



MISSOURI SENATE  
JEFFERSON CITY

Bill Stouffer  
21<sup>st</sup> Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 332  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

**For Immediate Release:**  
**Jan. 2, 2007**

**Contact: Aaron Baker**  
**(573) 751-1507**  
**Toll Free: (866) 768-3987**

## **Senator Bill Stouffer Announces \$250,000 Grant for Hickman House Restoration**

---

JEFFERSON CITY – State Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, today announced that the city of New Franklin has been awarded a \$250,000 grant by the Missouri Department of Economic Development. The funding will be used for the rehabilitation of the Thomas Hickman House, a historical landmark in central Missouri.

“Restoring the treasured Thomas Hickman House in New Franklin will enhance the historical legacy of Howard County and the entire Boonslick region in Missouri,” Stouffer said. “Future generations of Missourians will have a better understanding of their heritage thanks to the rehabilitation of this important building.”

The Thomas Hickman House, built in 1819, is one of Missouri’s oldest intact brick houses. Built by Thomas Hickman, one of the original settlers of Howard County, the Georgian-style cottage represents the early development of the Boonslick region. Boonslick, which includes Cooper, Howard and Saline counties, is named for Daniel Boone, who explored the area. The Thomas Hickman House was built two miles from Old Franklin, where settlers launched the legendary Santa Fe Trail in 1821.

The rehabilitation project focuses on restoring the house to its historic condition and developing it as a visitor center for the University of Missouri Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center (HARC). The Hickman House will hold permanent educational displays of local archeological, geological and historical interest and artifacts from the early 1800s. Botanical collections will focus on the natural heritage of the Boonslick region.

“Missouri’s unique history instills pride in all its citizens, and this project will preserve one of our most cherished historical sites,” Stouffer said. “By helping develop the important Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, these funds will further benefit Missourians.”

The Community Development Block Grant Program offers grants to Missouri communities to improve local facilities, address critical health and safety concerns, and develop a greater capacity for growth.

Grants are issued by the Missouri Department of Economic Development. Block grant staffers at the Community Development division rely on communication with community leaders to determine which areas are most deserving of development grants.

For more information, contact Sen. Stouffer at his Capitol office at (573) 751-1507 or toll free at (866) 768-3987.

-END-