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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$310,000 TO MONTGOMERY LIBRARY CORPORATION

Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, presented a Mock Check for \$310,000 to the Montgomery Library Corporation on September 25, 2007, to purchase the recently renovated library building. These funds are provided through a \$300,000 loan and \$10,000 grant from Rural Development.

The Rural Development funds will provide the long term financing to the Montgomery Library Corporation, a not for profit corporation. The Montgomery City Library District originally purchased the old grocery store. The American Bank of Missouri provided interim financing for the

construction and extensive remodeling to transform the former grocery store in to a modern library facility. The larger, more accessible space, will offer more state of the art computer access, and allow expansion of the library services. The library improvements will greatly enhance the resources available to the rural population of 2,442 in Montgomery City, Missouri.

“Libraries are an important community resource”, said U.S. Senator “Kit” Bond. “The library expansion will improve resources for schools and small businesses in Montgomery. The local leadership, Montgomery Library Corporation and USDA Rural Development staff are to be commended for their dedication and hard work to make this project a reality.”

"This grant and loan funding will allow the Montgomery Library to expand and better serve residents," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. "Competitive grants and loans like these send federal dollars back to Missouri in a fiscally responsible way."



Left to right – Adults - Jacque Barker, USDA Rural Development; Becky Lichtenberg, President, Montgomery Library Corp; Jane McQuie, Montgomery Library Corp; Llona Weiss, Senator McCaskill’s office; Jennie Riegel, Congressman Hulshof’s office; Greg Branum, USDA Rural Development State Director – Missouri

In front – Children from Story Time (a program offered by the library to pre-school children).

"Our rural libraries provide an invaluable service, and they deserve our support," said Congressman Kenny Hulshof (MO-9). "I am pleased that the USDA Rural Development is assisting in Montgomery City providing high quality library services."

"This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission and President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities," said Branum. "Appreciation is extended to our federal elected officials for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missouri."

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 Jacqueline Barker at the Mexico USDA Service Center at 4617 S. Clark, Mexico, MO 65265 or by calling 660-665-3274 ext 4.

"Committed to the future of rural communities."

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