



Valley Home Builders Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VALLEY HOUSING STARTS IN APRIL UP BY 224% FROM SAME TIME LAST YEAR

MAY 20, 2010: Appleton, WI – Valley Home Builders Association (VHBA) announced today that new housing starts in the Fox Valley increased by 224% April 2010, compared to April 2009. Year-to-date housing starts are up by 151% in 2010 compared to 2009.

On behalf of VHBA, MTD Marketing Services compiles one- and two-family housing starts from thirteen Valley municipalities. Housing starts in these municipalities reflect the overall trend of new home construction throughout the Valley area. In April of 2010, there were 65 new housing starts, compared to 29 new housing starts in April 2009. Year-to-date in 2010, there has been 166 new housing starts, compared to 110 new housing starts for the same period in 2009.

“While the housing industry has a long way to go before it’s reliably stable and strong, an increase in new home starts is important for the economy overall,” said VHBA President Mike Gibbons, GTS Construction. “Home construction means jobs for local contractors, sub-contractors, suppliers and manufacturers, all whom have been hit hard by the decline in residential construction in recent years. We’re hopeful that these hard working men and women will be able to count on consistent work soon. Earning wages means they have money to spend on products and services from others in our communities, strengthening the economy for the whole area.”

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Valley Home Builders Association (VHBA), a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization, represents the land development, home building, remodeling and housing-related industries, as well as homeowners, in the greater Fox Cities area of Wisconsin. The Association consists of more than 725 member companies which employ more than 8,000 people who live and work in the local area. VHBA promotes professional business and construction practices among its members who work to enhance the quality of life in the Fox Valley. For more information, visit www.vhba.com or call 920-731-7931.