

Congressman Roe, Mayor Myron, and Cory Lewis speak at Earth Day/Arbor Day event.

The Honorable Congressman Phil Roe (former Johnson City Mayor), current Johnson City Mayor Jane Myron, and T. C. Lewis & Co. President/Chairman of Northeast TN Green Building Council, Cory Lewis, addressed a crowd at a new, low-income housing development today. Eastern Eight, an area non-profit organization, led a consortium of groups in the development of the energy-efficient community, Preservation Point. The homes are certified EnergyStar homes, and have families with an average household income of \$23,000 ready to move-in. Roe commended the efforts of Eastern Eight and members of the consortium for their efforts toward this community. “We now see that energy-efficient homes can be built on a budget. Having these homes operate with less utility costs is important for everybody, and energy costs are not going down- in fact, they’re going up.”

Lewis congratulated the group on a great project, and sympathized with the hard work that had to be done to realize the development of this community. “Those of us with the Northeast Tennessee Green Building Council are working hard to make sure that projects in Johnson City just like this one are recognized, uplifted, and promoted as an example for others to follow.”

Lewis added that it’s his and the council’s hope that Johnson City will continue to take steps to becoming a leader in the region for its commitment to green- not only with new homes, but remodeling and revitalization projects. City officials and Lewis are working on providing incentives for folks buying green and building green in Johnson City. Carolina Cove (a T. C. Lewis & Co. Development) is the first “ultra-green” community in the region with the first home slated to begin construction in mid-summer, and hopes to qualify for Johnson City’s incentives.