



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$200,000 LOAN AND \$100,000 GRANT FOR THE NEW LIBRARY OF PHILIPSBURG

OPEN HOUSE EVENT HELD SEPTEMBER 23, 2009

Philipsburg, PA—September 25, 2009 — An open house event was held on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at 7:15 p.m. to showcase the site of the new Library of Philipsburg. USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities Program provided funding to the Friends of the Library of Philipsburg to acquire and refurbish a former two-story bank facility located in the heart of the community. A \$200,000 USDA loan coupled with a \$100,000 USDA grant and \$135,000 from the Friends of The Library is slated to be used for the acquisition and renovation project which creates an anchor for the revitalization of the town's Main Street area. The façade will be transformed to a historic-looking façade which will blend in with its surrounding buildings. The first floor will house a community meeting room and a library programming area while the second floor, exiting to Front Street, will house the main circulation and reading area as well as the library's collection. The lower cost of renovations to an existing building compared to new construction will ease the debt burden on the community.

“This funding to the Library of Philipsburg is another example of Rural Development's commitment to the future of rural communities,” said Tom Williams, Pennsylvania State Director.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development fosters growth in homeownership,

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finances business development and supports the creation of critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA Rural Development's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.