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Housing Development
Corporation

E-News & Notes

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**Hearts and
Hammers**

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1. April/May Program Highlights:

Armed with over 700 gallons of paint, 1,300 paint brushes and roller covers, 1,900 trash bags and after months of planning and organizing, two thousand community volunteers descended upon communities throughout Arlington and Fairfax Counties during the last weekend in April to transform houses needing repairs, facelifts and modifications into safe and livable homes. As one recipient said, "This was the most fabulous experience that my son and I have had. We feel like we have a new life. The volunteers are the nicest, most considerate, wonderful people we could have met. Our home is now a place we feel very proud of and can brag about to our friends."

Thanks to the generosity, time, and skill of our sponsors, volunteers and house captains, RPJ Housing's Rebuilding Together program provided over 15,000 hours of free home repair services to 55 low-income households. The types of repairs were as diverse as those we served. Burke United Methodist Church and Springfield Christian Church literally saved the home of a disabled vet after discovering that all the joists and framing in the bathroom and kitchen had disintegrated from dry rot. It took 3 dumpsters and 12 truck loads to remove all the debris and clutter from two homes Central Christian Church and Reilly Mortgage worked on to provide the homeowners safe, sanitary home environments. Churches coming together through Annandale Christian Community for Action, Inc. renovated the group homes of more than 40 developmentally disabled citizens giving those residents a decent place to live and flourish.

To see first hand how the work of Rebuilding Together volunteers has impacted the community, check out the following link to see Peggy Fox from Channel 9 News interview RPJ Housing Board Member Lisa Langebrake and Rebuilding Together recipient Sara Blunt. http://wusa9.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=48845

2. Events and Announcements

RPJ Housing offers a "hail and farewell" to our beloved Director of Administration, Michele Palmer, as she leaves us to pursue some travel time, training opportunities and new career plans. Michele ably served as our office manager-human resources department-I.T. division-volunteer home repairs assistant for three years. We will greatly miss her and wish her well in her upcoming adventures.



3. *Want Ads*

RPJ is expanding! With the acquisition of 44 rental units in Alexandria, we are looking for:

- a property manager who will manage our rental properties in Arlington and Alexandria. A minimum three years of experience marketing and leasing units, collecting rent, enforcing lease terms, conducting unit and property inspections, monitoring contractors, and maintaining tenant files is required. 50059 and/or TIC experience is also required. Salary starts in the mid 30's. Send your resume to sroberts@rpjhousing.org or fax it to 703-765-4259 (RPJ Housing). EOE.
- two full-time maintenance workers. Must have a minimum of five years experience in all phases of apartment maintenance. Own set of tools and a vehicle are a must! HV/AC certification is a plus. Salary starts in the low 30's. Work is located in the Alexandria, Falls Church and Arlington areas. Send your resume to sroberts@rpjhousing.org or fax it to 703-765-4259 (RPJ Housing). EOE.

4. *Hats Off To...*

...our Monte Carlo Night 2007 Sponsors, whose contributions enabled RPJ Housing to reach its goal of raising \$20,000 so we can provide volunteer home repairs for another 100 low-income homeowners and preserve over 50 units of affordable rental housing in Northern Virginia:

Royal Sponsors (\$5,000)

- ★ The Christopher Companies
- ★ Virginia Housing Development Authority

Full House Sponsors (\$2,500)

- ★ Builders Floor Service, Inc.
- ★ CarrHomes
- ★ J&J Oriental Rug Gallery
- ★ Virginia Community Development Corporation

Straight Sponsors (\$1,000)

- ★ Building Partnerships
- ★ The Dietze Construction Group
- ★ Get Up & Go!
- ★ Steve Laurenson of Marcus & Millichap
- ★ Masonry Design, Inc.
- ★ Mercantile Potomac

Straight Sponsors, cont. (\$1,000)

- ★ Pepper Hamilton LLP
- ★ Premiere Mortgage Company, LLC
- ★ Top of the Town
- ★ Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.

Ace Sponsors (\$500)

- ★ Cardinal Bank
- ★ E.P. Mowing
- ★ Isle Inn Tours
- ★ MidSouth Building Supply, Inc.
- ★ Monument Title
- ★ Provident Bank
- ★ ReedSmith
- ★ Tetra Corporation
- ★ Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley, Emrich & Terpak, P.C.

5. *Did You Know?*

The homeless population in Fairfax County increased approximately 6.5% between 2005 and 2006 to a total of 2,077 persons, according to a point-in-time survey conducted in January 2006. Approximately 130 more individuals were homeless this year compared to last year, and 75% of these individuals have incomes at or below the poverty level, which is a paltry \$9,570 for one person. Unique forms of affordable housing such as single resident occupancy housing (small efficiency apartments) are critically needed to provide permanent, stable housing to individuals, because the current market does not offer any viable options.