



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES HOUSING FAIR

ALICE, TEXAS, November 19, 2004 – Representatives of USDA Rural Development will sponsor a housing fair at the Alice City Library, 401 E. 3rd Street, Alice, Texas, on Tuesday, November 30, 2004, from 9:30 a.m. until noon. The fair will provide information on home ownership loans including the availability of financing with no down payment at favorable rates and terms. Housing loans can be used for the purchase of an existing home and or for the construction of a new home.

USDA Rural Development's housing programs offer loans and grants to very low, low, and moderate income persons in towns and cities meeting certain population requirements. Programs offered assist qualified persons to buy, build, repair or maintain a home.

For very low income families who own homes in need of repair, funds may be provided to repair a leaking roof; to replace a wood stove with central heating; to construct a ramp to make it wheelchair accessible; or replace an outhouse with a bathroom. Homeowners who are at least 62 years old and cannot afford to repay a 1% loan are eligible for a home improvement grant to remove health and safety hazards from their homes.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 with a mission to use the resources of USDA to help enhance the quality of life for the nation's rural residents. For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, please contact the Alice Local Office at (361) 668-0453, Ext. 4, or visit our website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/.

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."

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