

LARSON ANNOUNCES \$76,000 FEDERAL HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FOR NEW HARTFORD

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NEW HARTFORD- The Town of New Hartford's South End Volunteer Fire Department has been awarded \$76,464 from the Department of Homeland Security through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

"This is an important grant for the South End Fire Department and will help their volunteer firefighters best serve the community," said Larson. "Firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical personnel represent the front lines in the effort to keep our communities and our families safe and we must do everything we can to make sure they have the resources they need. This is a great example of homeland security funding getting to those who need it most."

In the last two years, including today's grant, the Town of New Hartford fire districts have received \$230,000 in federal homeland security funding.

First Selectman William Baxter said, "These grants will upgrade equipment, better prepare us for dealing with catastrophes and have the affect of giving local residents some reprieve in their fire district taxes."

This round of the 2004 Assistance to Firefighter grants awarded more than \$10 million to 135 fire departments around the nation, including New Hartford. The grant program helps local fire departments fund firefighter health and safety programs, enhance emergency medical services programs, conduct fire education and prevention programs and fund the purchase of equipment.

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