

2013-J4432

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Ex-Chief Alan Gassen upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the North Lindenhurst Fire Department

WHEREAS, The firefighters of New York State are renowned throughout the Nation; their reputation is synonymous with excellence in the arduous field of fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, Since the early days of "teapot steamers," the volunteer firefighter has been the cornerstone of our great Nation's efforts to spare us from the ravages of fire; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commend Ex-Chief Alan Gassen upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the North Lindenhurst Fire Department, to be celebrated at its 57th Annual Installation Dinner on Saturday, April 19, 2014, at the Fox Hollow in Woodbury, New York; and

WHEREAS, Alan Gassen became a member of the North Lindenhurst Fire Department on June 8, 1964, joining Engine Company No.1; throughout the years, he has served honorably in a number of positions including Drill Team Captain, Captain of Company No. 1, and 1st and 2nd Deputy Chief, among many others; in addition, he has been an Elected Trustee for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to helping his community, Ex-Chief Alan Gassen has been active in such causes as adopting advanced life support procedures for the Suffolk County Rescue Squad, and creating and advising a junior fire department, as well as starting a fire prevention program; furthermore, he formed the Piston Knockers Racing Team with fellow Ex-Chief Roy R. Fries; and

WHEREAS, A recipient of numerous honors and accolades for his outstanding service, Ex-Chief Alan Gassen has received the Firefighter

of the Year Award and the American Legion's Service to the Community Award; he has also been recognized for his heroic actions in helping save the lives of two people; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Donna, and their three children, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters and fire departments not only provide the critical service of fire protection but also engage in other activities of great benefit and importance to the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, It takes a special dedication, a strong desire to help others and a tireless sense of community to forsake precious time with family and friends to respond to the signal that a neighbor is in need;

Ex-Chief Alan Gassen is such a firefighter; throughout his 50 years of devoted service, this volunteer heroically performed, above and beyond the call of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire protection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Ex-Chief Alan Gassen upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition after 50 years of dedicated service to the North Lindenhurst Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ex-Chief Alan Gassen.