

Rep. Paul Semmel
New Truck
Good Will Fire Company

IT IS AN HONOR AND A PRIVILEGE TO BE WITH ALL OF YOU TO CELEBRATE THE PURCHASE OF YOUR NEW FIRE TRUCK. I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE WORKED HARD TO SECURE THE GRANT FOR YOUR NEW TANKER. TODAY IS AN EXCITING DAY FOR THE FIRE COMPANY AND THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY.

THIS NEW PUMPER TANKER WILL HELP SAVE LIVES AND PROPERTY IN OUR COMMUNITY.

IT IS TRUE THAT THE SOUL OF ANY ORGANIZATION IS ITS DEDICATED MEMBERSHIP, BUT I WOULD DIFFER WITH ANYONE WHO WOULD NOT AGREE THAT AN IMPRESSIVE, GLEAMING NEW FIRE TRUCK SUCH AS THIS (POINT), DOES INDEED LEND ITSELF TO INSTILLING A TREMENDOUS SENSE OF

**PRIDE AND ACCOMPLISHMENT FOR THE
MEMBERSHIP HERE TODAY.**

**THIS IS AN OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER FIRE
COMPANY OF WHICH THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY CAN
ALL BE PROUD.**

**THE FIREFIGHTERS, RESCUE VOLUNTEERS,
EMTS, AND PARAMEDICS OF THIS FIRE DEPARTMENT
ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF A VITAL PUBLIC SAFETY
NETWORK IN OUR COMMUNITIES.**

**NO MATTER WHETHER IT'S BEEN A BARN FIRE, A
SERIOUS TRAFFIC ACCIDENT, A FLOOD OR A SEVERE
WINTER BLIZZARD, THE MEMBERS OF THIS FIRE
COMPANY HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL IN A VERY
SKILLED AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER.**

**YOU'VE SAVED LIVES, PROTECTED PROPERTY
AND BREATHED LIFE INTO COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE
BEEN DEVASTATED BY MOTHER NATURE'S FURY.**

**I CAN ONLY BE AMAZED AT THE COURAGE AND
THE ENORMOUS RESPONSIBILITY ALL OF YOU TAKE
ON EVERYDAY. WHEN I LOOK AT ALL OF YOU, I
CANNOT HELP BUT BE AMAZED AND ENCOURAGED
BY ALL THAT YOU DO.**

**WHEN THE TRAGEDY OF SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2001,
OCCURRED, MOST OF US HAD NO IDEA OF THE
CAPACITY OF DEDICATION THAT THIS NOBLE
OCCUPATION REQUIRES. TO HAVE THE COURAGE TO
SAVE LIVES WHILE RISKING YOURS EVERYDAY. THAT
TAKES A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF COMPASSION
AND CONVICTION. I AND THE PEOPLE OF THIS
COMMUNITY THANK YOU.**

WE ALL REALIZE NOW JUST HOW IMPORTANT OUR EMERGENCY CREWS ARE TO OUR SAFETY AND SECURITY. THE NATION SYMPATHIZES WITH US IN THIS SENTIMENT. THE NATION ALSO JOINS US IN OUR APPRECIATION OF THESE NOBLE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SACRIFICE MADE EVERYTIME THEY ANSWER A SIREN OR A BELL RINGING FROM A STATION.

WE PASS THIS APPRECIATION ON TO OUR CHILDREN, TO HELP THEM UNDERSTAND THAT A TRUE HERO DOES NOT ONLY INCLUDE THE FAMOUS FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL OR HOCKEY PLAYERS. A HERO OFTEN GOES UNNOTICED AND WITHOUT THANKS. YET THIS DOES NOT DAMPER THEIR SPIRITS OR DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO HELP. IN FACT IT IS THIS RESOLVE THAT SHOWS THEIR DEDICATION TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY EVEN MORE.

**SINCE 1895 YOU HAVE BEEN THE SAFETY NET
FOR THE 25,000 OF US WHO CALL THIS TOWN HOME.
BUT WE KNEW YOUR IMPORTANCE ALL ALONG.**

**I'M HERE TODAY BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN WHAT
YOU'RE DOING. I WANT TO ENCOURAGE YOU. YOU
SHOULD ALWAYS KNOW THAT NO MATTER HOW
HARD THE DAY, HOW LITTLE THE APPRECIATION
SEEMS, I DO APPRECIATE YOU, WE ALL APPRECIATE
YOU, THOUGH WE DON'T SHOW IT ALL THE TIME.**

**WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE NO ONE UNDERSTANDS,
JUST REMEMBER WE DO UNDERSTAND AND WE ARE
GRATEFUL TO HAVE YOU BRAVE MEMBERS OF OUR
COMMUNITY.**

**WHEN IT SEEMS LIKE WE NEVER SAY THANK
YOU FOR ALL THE WORK YOU DO, JUST BLAME OUR**

**MINDS AND NOT OUR HEARTS BECAUSE WE DO
RECOGNIZE ALL YOU DO EVEN THOUGH THE WORDS
AREN'T ALWAYS THERE.**

**THANK YOU FOR REMAINING A VITAL PART OF
OUR COMMUNITY. YOU HAVE SAVED OUR LIVES AND
OUR PROPERTY COUNTLESS TIMES. YOU TRULY
DEFINE ALL THAT IS HEROISM, BRAVERY AND
COURAGE EVERYDAY IN YOUR COMMITMENT TO OUR
COMMUNITY AND ITS SAFETY.**

**THOUGH I CANNOT LET YOU ALL KNOW HOW
MUCH I TRULY ADMIRE YOU ALL THE TIME, PLEASE
NEVER FORGET THAT I AM WORKING FOR YOU IN THE
STATE GOVERNMENT. I RECOGNIZE HOW IMPORTANT
YOU ARE AND THOUGH I CAN'T ALWAYS TELL YOU
PERSONALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW YOU**

**THROUGH ACTIONS. I BELIEVE IN YOU AND I BELIEVE
IN THE JOB YOU DO.**

**TO ALL OUR NOBLE VOLUNTEERS, I SALUTE
YOU. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNENDING COMMITMENT
TO YOUR DUTY. THANK YOU TO YOUR FAMILY FOR
PROVIDING US WITH THESE WONDERFUL MEN AND
WOMEN TO MAKE ALL OUR DAYS SAFER AND
ENABLE US TO REST EASIER.**

**LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST, THANK YOU
TO ALL THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE TO PAVE THE
WAY AND SET THE STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE THAT
IS STILL EVIDENT TODAY. I SALUTE YOU ALL FOR THE
CONTINUING COMMITMENT AND COMPASSION YOU
BRING TO THIS DANGEROUS WORK.**

**THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS ANSWERING THE CALL
IN OUR TIME OF NEED.**

**ONCE AGAIN, CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW
PIECE OF EQUIPMENT. STAND TALL AND BE PROUD,
FOR YOU HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT.**

**AND AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING ME IN
TODAY'S PROGRAM.**

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Rep. Paul Semmel
Flag Speech
Good Will Fire Company

GOOD (MORNING, ~~AFTERNOON~~, EVENING).

**FLAGS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN REPRESENTATIVE OF
PATRIOTISM, BUT THEY HAVE TAKEN ON AN EVEN
STRONGER PATRIOTIC MEANING OF STANDING FOR UNITY
BEHIND OUR COUNTRY AND ITS LEADERS SINCE
SEPTEMBER 11th, 2001.**

**THE FLAG HAS BECOME AN EVER-PRESENT SYMBOL
OF OUR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY.**

**THE UNITED STATES FLAG IS EVERYWHERE THESE
DAYS, WAVING PROUDLY IN FRONT OF HOMES, SHOWING
US ALL THAT WE WILL NEVER FORGET THOSE WHO DIED
FOR OUR COUNTRY.**

EACH TIME WE VIEW OLD GLORY, LET US PRAY FOR THOSE DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS PROTECTING US AND LET US BE REMINDED OF THE SACRIFICE THEY ARE MAKING SO THAT WE CAN REMAIN FREE AND SAFE.

I HOPE THAT EACH TIME YOU SEE THIS FLAG, WHEN THE STARS AND STRIPES FLY PROUDLY, YOU WILL REMEMBER THE FALLEN HEROES OF SEPTEMBER 11TH.

THE REPLACEMENT OF YOUR OLD FLAG POLE WITH THREE NEW POLES TO HONOR NOT ONLY THE AMERICAN FLAG, YOUR OWN FLAG FOR THIS FIRE COMPANY, AND FINALLY PENNSYLVANIA'S FLAG ARE FINE WAYS TO RECOGNIZE GREATNESS.

IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT THE TRUE EXISTENCE OF AN ORGANIZATION... SUCH AS A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT... RESTS NOT IN THE BRICKS AND MORTAR

**OF THE BUILDING THAT HOUSES THE ORGANIZATION,
NOR THE TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT THE ORGANIZATION
ROUTINELY USES... BUT RATHER IT RESTS WITH THE MEN
AND WOMEN WHO FILL THE RANKS OF THE
ORGANIZATION AND MAKE IT PERFORM AT THE HIGHEST
ATTAINABLE LEVELS OF PERFECTION.**

**I AM PLEASED TO BE A PART OF THIS CEREMONY TO
HONOR RALPH LONGACRE, A MAN WHO TRULY
DEDICATED HIMSELF TO THIS FIRE COMPANY.**

**SAVING LIVES... PROTECTING PEOPLE AND
PROPERTY... ALL THESE THINGS AND MORE YOU DO TO
MAKE THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN FEEL SAFE AND
SECURE. THAT'S WHY I CONSIDER IT AN HONOR TO BE
HERE TODAY AND I THANK YOU FOR ONCE AGAIN
LETTING ME BE A PART OF THIS MEMORIAL.**

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GOOD (MORNING, AFTERNOON, EVENING).

**IT IS AN HONOR AND A PRIVILEGE TO BE WITH
ALL OF YOU TO CELEBRATE THE PURCHASE OF
YOUR NEW FIRE TRUCK AND TO HONOR THE
EMERGENCY PERSONNEL WHO PERISHED ON
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001.**

**FLAGS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN REPRESENTATIVE
OF PATRIOTISM, BUT THEY HAVE TAKEN ON AN EVEN
STRONGER PATRIOTIC MEANING OF STANDING FOR
UNITY BEHIND OUR COUNTRY AND ITS LEADERS
SINCE SEPTEMBER 11th.**

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