## TILGHMAN BUILDERS, INC.

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# Backgrounder

July 27, 2006

# Tilghman Builders Assembles Team To Rebuild Homes Devastated By Hurricane Katrina

More projects planned by Bucks-Mont Katrina Relief Project and National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI)

**Hatboro**, **PA**, **July 27**, **2006** – Tilghman Builders, a home remodeling firm in Hatboro, Pennsylvania, is sending a team of sixteen employees to rebuild homes that were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in September 2005. The group of managers, skilled craftsmen, and helpers will depart for the Gulf Coast on Sunday, August 13th and return on Saturday, August 19th.

The properties to be rebuilt are located in the sister cities of Bay Saint Louis and Waveland on the Mississippi coast. These cities were adopted by the Bucks-Mont Katrina Relief Project, an association of businesses, community groups, and religious organizations dedicated to restoring the lives of people ravaged by the storm.

The Bucks-Mont Katrina Relief Project's sub-committee for residential projects enlisted the support of the Bucks-Mont Chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) to help the Mississippi residents get back into their homes. "We agreed immediately to assist with the rebuilding," said Patricia Nunan, President, Bucks-Mont Chapter of NARI. "Our members go through extensive training and certification programs in home remodeling ... We're happy to bring this talent and experience to help families get a new start."

"When most of us think about the victims of Hurricane Katrina, we think about New Orleans," says Mike Fallon, Tilghman Builders' Operations Manager and member of NARI. "These communities in Mississippi were hit just as hard and need our help just as much." The group led by Tilghman Builders is the first from Bucks-Mont NARI to respond to the need for home rebuilding. The plan calls for a group from NARI to visit Mississippi each month to help families in Bay Saint Louis and Waveland return to their homes. This effort is estimated to take from two to five years to complete.

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It's been ten months since Katrina struck the Mississippi coast and people are still living in trailers provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Fallon and two members of NARI's volunteer committee visited the area in June. "Living conditions are unbelievable down there, and people are losing hope," says Fallon. "The infrastructure that most of us take for granted, like water, sewer, and gas lines, needs to be rebuilt ... and now that most of the debris has been cleaned up, homeowners are facing the facts that they don't have the construction 'know how' to rebuild their houses or the money to buy labor and materials. You have to meet these unfortunate people to realize what they are going through."

The Tilghman team and follow-on NARI construction crews are targeting to make six homes available for occupancy with each monthly visit. To reach their goal, the teams will combine homes that need a great deal of work with those that require less work. There will be organized hand-offs as one team leaves Mississippi and the next one arrives – the new teams will know, in advance, the scope of the projects, the materials required, and the local contacts who can help with the process.

The Bucks-Mont Katrina Relief Project is funding the transportation for these projects from monetary and in-kind donations. The organization needs the continued support of individuals and businesses to keep these programs running. Donations to the Bucks-Mont Katrina Relief Project are tax deductible, and are being accepted by The Salvation Army. To learn more about how you can help the families in Mississippi rebuild their homes and their lives, visit the website at <a href="https://www.bucksmontkatrinaproject.org">www.bucksmontkatrinaproject.org</a>, or contact Collette McBratney, telephone (215) 825-4615, email cmcbratney@use.salvationarmy.org.

### **About Tilghman Builders**

Tilghman Builders is a full-service home remodeling firm that has served clients in Bucks and Montgomery counties for over 20 years. The company handles all aspects of the design/build process from architectural and design services through project planning, construction, and final inspection. The firm has earned the respect of its clients by providing superior construction services, with the highest regard for the customer's property, and an emphasis on customer satisfaction. For more information about Tilghman Builders, visit the website at <a href="www.tilghmanbuilders.com">www.tilghmanbuilders.com</a>, or contact Tara Tilghman, telephone (215) 340-0279, email <a href="ttlghman@tilghmanbuilders.com">ttlghman@tilghmanbuilders.com</a>.

#### About NARI

The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) is recognized as the best source for training and certification programs in the remodeling industry. Its 7,000 member companies, nationwide, are pledged to observe the highest level of ethical standards, while creating an exceptional experience for the homeowner. For more information about the Bucks-Mont Chapter, or to locate a remodeling professional, visit the website at <a href="www.bucksmontnari.org">www.bucksmontnari.org</a>, or contact Linda Andrews, telephone (215) 340-0279, email <a href="mailto:landrews@bucksmontnari.org">landrews@bucksmontnari.org</a>.

#### **About Bucks-Mont Katrina Relief Project**

The Bucks-Mont Katrina Relief Project is an association representing a cross section of volunteers from educational, religious, civic, business, professional, and non-profit backgrounds. The group is dedicated to restoring the lives of people ravaged by Hurricane Katrina, and is sending monetary and in-kind support to the sister cities of Bay Saint Louis and Waveland on the Mississippi coast. For more information or to make a donation, visit the website at <a href="www.bucksmontkatrinaproject.org">www.bucksmontkatrinaproject.org</a>, or contact Collette McBratney, telephone (215) 825-4615, email <a href="mailto:cmcbratney@use.salvationarmy.org">cmcbratney@use.salvationarmy.org</a>.