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Talking Rock, *Phoenix Home & Garden* 2007 Idea House Continues Exciting Transformation

PRESCOTT, Ariz. (February 18, 2007) – Set on just over an acre golf course homesite in the Talking Rock development, The Phoenix Home & Garden Idea House is an elaborate collaboration among professionals, sparking imagination and boundless options in home construction, design and living.

Since breaking ground in May of 2006, the Idea House is becoming more than just an idea. No longer imagining what the 5,200 square-foot ranch-style high country home will look like, the exterior of the custom home's main house, guest house and barn are taking shape.

The New Year has proven to be quite busy at the Idea House construction site, as each passing day brings the project closer to completion. The exterior structures are fully framed and receiving some final finishing touches. Additionally, the stonework paving on the driveway and the slate work on the rear patios and cowboy kitchen have been finished. Currently, landscaping has begun in the rear yard.

On the inside, plasterwork has been completed in all three structures, while the majority of the cabinetry has been installed throughout the home. Additionally, countertops are currently being templated and fabricated, while reclaimed wood was acclimated to the site and the installation of the wood floors has begun.

“For the first time during the project, the house is truly starting to look like a home,” said *Phoenix Home & Garden* publisher Bill Phalen. “It is very exciting to see the personality of the home come to life.”

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2-2-2, Idea House Takes Shape

The Idea House is being built with attention to every detail by professionals from across the state – many of whom are Prescott business owners. An overall feeling of indoor/outdoor living will capitalize on the pristine views of Talking Rock and its championship golf course, incorporating wraparound verandas, large windows and doors to perfectly frame the mountainous scenery of the surrounding land.

To more closely track the progress of the Phoenix Home & Garden Idea House, follow the updates in the magazine and on the publication's Web site, www.phgmag.com, as well as on the community's site: www.talkingrockranch.com. Samples of fabric, building materials, on-site construction progress and more are featured monthly in *Phoenix Home & Garden* and will continue until the project is complete in the summer of 2007. Once finished, the Idea House will be open for touring for three consecutive weekends (June 7, 14 and 21).

Offering the best of both worlds, Talking Rock is located in a peaceful, rural setting and yet is just minutes from Prescott where homeowners have access to shopping, dining, entertainment and numerous outdoor recreational opportunities. It is a 3,600-acre private, luxury home community with a casual western lifestyle and the amenities of an exclusive country club. The Jay Morrish-designed 7,350-yard championship golf course intertwines through more than 1,000 acres of preserved open space, presenting residents with the spaciousness of Arizona's high country. Talking Rock offers spacious custom homesites, as well as Ranch Cottages, Ranch Homes and custom homes designed in an authentic ranch style and built by the area's finest craftsmen.

Talking Rock is a development of Harvard Investments, a Scottsdale, Ariz. based real estate development company respected for its high quality, residential projects throughout the Southwest. Harvard designed and developed communities are found in Austin, San Antonio, and Dallas, Texas; and in Phoenix, Sedona, and Tucson, Ariz.

Harvard's Canadian parent, the Hill Companies, is a privately held diversified company involved in real estate development, oil and gas production and distribution, broadcasting, surety bonding, and life insurance. The Hill Companies celebrated its 100th year of continuous family ownership and operation in February, 2003.

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3-3-3, Idea House Takes Shape

More information on Talking Rock and Harvard Investments, Inc. can be found at www.talkingrockranch.com.

Phoenix Home & Garden is an ABC-audited publication with an average paid monthly circulation of 89,339. The magazine is part of Cities West Publishing Inc., a Phoenix-based company that also publishes *PHOENIX* magazine, the *PHOENIX* magazine *Medical Directory*, the *PHOENIX* magazine *Travel Guide* and the *Phoenix Home & Garden Resource Directory*.

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