

JULY 2007



Chamber Channels

A PUBLICATION OF THE AFFILIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF GREATER SPRINGFIELD

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Economic Development Council, Its Affiliates and REB Help Rebuild the City - Literally!

Rebuilding the region is what the Economic Development Council of Western Massachusetts (EDC) and the Regional Employment Board of Hampden County (REB) is all about. But on June 7, a joint-crew from the EDC and its affiliates, Affiliated Chambers of Commerce of Greater Springfield, The Regional Technology Corp., the Springfield Business Improvement District, the Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, Westover Metropolitan Development Corp. and Westmass Area Development Corp., and the REB took their commitment to a new level.

Replacing their annual staff picnic, members from these organizations joined forces with Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity and ReStore to literally rebuild a neighborhood one board at a time at 6 Chester Street in the Springfield Six Corners neighborhood.

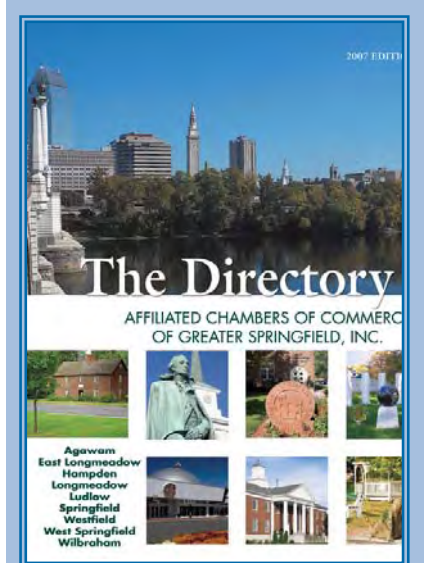
"We have all been hard at work with the strategizing and planning necessary to rebuild the local economy," noted Allan Blair, President and CEO of the EDC. "Helping to build this house is such a great way to step away from the paper work and actually roll up your sleeves to help rebuild this City."

Once part of a 6,000 square foot, waterfront "mansion" in Cohasset

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Top photo: Getting the job done. Staff photo Above: Crew members take a much needed break, including Steve Wolf from the EDC (first row from left), Sylvia Nadeau-Poole from the ACCGS (yellow t-shirt), Jeff Warren from Westmass Area Development Corporation (standing on scaffold), Mike Bolton from Westover Metropolitan Development Corporation (kneeling, far back), Mike Chechette from the REB (back row, left), CEO of the EDC Allan Blair (holding lumber) and Edda Johnson from the REB (next to Blair). The REB, EDC and its affiliates contributed nearly 50 workers to help with the construction. Photo by James Langone.



Chamber Ready for 2008 Directory

The Affiliated Chambers of Commerce of Greater Springfield, Inc. in association with The Chamber Publishing Group, Inc. is ready for the publication of the 2008 Membership Directory and Community Guide.

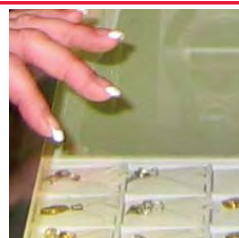
Throughout the month of July, members will be receiving information from the Chamber on the publication of the Directory along with publication verification forms so that member information will be accurately published in the Directory. Publication verification forms will be due back to the Chamber by August 25th.

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Agawam Chamber Tours Jeweler Page 9



Celebrate Our Members Pages 14 - 19

REB, EDC & Affiliates Join with Habitat to Build Home



Continued from page one that was built in 1919, the house was completely deconstructed over five weeks by ReStore, a non-profit home improvement center in Springfield. ReStore then transported the lumber to Springfield for re-use on this project. "This is high-quality structural lumber that has stood the test of time and been carefully recovered for reuse," noted ReStore's

Store Manager John Grossman. "It offers environmental benefits because we don't need to harvest and mill new lumber or to throw this material in a landfill. So deconstruction is a great alternative to demolition, and this a perfect demonstration of that." Using donated, re-harvested lumber also reduces the cost of construction and the overall expense to the new homeowner.



Getting the job done. Staff photos.

"Helping to build this house is such a great way to step away from the paper work and actually roll up your sleeves to help rebuild this City."

Allan Blair, President and CEO of the EDC.

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