

# Plans unveiled to revitalize Ridgewood Park Apts.

PLEASANTVILLE – City officials and representatives of Northridge Townhomes LLC announced a \$1.4 million renovation project May 3 for the 38-year-old Ridgewood Park Apartments.

Northridge Townhomes completed the purchase May 1 and is renovating the 44-unit apartment complex at Ridgewood Avenue and New Road. The apartments will be renamed Northridge

Townhomes.

The project will improve property conditions, maintain rental affordability and offer the opportunity for individual ownership of each of the existing duplex buildings, city officials said.

Renovations have already begun and include a new roof, siding, a new playground and new washers and dryers for the units.

"Plans call for renovation of the existing 44 two-story

units that will revitalize the neighborhood and galvanize the city's vision of affordable home ownership opportunities for the residents of Pleasantville," said Bob Wright, managing member of Northridge.

Work is expected to be completed by July 1.

The principals, manager and real estate agent for Northridge are meeting with current residents to help them maintain their homes

as tenants or explore the possibility of homeownership, city administrator Marvin D. Hopkins said.

"Anytime you can increase the opportunity for home ownership, it's a good thing for the tenants and a good thing for the city of Pleasantville," Hopkins said.

Existing tenants who qualify will receive HUD Enhanced Housing Vouchers, which would maintain the

affordability of their units or enable them to move to another rental community if they so choose.

"Our goals are to dramatically improve the conditions of these townhouses and apartments, maintain affordability for existing residents, minimize displacement, and create ownership opportunities for the residents," said Robert

See PLANS on Page 10



Pleasantville city officials join representatives of Northridge Townhomes LLC in announcing a \$1.4 million renovation of the Ridgewood Park Apartments. Back row from left are City Council members Judy Ward, Stanley Swan Jr. and Lincoln Green; Valerie and Bob Wright, owners of Northridge Townhomes; Councilmen Maurice "Pete" Callaway and Jesse Tweedle Sr., and Pleasantville City Administrator Marvin D. Hopkins. Back row from left are Pleasantville Police Chief Duane Comeaux; Rev. Milton Hendricks, chairman of the Pleasantville Housing Authority, and Chuck Hargrove, executive director of the Pleasantville Housing Authority.

## Plans

Continued from Page 1

Wright, Northridge managing member.

"With this project, Northridge is leading the way in developing and maintaining increased homeownership opportunities for the people of Pleasantville," said Councilman Lincoln Green, chair of the planning and devel-

opment committee. "This project fits our vision for improved opportunities for the people of Pleasantville."

Robert Wright completed a similar project in 2003 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. He renovated the 200-unit Sheridan Manor complex, which was renamed as Mayflower Crossing Apartments. What had been a dilapidated problem apartment complex with

frequent police activity is now a dramatically improved residential community.

Buildings were remodeled outside and inside, including new dishwashers, washers and dryers and air conditioning. The complex also now has a fitness center, book exchange room and playground.

Beneficial Savings Bank financed the project.