



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Ribbon cutting ceremony**

### ***Navy Lakehurst completes house renovation project***

September 16, 2003: LAKEHURST, NJ – A ribbon cutting ceremony is slated for Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. to mark the completion of the first 32 homes renovated in Navy Lakehurst's Pinehurst Estates in the Lakehurst Borough.

In all, 64 homes are being renovated at a cost of \$8.6 million. The first 32 units will be complete by the end of this month, with the remaining 32 units scheduled for completion in May 2004.

VOLMAR Construction Inc. from Brooklyn, NY is the contractor for the project. "They have been working with Navy officials to upgrade the quality of housing for enlisted personnel and their families, while at the same time, reducing the density of overcrowding in the housing area," according to Chris Blesi, Chief of the Lakehurst Housing Office.

"Eight existing units were demolished to increase overall unit size for the families. Also, covered porches and screened patios were installed to allow for more privacy. The floor plans were improved to give the residents greater storage space, along with covered parking and increased parking areas," said Blesi. "We also improved the landscaping and site lighting. Energy saving heating and cooling systems were installed and each unit now has new energy saving appliances and the latest heat-on-demand hot water systems."

“It is really a pleasure to see this first phase of the project unfold and come to completion,” stated CAPT Mark Bathrick, Base Commander. “Our sailors and their families sacrifice much in the service of our country and certainly deserve the most up-to-date living facilities that we can give them. And by doing these needed renovations, we not only accomplish that goal, but we will see significant savings in future repairs and energy costs,” he added.

***Media are welcome to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. It will take place at unit #1401 Pinehurst Estates, Lakehurst Borough (corner of Myrtle and Chestnut Streets). Parking is available across the street at the Lakehurst Municipal Ball Field.***

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