



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT EMPLOYEES ASSIST WITH HOME RENOVATION

Grape Creek, Texas, April 19, 2004 – Bryan Daniel, Texas USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today a \$3,090 grant under the agency's single family home repair program.

Malcom Orum, a 93 year old great-grandfather, is receiving a USDA Rural Development grant to make repairs to his home. To highlight the successes of USDA Rural Development's housing programs, a workday at Mr. Orum's home will be on Monday, April 19, 2004. USDA Rural Development employees, Chuck Hohn, Executive Director of Christmas in April, H. R. Stubblefield of Stubblefield Construction, and representatives from the Concho Valley Council of Governments and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality will be on hand to help with the workday.



Left to right, back row: Jeffrey Sutton, Executive Director, Concho County Council of Governments; Cheryl Reed, USDA Rural Development Community Development Specialist; Albert Rodriguez, Loan Officer, Concho County Council of Governments; Betty Ford, Director, Concho Valley Area on Aging; Liz Elliott, Care Coordinator, Concho Valley Area on Aging; Mary Graves, USDA Rural Development Community Development Specialist; Chuck Hohn, Executive Director, Christmas in April; J. D. Gould, Lead Man, Christmas in April

Left to right, 2nd Row: Michael Miller, Jr., Great-Grandson of Malcom Orum; Michelle Krogstad, Granddaughter-in-law; Malcom Orum; Ray Stubblefield, Contractor; Margie Gleaton, USDA Rural Development Area Director.

Left to Right, Front Row: Michallyna Krogstad, Great-Granddaughter; Malcom Krogstad, Great-Grandson



Left: Ray Stubblefield, Contractor; Margie Gleaton, USDA Rural Development Area Director, and Patricia Butler USDA Rural Development Community Development Specialist

For very low-income families who own homes in need of repair, the Home Repair Loan and Grant Program offers loans and grants for renovation. The Home Repair Program also provides funds to make a home accessible to someone with disabilities. Money may be provided, for example, to repair a leaking roof, to replace a wood stove with central heating, to construct a front-door ramp for someone using a wheelchair, or to install plumbing for a bathroom or a waste disposal system. Homeowners, who are 62 years and older, are eligible for home improvement grants. Other low-income families and individuals receive loans at a 1% interest rate directly from USDA Rural Development.

The Single-Family Housing Program provides homeownership opportunities to low and moderate-income rural Americans through several loan, grant, and guarantee programs. The program also makes funding available to individuals to finance vital improvements necessary to make their homes decent, safe, and sanitary. Under the Direct Loan program, individuals or families receive direct financial assistance from USDA Rural Development in the form of a home loan at an affordable interest rate. Since USDA Rural Development is able to make loans to those who will not qualify for a conventional loan, the Direct Loan program enables many more people to buy homes than might otherwise be possible. Direct loans may be made for the purchase of an existing home or for new home construction.

For more information or to request an application for one of the programs described above please contact the local servicing in Brownwood by calling 325-643-1585, extension 4.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 and includes Business Programs, Housing Programs, and Utilities Programs. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's rural residents.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.