

RECOGNIZING THE BURKE VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT'S 66TH ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS BANQUET

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, which is hosting its 66th Annual Installation of Officers Banquet, and in thanking its volunteers for filling an essential role in keeping the community safe.

The Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department was founded in January 1948, and for more than 6 decades it has provided life-saving fire suppression/prevention and emergency medical/rescue services to the residents of Burke, Fairfax County, and the surrounding communities. It also provides, houses, and maintains firefighting and emergency medical equipment; provides opportunities for professional growth and development for the membership; and maintains and fosters a strong viable organization.

As one of the County's most active volunteer fire and rescue departments, the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department works in cooperation with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department to serve the community. Last year alone, the Burke station responded to thousands of incidents.

I am honored to recognize several of the dedicated men and women of the Burke Volunteer Fire Department who have volunteered for extra duty as officers or as members of the board of directors or who are receiving awards for their superlative service to the department and the community. It gives me great pleasure to introduce the names of these individuals into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

2014 Award Recipients:

Founder's Award—Kevin Grottle.

Rookie of the Year—Chris Smith.

Firefighter of the Year—Paul Stracke.

EMS Provider of the Year—Emily Fincher.

Officer of the Year—Mike Powell.

Administrative Person of the Year—Nancy Stone.

Career Member of the Year—Mike Istvan.

Chief's Award—BVFRD Maintenance Team: Larry Bocknek, Kevin Grottle, Shaun Kurry, and Alex Budd.

Board of Directors:

President Patrick Owens.

Vice President John Powers.

Secretary Greg Fedor.

Treasurer Sheryl Gilhooly.

Larry Barnett.

Rich Guarrasi.

Alisha Sunde.

Officers:

Chief Thomas Warnock.

Deputy Chief Tina Godfrey.

Deputy Chief John Hudak.

Captain Melissa Ashby.

Captain Keith O'Connor.

Lieutenant John Rose.

Sergeant Jennifer Babic.

Sergeant Kevin Grottle.

Sergeant Mike Hertig.

Sergeant Mike Powell.

Team Leader FF Paul Stracke.

Team Leader Paramedic Dave Horne.

Team Leader Catherine Owens.

Chaplain Harry Chelpon.

I also wish to recognize Assistant Chief and Lifetime Member Lawrence A. Bocknek on the occasion of his retirement following 29 years of service with the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department and 40 total years in the fire service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the department for 66 years of service and in thanking all of the brave volunteers who do not hesitate to drop everything when the community calls in need of help. To all of these men and women who put themselves in harm's way to protect our residents I say: "Stay safe."

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GEORGIA SOCIETY OF HOSPITAL ENGINEERS

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Georgia Society for Hospital Engineers (GSHE). It is appropriate at this milestone to reflect on and celebrate the importance and achievements of this organization.

On October 1, 1964, the Georgia Hospital Association (GHA) launched the GSHE at a meeting in Macon, GA. The GSHE owes much of its success to the strong foundation laid by the original charter members: Billy Wise, Dewey Moon, Wendell White, Jerry Adams, Darryl Goodwin, Mahlon Hill, and the first GSHE president, Mr. P.J. Wise. These men showed extraordinary foresight and wisdom as they established a forum for hospital engineers, supervisors, maintenance managers, and other hospital and medical center personnel from across the state to meet and share ideas on improving patient care.

Throughout the years, the GSHE has offered a number of programs to increase efficiency and efficacy in hospitals. The earliest programs included "helping hand" and "special tools" which allowed hospital engineers to offer assistance and resources to one another. As innovative technology plays an increasingly major role in health care, the GSHE continues to help hospitals keep up with new technologies and provide exceptional care for citizens across Georgia.

With Mr. William A. Elrod at the helm serving as the 50th president of the GSHE, the organization maintains the same objective of the original charter members, to unite hospital engineers so that they might collaborate and learn from one another. Mr. Speaker, please join me on behalf of the great people of Georgia in wishing the GSHE many more years of continued success in transforming the delivery of healthcare.

HONORING SUE MAGNER

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sue Magner, an outstanding volun-

teer of AARP from Illinois. Recently, Sue was named the first ever winner of the AARP Director's Award for Distinguished Service. This award is given to an outstanding volunteer who consistently exceeds what is asked of them and provides exceptional service to the community.

Sue Magner preforms many different activities as an AARP driver safety volunteer. She is an instructor, trainer, and VMIS data manager.

During her time at AARP, Sue has jumped at the challenge of familiarizing new volunteers with computer systems knowledge and computer-based technology and is always looking for new methods on how best to teach incoming volunteers and optimize their experience.

Sue's colleagues report that she is eager to answer any coworker's questions and does everything she is asked with a smile. Her kindness and ability to help others is truly commendable. Through hard work and tireless dedication, Sue Magner has helped make a difference in countless lives.

Mr. Speaker, and my distinguished colleagues of the House, please join me in congratulating Sue Magner on receiving this distinct honor and wishing her many future successes as she continues her work with AARP.

IN MEMORY OF CHIEF ROBERT KNIGHT OF THE SAYVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise on behalf of the Long Island delegation to offer our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and loved ones of Robert "Bobby" Knight, former Chief of the Sayville Fire Department of Suffolk County, New York. Congressmen BISHOP, ISRAEL, MCCARTHY and I had the sincere pleasure of working with Chief Knight on important fire services issues that directly impacted the safety and wellbeing of our constituents. His tireless service to the firefighter community has been invaluable, and his counsel was always sought by lawmakers. He honorably served with the Sayville Department for 35 years. He was also a former member of the East Hampton Fire Department, 1975–1979, and the North Patchogue Fire Department, 1968–1969.

Bobby was loved by everyone who knew him. His selfless commitment to the safety and security of our state was evident in his work as the Legislative Committee Chairman for the Firemen's Association of the State of New York. He passed in the Line of Duty doing what he loved—advocating for the needs of our first responders. I know myself and many of my delegation colleagues met with him just hours before his unexpected passing. He didn't feel well, but he was more concerned with carrying the message of the Long Island firefighters than he was for his own well being. We have lost a true advocate and friend.