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Press Release

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February 26, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wilson Retires After Dedicating Eighteen Years to Local Fire Service

FREDERICKTOWN – Eighteen years of dedicated service came to an emotional end Thursday night for Don Wilson of the Fredericktown Community Fire District. Members learned about Wilson’s retirement intentions earlier in February after some recent health issues had arisen.

The members of the department planned and prepared a dinner and relaxed evening in celebration of the commitment Don has made to the community. By early evening members gathered in their Class “A” uniforms, and the smell of fire-grilled steak was in the air at the station. Don was escorted to the event by his wife Lori, his daughter Kirstie 16, and his son Zach 12. After the members dined, it was time for several presentations. Fire Chief Scott Mast took a few moments to describe Don’s dedication and years of service to the community, “we are a brotherhood of firefighters and Don will be missed at the station” stated Chief Mast. Don was presented with his firefighting gear, a signed fire axe, and a framed group portrait of the firefighters. The news of Don’s retirement was broadcast across the county fire radios by Fredericktown Captain Dwayne Canter, which brought the ceremony to a close.

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Don began his training with the district in 1982 when he was invited to attend a basic 36-hour firefighting course when it was first offered in Fredericktown. He officially joined the Fredericktown Community Fire District in 1989, where he attained numerous certifications and training over the years. Don held the professional 240-hour firefighting certification, Paramedic certification, Incident Command, and for the last six years was the Lieutenant in charge of training for the department. "I joined the fire department because I enjoy helping out in the community and I was impressed with the brotherhood that is shared", stated Wilson.

Don credits the hard work and the leadership of the officers at creating this very successful department. "Their work and the generous support of the Fire District Board have always provided the firefighters with the best tools to do their jobs. This is a young mans job and a very physical job, because of that it's time to let the younger guys do it", Wilson added.

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