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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Press Release

Pennsylvania State Office

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USDA Rural Development and York Area Development Corporation Cut Ribbon for Highland Manor Apartments Renovation and New Office Construction

STEWARTSTOWN, Pa., Oct. 19, 2011—USDA Rural Development and York Area Development Corporation celebrated a six-month renovation and new office building project at Highland Manor Apartments with a ribbon cutting ceremony today. The project was funded by an \$888,195 USDA Rural Development loan, part of the Multi-Family Preservation/Revitalization Program. Renovations are now complete for the exterior of the 33 family units, additional laundry facilities and new office space for the complex. The original USDA Rural Development project loan was made in 1981 and provided funding to build the apartment complex that includes one, two, and three-bedroom apartments with project based Section 8 subsidies.

"By providing funding for multi-family housing projects, we are able to support the housing needs of lower-income rural Pennsylvania residents," said Thomas Williams, Pennsylvania State Director for Rural Development. "USDA has made an unprecedented commitment to supporting affordable rural housing and the goal of the Obama administration to ensure that America's rural communities are vibrant and thriving economically."

USDA Rural Development administers the Multi-Family Preservation/Revitalization Program, which has the purpose of ensuring that sufficient resources are available to preserve the rental project for the purpose of providing safe and affordable housing for very low-, low-, or moderate-income residents. Expectations are that properties participating in this program will be revitalized and the affordable use will be extended without displacing tenants because of increased rents

Through its Rural Development mission area, USDA administers and manages more than 40 housing, business and community infrastructure and facility programs through a network of approximately 110 employees located in 11 offices throughout Pennsylvania. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers, and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America. For more information on programs offered by USDA Rural Development, contact the Pennsylvania State Office at (717) 237-2299 or visit its website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/pa.

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