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FUNDS PRESENTED TO CHAMOIS FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Anita J. Dunning, Acting State Director for Missouri USDA Rural Development, presented an \$8,822 mock check to Chamois Mayor Gary Reynolds and Rhonda Mitchem, of the Lewis and Clark Committee for Park Improvements on Tuesday November 27, 2007. The presentation was made at the Lions Club Community Center in Chamois, Missouri.

The funds provided will assist with the cost of renovation of the park rest room facilities. Remodeling work include the addition of showers and improvements to accessibility. In addition to the 55% USDA grant, \$7,218 is being provided from the City of Chamois. The improvements should be a big benefit for all people visiting the park and particularly those using the campground.

"City parks are important assets to local communities. It is good to see USDA



Pictured left to right: Llona Weiss – Field Representative Senator McCaskill's Office; Janie Dunning – USDA Rural Development Acting State Director; Gary Reynolds – Mayor Dan Minks – USDA Rural Development Manager; Rhonda Mitchem – Park Committee Chair; Tony Benz – State Senator Frank Barnitz's Office; and U.S. Representative Kenny Hulshof

Rural Development and local leaders working together to make necessary improvements so that this park may be enjoyed by all," said Senator Bond.

"City parks bring people together by serving as great spaces for community activities," said U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill. "I'm so pleased this grant will help the city of Chamois ensure clean and safe facilities that its citizens can enjoy."

"This is a worthy investment that will benefit the people of Chamois," Hulshof stated. "USDA continues to do a wonderful job of identifying ways for the federal government to partner with local communities to fund priorities such as this."

"This is a wonderful program that demonstrates how the U.S. government, through USDA Rural Development, can partner with local communities to do what the local communities deem as important and vital to their rural residents," said Dunning. "Appreciation is extended to

our federal elected officials for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians." Other officials attending from USDA were: Kelly Gregory Area Director from Clinton, and Dan Minks, Rural Development Manager, Jefferson City, MO.

Anyone seeking more information about community facilities financing or other USDA Rural Development programs may visit the homepage at <u>http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/</u> or contact Daniel R. Minks, Rural Development Manager, at <u>dan.minks@mo.usda.gov</u> by e-mail, or by visiting the office at 1911Boggs Creek Road, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 or calling (573) 893-8504 extension 4.

"Committed to the future of rural communities."

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