



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$3,000 TO CITY OF ARMSTRONG FOR STORM WARNING SIREN

On October 22, 2008, Morris Westfall, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, presented the City of Armstrong with a mock check for \$3,000 to assist with the purchase and installation of a storm warning siren. These funds are provided through a Community Facility grant from Rural Development.

Rural Development funds will be used towards the purchase and installation of a storm warning siren. The siren will be integrated with the Emergency Management office. This will greatly enhance the services provided to the rural population of 287 in the City of Armstrong, Missouri.

“Time and again we have seen how important early warning systems are in protecting Missourians who may be in the path of natural disasters,” said U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill. “I am happy that these funds will help Armstrong to prepare for anything nature can offer.”

U.S. Representative Sam Graves said, “This kind of funding provided through USDA Rural Development programs is vital to Missouri. I’m pleased to see our federal tax dollars coming back to make a Sixth District community a safer place. This funding will give a head start to Armstrong residents when severe weather becomes a threat. I look forward to working with USDA staff to continue this important investment on behalf of Missourians.”

“The intent of the Community Facility (CF) program is to assist rural communities with financial packages to enhance the quality of life for rural Missourians,” said Westfall. “Missouri Rural Development was very fortunate last year to have the opportunity to provide over \$11,200,000 in CF loans and grants plus over 125 communities have benefited with financing for early warning siren



Left to Right - Morris Westfall, Missouri Rural Development State Director, Cindy Hall for Senator McCaskill, Bill John, Howard County Emergency Management Director; Naomi Boss for Congressman Sam Graves; Jacque Barker, Rural Development; Bob Sedorf, Armstrong Councilman; Representative Paul Quinn; Willie Stroupe, Armstrong Councilwoman; Fred Stroupe, Mayor of Armstrong

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systems. We are proud to be able to assist with the funding of the City of Armstrong storm warning system for the protection and safety of the residents.”

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on Rural Development programs is available by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting Steven Gerrish at the Moberly USDA Service Center at 2995 County Road 1325, Moberly, MO 65270 or by calling 660-263-7400 ext 4.

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