



the **harvest** foundation **press release**

Contact: Allyson Rothrock
The Harvest Foundation of the Piedmont
276.632.3329
arothrock@theharvestfoundation.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HARVEST FOUNDATION SELECTS GENERAL CONTRACTOR FOR SMITH RIVER SPORTS COMPLEX

MARTINSVILLE, Va. (March 6, 2008)...The Harvest Foundation announced today it has selected Jimmy R. Lynch & Sons, Inc. as the general contractor for the Smith River Sports Complex project.

The \$8.7 million sports complex will include two championship soccer fields, each with lights, an electronic scoreboard, and fixed seating for 250 spectators; three additional full-size soccer fields with lights; one practice field; a pavilion with concessions, restrooms, office and meeting space; two picnic pavilions; a playground; and concrete walks throughout the complex.

Jimmy R. Lynch & Sons, which is based out of Pilot Mountain, North Carolina, will subcontract nearly \$2 million in project work to Martinsville-area contractors, including Light Electric, Quirk Design Build, W-L Construction/APAC-Fieldale and Boxley Materials.

The groundbreaking will take place early April, with heavy equipment and machinery in place to proceed with a fast-track schedule. The Smith River Sports Complex is anticipated to be completed in approximately one year.

“This is a very exciting time for Martinsville and Henry County,” said Rich Killingsworth, Executive Director of the Harvest Foundation. The community is now starting to see the catalyzing effect of this Foundation, especially through this project. We believe the Sports Complex further strengthens our commitment to become a “Community of Choice”. The Sports Complex is an amenity that will serve as an incredible resource for our residents, and will add another feature to our community that influences people to visit and experience the beauty of this place.”

The selection process for the contract included pre-qualification of contractors as well as bid advertisements in area newspapers. “We were very thorough in our search for a qualified general contractor,” said Bob Davis, Harvest Foundation Board President. “Even though the funding for this project is made available through Foundation resources, we opened the bid to the public to give every interested party the opportunity to participate in this project.”

“This project is heavily focused on site work. Throughout the process of qualifying these contractors, we found Jimmy R. Lynch & Sons to be a standout candidate based on its extensive site development experience,” said Allyson Rothrock, Assistant Executive Director for the Harvest Foundation who is coordinating the planning and implementation process for the Foundation.

The Smith River Sports Complex is the first project in the Harvest Foundation’s multi-million dollar commitment to sports tourism development in Martinsville and Henry County. The second project includes demolition of existing buildings and construction of a multimillion-dollar arena on the corner of Fayette and Market streets in Uptown Martinsville.

“Once the groundbreaking on the Smith River Sports Complex has taken place, our efforts will be heavily focused on advancing the second portion of the sports tourism initiative, which is the Uptown Arena,” said Davis.

Upon completion of the Smith River Sports Complex, the Harvest Foundation will turn the property over to the Southern Virginia Recreation Facilities Authority (SVRFA) for operations, management, and maintenance.

The Harvest Foundation supports health, education, and welfare initiatives that serve our vision of fostering a “community of choice” for Martinsville and Henry County, Virginia. The Harvest Foundation was established in 2002 from the sale of Memorial Hospital. For more information please go to <http://www.theharvestfoundation.org/>.

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