



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO HOLD COMMUNITY LEADER SUMMIT

FORT STOCKTON, TEXAS, August 8, 2005 – Bryan Daniel, State Director for Texas USDA Rural Development, announced today that a Community Leader Summit will be held in Fort Stockton, Texas. The summit will bring together community leaders and elected officials to discuss issues that are important to rural communities such as housing, business development, and community facilities. The Summit will be held on Thursday, August 18, 2005, at the Fort Stockton Community Hall, in Rooney Park, Hwy. 285 South, Fort Stockton, Texas. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. with the summit slated to start at 8:30 a.m. Lunch will be hosted by the Fort Stockton Economic Development Council.

Representatives from USDA Rural Development, the Texas Department of Agriculture, the Fort Stockton Economic Development Council, the Chihuahuan Desert Resource Conservation and Development Council, the Big Bend Region Minority & Small Business Development Center and the UTPB Center for Energy and Economic Diversification will be on hand to explain more about the programs offered through their various agencies. This is a first of a kind event for this area, bringing State and Federal Officials together to explain our programs for rural community improvement. The targeted areas include Brewster, Crane, Ector, Jeff Davis, Loving, Midland, Pecos, Presidio, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, Ward and Winkler Counties.

“This conference is designed to bring together people who make things happen. They are the people who have the ideas and solutions that can make a difference for their communities,” said Daniel. “By providing the resources to these leaders, they can help ensure that jobs, housing and improved community services are available to rural Texans.”

This is an excellent opportunity to gather information relevant to making our communities a better place to live, work and raise our families. Through the numerous programs offered, USDA Rural Development is committed to enhance the quality of life in rural communities by improving the flow of capital to businesses and addressing the essential needs of housing, water, education and health care.

There is no cost to attend. Please RSVP to the USDA Rural Development Office in Fort Stockton at (432) 336-7585, Ext. 4.

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