October 5, 2009

MOUNT PLEASANT HOMES PLANNED DEVELOPMENT UNVEILED

Harrisburg, Pa.- A ribbon cutting ceremony was held today to unveil the first five homes of the Mount Pleasant Homes Planned Development and to highlight the Zero Energy Home, a high-efficiency and affordable "demonstration home" built in the South Allison Hill Neighborhood at the corner of Swatara and S. 16th Streets. Mayor Stephen Reed, the Honorable Linda Thompson and Dauphin County Commissioner George Hartwick were among a host of officials who cut the ribbon to officially dedicate this innovative Net Zero Energy Home and the other energy-efficient models, all of which will include Energy Star appliances and certification.

The innovative Zero Energy Home utilizes solar panels to produce electricity which is collected through the grid and sold to PPL Electric Utilities. Energy-saving features reduce the amount of energy consumption. These features include a highly efficient ground source heat pump, Comfort Home air sealing and certification, energy casement windows, and many more. During the ceremony Tri-County received an ANSI Gold Certification award for this home from Mr. Doug Meshaw, the Executive Vice President of the Pennsylvania Builder's Council. This is a prestigious designation through the National Green Building Program.

Additionally, the Mount Pleasant Homes Project is the cornerstone in a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy in the South Allison Hill neighborhood. The development decreases vacant and blighted tracts of land and increases mixed-income homeownership opportunities in the community. Major funders include the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, the FHLB Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, the City of Harrisburg and Dauphin County.

The homes are available for purchase to income-eligible households and will be completed by the end of 2009.

For more information about the Mount Pleasant Homes Development, or Tri-County Housing, the developer, call (717) 231-3604 or visit www.tchdc.net.