

# USDA



## Rural Development

Committed to the future of rural communities.

# NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Stan L. Wolfe, St. Joseph Area Specialist Telephone (816) 364-3767 (extension #5)

## UNION STAR CITY RECEIVES \$7,920 IN USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR TRUCKS

USDA Rural Development presented a \$7,920 Mock Check to the City of Union Star on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at City Hall. USDA Rural Development grant funds assisted with the purchase of a pickup and dump truck. These vehicles will be used for general maintenance, snow removal and other City needs.

The funds were available through USDA Rural Development's Community Facility program. This program provides loans, grants and loan guarantees to assist rural areas with essential services and facilities.

"It is great to be a partner in a project that will provide a safer, more accessible roadway for the residents of the City of Union Star. The local leadership and the USDA Rural Development staff are to be commended for their dedication and hard work to make this project a reality," said U.S. Senator Kit Bond.

"Development of infrastructure is essential in rural Missouri. Services like street maintenance and snow removal both help the area thrive economically and protect the safety of citizens by keeping the streets of Union Star in top condition through all kinds of weather," said U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill.

"This project help fund new maintenance vehicles for Union Star," said U.S. Congressman Sam Graves. "I appreciate the USDA Rural Development Program for listening and acting on the needs of our rural communities."

"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 Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development. "Appreciation is extended to our federal elected officials



Those in the photograph are from left to right: Neal Miller (Area Director with the USDA Rural Development Area Office at St. Joseph), Dean Brookshier (Deputy Chief of Staff for U.S. Congressman Sam Graves), Debi Pankau (Union Star Mayor), Stan Wolfe (Area Specialist with the USDA Rural Development Area Office at St. Joseph), Sherri Meade-Stewart (Union Star City Clerk)

for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians.”

The City of Union Star contributed \$6,555 towards the vehicle purchases.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides funding and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or contacting Stan L. Wolfe, at the St. Joseph Rural Development Area Office, 3915 Oakland Avenue, St. Joseph, MO 64506 or by calling (816) 364 -3767 (extension #5).

**“Committed to the future of rural communities.”**

**“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”**

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