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Shuster Announces Grant to the South Newton Township Volunteer Fire Company in Cumberland County

Washington, D.C. – **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that the South Newton Township Volunteer Fire Company in Walnut Bottom, Pennsylvania has successfully secured an \$81,605 grant through the Department of Homeland Security’s Assistance to Fire Fighters Program (AFGP).

The \$81,605 grant will be used to purchase a variety of operational and safety equipment to assist the company in upgrading its fire house to better serve its’ community. Examples of the equipment slated for purchase include an emergency electric generator for the fire station, a ventilation system to remove toxic exhaust fumes from idling vehicles as well as a washing extractor for the firefighting gear and storage racks.

“The announcement of this grant is great news for the volunteers of the South Newton Volunteer Fire Company,” Shuster said. “The equipment the fire company will purchase through this grant to upgrade its fire house will protect the lives of firefighters and enhance their ability to protect their community.”

”The officers and members of the South Newton Township Volunteer Fire Company are pleased they have been selected as a grant recipient,” said Fire Chief Mike Rinaldi. “Without grant funding such as the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, many needed upgrades of facilities and equipment, especially at volunteer rural fire stations, simply couldn’t happen. Our station appreciates the continued support by Congressman Bill Shuster and all his efforts to help the volunteer fire service in Pennsylvania.”

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP) awards one-year grants directly to fire departments and rescue personnel to support the nation's first responders and the services they deliver. The Department of Homeland Security’s Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (SLGCP) administers the program, in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration.

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