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For Immediate Release

FREDONIA FIRE DEPARTMENT'S FIRE SAFETY OUTREACH EFFORTS RECEIVES BOOST

*Grant to Help Renovate Department's Fire Safety Trailer;
Thousands of Children to Benefit*

FREDONIA, N.Y. (May 28, 2009) – According to the U.S. Fire Administration, among children age 14 and under, an estimated 2,800 are injured and 850 killed each year in residential fires nationwide. Now, thanks to a grant, the Fredonia Fire Department's fire safety outreach efforts will be strengthened, benefitting youth throughout southern Erie, western Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua counties.

Fredonia-based Lawley Tradition is partnering with Fireman's Fund Insurance Company to award the \$8,686 donation.

Grant funds will be used to renovate the fire department's fire safety trailer, which is a modified house that can simulate fire, smoke and heat in a home in order to teach safety and fire escape techniques. The trailer will receive new exterior siding as well as lettering, which will include essential fire safety messages. Also, soft spots to the second floor's foundation will be repaired. In addition, funds will be used to refurbish a pickup truck that will haul the trailer to schools and various community events.

"Our department purchased the trailer several years ago and since that time, we've been able to provide educational services to thousands of children," said Fredonia Fire Chief John Lanphere. "The renovations to the trailer and truck will allow us to continue this vital service, which ultimately makes the community safer."

Chief Lanphere will be joined by Fredonia firefighters and local officials as Lawley Tradition and Fireman's Fund executives award the grant package. Chief Lanphere will discuss the department's fire safety program.

Date/Time:
Thursday, May 28, 2009
11:00 a.m.

Location:
Fredonia Fire Department
80 West Main St.
Fredonia, NY

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The grant package is part of a nationwide philanthropic program funded by Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. The program is designed to provide needed equipment, training and educational tools to local fire departments. Since 2004, Fireman's Fund has issued grants to over 1,100 different departments totaling more than \$21 million. Independent insurance agencies/brokers that sell Fireman's Fund products, like Lawley Tradition, are able to direct these grants to support fire service organizations.

"Being apart of the Fredonia community, we're proud to be able to give back in a meaningful way," said Walter J. Gotowka, branch manager for Lawley Tradition. "We realize the lessons taught in these fire safety trailers are invaluable and can help save lives."

About Fireman's Fund

Fireman's Fund Insurance Company is a premier property and casualty insurance company providing personal and commercial insurance products nationwide. It is rated 'AA-' by Standard & Poor's Rating Services. Founded in 1863 with a mission to support firefighters, Fireman's Fund continues this effort today through its national philanthropic work. Fireman's Fund is a member of the Allianz Group (NYSE: AZ), one of the world's largest providers of insurance and other financial services. For more information, visit www.firemansfund.com

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