By Jan Rahn
Managing Editor

Thanks to funding from DuPont Pioneer, the Grant Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD) will be able to enhance training of its members.

Two rescue mannequins have been purchased with grant funds totalling $2,850 which were awarded to the fire department through Pioneer's program of making contributions to community-based organizations on behalf of its business and employees.

Local Pioneer sales rep Patrick McGreer presented the funds to the fire department, which was chosen as a recipient of one of the company's community outreach grants. These grant funds are given to communities where Pioneer representatives, employees and customers live and work, supporting quality of life initiatives to create an improved, sustainable lifestyle for people worldwide.

"Pioneer is very proud to support local entities such as the Grant Volunteer Fire Department that are dedicated to the safety and health of their communities," said sales rep McGreer.

According to GVFD Fire Captain Bryan Kroeker, the mannequins purchased with the grant will play a significant role in training fire department personnel on methods of survival, such as automobile extrication and confined space rescue.

Training with mannequins to simulate an actual victim will be invaluable to firefighters and EMTs because the mannequins can be filled with sand to imitate a live person's weight up to 250 pounds or more.

Kroeker said the fire department is grateful to Jody Snogren, administrator of the Perkins County Health Services Foundation, for her help in submitting the grant proposal.

A former Grant Fire Department member was also instrumental in helping acquire the funds to purchase training mannequins.

"We want to thank Clint Fuchs for helping us procure this grant," said Kroeker. Fuchs is a current employee of DuPont Pioneer in Lincoln.

About DuPont Pioneer

DuPont Pioneer is the world's leading developer and supplier of advanced plant genetics, providing high-quality seeds to farmers in more than 90 countries.

Pioneer provides agronomic support and services to help increase farmer productivity and profitability and strives to develop sustainable agricultural systems for people everywhere.

Since 1802 DuPont has been bringing world-class science engineering to the global marketplace in the form of innovative products, materials and services.

The company believes that by collaborating with customers, governments and leaders, it can help find solutions to such global challenges as providing enough healthy food for people everywhere, decreasing dependence on fossil fuels, and protecting life and the environment.