE, EMERGENCY COORDINATOR FOR THE TOWN OF CLARENCE, NEW YORK

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN LEE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, it is with great appreciation that I recognize Mr. David M. Bissonette, Emergency Coordinator for the town of Clarence, New York, for his dedicated service to the community, specifically his efforts on the evening of February 12, 2009.

On the evening of February 12, 2009, Continental Connection Flight 3407 crashed into a home in the town of Clarence. Under the coordination of David, emergency personnel from throughout Western New York responded quickly to the scene of the accident and immediately went into action.

A fulltime safety professional for more than 30 years, David's experience and professionalism in handling incident coordination allowed emergency personnel to arrive on scene in a matter of minutes, as well as enabling residents living in homes near the crash site the ability to quickly move to safety.

A 27-year member of the Clarence Volunteer Fire Department, David served in various leadership positions including Chief and Assistant Chief. Over his 17 years as Emergency Coordinator for the town of Clarence, David has been responsible for providing emergency support and guidance on a number of large emergencies including chemical releases, extremely heavy snow storms, a chemical plant explosion and fire, long term power outages and sadly, because of the events on February 12, 2009, a tragic plane crash.

Madam Speaker, I'd like to extend my appreciation to David Bissonette for his dedication to the town of Clarence, and for his actions on the evening of February 12, 2009, and the days following.

BANKRUPTCY NOT BAILOUTS

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, Americans have one word for Congress when it comes to more bailouts: "No!" Taxpayers want to hold accountable those who wrecked