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Tuesday, January 09, 2007

Ribbon-cutting held for Georges Township subdivision

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Threshold Housing Development Corporation recently held ribbon-cutting ceremonies at Mountain View Estates in Georges Township.

Mountain View Estates is a housing plan developed by Threshold Housing Development Corporation that is a 44-lot subdivision on 20 acres in Georges Township. Partners in this project include the Fayette County Redevelopment Authority, Fayette County, National City Community Development Corporation, First National Bank of Pa., USDA Rural Development, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, the Federal Home Loan Bank, Fayette County Community Action Agency, and Community Action Southwest.

Kenneth Klein, Threshold President, said, "The degree of support from the local community, township supervisors and the County has been very encouraging. This exciting project is the result of the hard work of many collaborating agencies and individuals who are concerned with providing safe, affordable housing in Fayette County."

The new development will be a welcome addition to the area. Georges Township supervisor Mike Bartock said, "Any time you bring more people into an area, you increase the tax base. I think it's going to be very positive."

Construction of six units has already begun through the USDA-sponsored self-help program where homeowners will invest at least 30 hours per week of "sweat equity" by either working on their own homes or the homes of others in the program to help defray labor costs.

Professional staff provides technical assistance and inspect

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work. Over the past five years Threshold has completed nearly 20 homes in the Fairchance/Georges area through this program.

Twenty-four of the 44 homes to be constructed at Mountain View Estates will be built through the USDA self-help program. The remaining lots will have homes built at market rate or with support of other programs.

All the homes will have three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and two-car garages.

"These are not going to be cookie cutters. Residents will have a choice of several home styles," said Klein.

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