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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HERSHEY AREA PLAYHOUSE PREPARING FOR
*THE BOYS NEXT DOOR***

HERSHEY, Pennsylvania—March 30, 2009 – Hershey Area Playhouse is following its successful run of *Love Letters* with the second production of its tenth season: *The Boys Next Door*, written by Tom Griffin.

Audiences will visit the bittersweet world of mentally challenged men living together in a group home served by a social worker whose own life is unfolding in unpredictable ways. Each resident has his own eccentricities, yet contributes to the benefit of the others who live with him. *The Boys Next Door* is a journey of the heart – it will help one and all understand the nature of change.

According to Skip Becker, Playhouse founder and director for this production, “*The Boys Next Door* takes a unique and deepening look at human beings who struggle, every single day of their lives, with problems and circumstances we cannot imagine. I am proud of the actors and crew who will recreate that struggle with compassion and enormous talent.”

The cast includes John Mohn, Jr. as Arnold Wiggins, Don Bowman as Lucien Smith, Eddie Costik as Norman Bulansky, Stosh Snyder as Barry

Klemper, Jonathan Thurman as Jack, Nancy Michel as Sheila and Paul Murray as Mr. Klemper. Rounding out the cast are Tom Adams, Cyndi Camp, Tom Curry, Harry Menear and Maxine Oliver

Becker goes on to say “The actors who appear in *The Boys Next Door* are some of the best I have ever had the pleasure of working with. They have absorbed their characters and bring those characters to life on our stage in ways which are both joyous and tear filled. Our audience will see and experience wonderful theatre at Hershey Area Playhouse.”

The Boys Next Door will run two weekends, from Thursday, April 23 through Sunday, April 26 and again from Thursday, April 30 through Sunday, May 3. Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances are at 8:00 pm and Sunday matinees are at 2:00 pm.

Tickets are on sale now and are available by visiting HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com or stopping by the Box Office Tuesdays from noon to 4:00 pm or 90 minutes before each performance. Individual ticket prices are \$15 for teens/adults and \$13 for children 12 and under. Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows is located on Sand Hill Road at Cherry Drive in Hershey.

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Hershey Area Playhouse (www.HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing residents of the community with an opportunity to participate in the creation and production of a theatrical experience. Since its inception in 1999, Hershey Area Playhouse has staged 33 productions at numerous venues around the Hershey area. In April 2007, the Playhouse opened its new permanent home, Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows.