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E-Newsletter, June 2008

Hoekstra Requests State Attention to Damage in Mason, Lake and Manistee Counties

U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra on June 13, 2008 requested attention from the state to the damage caused by severe weather in Mason, Lake and Manistee counties after touring the impacted areas. The tour allowed Hoekstra to survey the damage and witness the interdisciplinary communication and cooperation between local and state officials.

Hoekstra also notified Region V of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to ensure coordination between federal and state officials.

Governor Granholm has declared a state of emergency in each of the counties but has yet to ask for federal assistance. Preliminary Damage Assessments by FEMA and state officials commenced this week.

For information on federal government assistance available for those impacted by the storm visit: <http://hoekstra.house.gov/FAQ/>.

Hoekstra Votes to Extend Unemployment Insurance

Rep. Hoekstra voted to extend federal unemployment benefits for an additional 13 weeks as part of the Iraq/Afghanistan War Supplement Act. The legislation passed the Senate and has been sent to the President.

Hoekstra previously supported legislation (H.R. 5749) that would have called for up to 13 weeks of additional unemployment benefits for citizens in all states, and an additional 13 weeks of benefits for individuals residing in states with high unemployment rates like Michigan. However, this legislation was not brought before the Senate.

Hoekstra to Present Medals to Area Veterans

Rep. Hoekstra on Monday, June 30 will present nine area veterans with medals and decorations for their service to the United States.

The nine veterans to be honored are: Donald Bouman of Zeeland, Kenneth Frieling of Fennville, Kirk Hines of Fennville, Dale Moes of Zeeland, Robert Prins of Holland, Bernard VanderZwaag of Holland, Louis VanSlooten of West Olive, William Vogelzang of Holland and Richard Vredeveld of Holland.

If you or someone you know has not received their medals or decoration, please contact Paula Van Dyke in the Holland office at (616) 395-0030.

For more information on Pete's activities in Washington, D.C. please visit <http://hoekstra.house.gov>

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