



Architect John Pearson Designs Affordable Homes for Andover Community Trust

*Margulies & Associates commends Pearson's leadership,
dedication to complete fourth home in Andover*

BOSTON, Mass. – August 14, 2008 – Margulies & Associates, one of Boston's most innovative architectural and interior design firms, is proud to announce that architect John Pearson, AIA, a Senior Associate of the firm and president of Andover Community Trust, has designed the fourth affordable home for the non-profit organization based in Andover, Mass.

A member of the Andover Community Trust (ACT) board since 2002, John is currently serving his second term as president, overseeing all aspects of the organization including policy, planning, fundraising and promotion, and applying his architecture expertise in the design and construction of ACT homes. John designed the renovations to the River Road house, and designed and managed the new construction of the Heather Drive and Cheever Circle houses, the latter of which will be completed in June 2008. In 2006, John was one of six people in Andover recognized by the Andover Rotary as a "Citizen Who Cares," primarily for his involvement in Andover Community Trust.

"Andover used to have a more economically diverse housing stock, but now when a modest home is sold, it is often either expanded or torn down and replaced by a larger, more expensive dwelling. ACT's mission is to add to the affordable housing supply, one home at a time, and maintain the economic diversity of the families in our community," said Susan Stott, executive director of Andover Community Trust. "Through John's leadership and generous donation of his time and talent, ACT will complete three permanently affordable homes during his first three years as president. ACT looks forward to many more years working with John to build homes people can afford in Andover."

Based on a strong belief that economic diversity is an important contributor to vital and livable communities, Andover Community Trust advocates for and develops permanently affordable homes in Andover. ACT builds modest, three-bedroom homes to meet the needs of eligible households whose income is between 60 and 80 percent of the area median income. Through generous contributions from individuals, banks, foundations and landowners, as well as donations of pro bono professional services from local attorneys, architects and civil engineers,

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ACT is able to develop and sell an affordable home for \$170,000 or less. ACT gives preference to households with school-age children and an Andover connection.

ACT's newest home at 94 Cheever Circle in Andover is a three bedroom, single family home offering 1,700 square feet of living space. Sitting on a 10,000 square foot lot close to town center, the house was designed to blend into its aesthetically appealing neighborhood and features an overhanging roof, front porch and "arts & crafts" style feel. Establishing a new precedent for the organization, the acquisition of Cheever Circle is the first time ACT has purchased a lot for one of its homes. Its first three properties were donated by their owners. Started in January 2008, the home will be completed in June and sold for \$161,200.

"We are proud of John's achievements with the Andover Community Trust, as well as his commitment to providing affordable housing in his own community of Andover," said Marc Margulies, AIA, principal of Margulies & Associates. "As a firm, we strongly support our associates' personal commitments to improving their home communities, just as Margulies & Associates has committed itself to helping end homelessness in the Boston area."

As a firm, Margulies & Associates donates time, services and funds to charitable groups such as Heading Home (formerly, Shelter, Inc.), a non-profit organization with the mission to end homelessness by providing affordable housing and support services to families and individuals. The firm has helped with the design of three buildings that provide assistance and lodging for families and individuals in need. Recently, thirty-five employees of the firm spent a Saturday landscaping the front and back yards of a new 14-bedroom supportive housing facility for homeless women in Cambridge run by Heading Home. Margulies & Associates also designed the architectural renovation of the home.

About Margulies & Associates

Now in its 20th year of operation, Margulies & Associates is a Boston design firm providing architecture and interior design services to the corporate, institutional, and real estate communities. Consistently ranked as one of Boston's top architectural and interior design firms, the firm's clients include Manulife/John Hancock, Nuvera Fuel Cells, Covidien, Partners Healthcare, Massachusetts General Hospital, Hobbs Brook Management and Forrester Research. For more information, please visit www.margulies.com.

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