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**GOLDEN MEADOW AND GRAND ISLE CELEBRATE
FEDERAL FUNDING FOR LOCAL PROJECTS
Congressman Charlie Melancon and State Director Clyde Holloway
Present Grant Funds to Communities**

GOLDEN MEADOW, August 31, 2007 – Congressman Charlie Melancon joined USDA Rural Development State Director Clyde Holloway today in Golden Meadow to present grant funds to the Town of Golden Meadow and the Town of Grand Isle.

\$492,000 in USDA Rural Development grant funds were presented to the Town of Golden Meadow to construct a new town hall that will also be used as an emergency operations center. This funding is in addition to \$358,000 in grant funds and \$258,000 in loan funds awarded by USDA Rural Development in 2006 for the same project.

\$50,000 in USDA Rural Development grant funds were presented to the Town of Grand Isle for two new patrol cars and equipment—ensuring safe streets and a secure environment for area residents.

The grants were awarded through the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program, which offers grants, loans, and loan guarantees to develop essential community facilities in rural areas and towns up to 20,000 in population.

“Golden Meadow’s new town hall will serve as a critical link during emergency situations, and Grand Isle’s police cars will ensure first responder services are available to residents,” said Holloway. “USDA Rural Development is proud to be a part of these two important community initiatives.”

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The USDA Rural Development State Office is located in Alexandria, and Area Offices are located in Monroe, Natchitoches, Lafayette, and Amite. Further information on USDA Rural Development’s loan and grant programs may be obtained by visiting USDA Rural Development’s web site at:
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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