

March is Habitat Month in Fort Wayne

Habitat Month kicks off with our 4th gala fundraiser dinner-auction Friday, March 7, in the new Diamond Room at Ceruti's, off West Ludwig Road. Reservations for the \$125 a plate event have been made for about 200 Habitat supporters. Major sponsors are Vera Bradley, Do-It-Best, and DeHayes Insurance, along with NIPSCO and Indiana Michigan Power. The 6pm reception period includes an expanded silent auction, and

Spring Construction Schedule

- House #115, 3720 Sherwood Terrace
Framing starts March 17; Dedication May 31
Partner Family: Hilliar & Hti Mu Belloc
- House #116, 3813 Gretna Avenue
Framing starts April 8; Dedication June 7
Partner Family: Nancy Miller
- House #117, (location tba)
Framing starts April 29; Dedication Jun 21
Sponsored by Presbyterian Churches
Partner Family: Nazilha Azeel

El Salvador Mission Trip

Once again a delegation from Fort Wayne Habitat for Humanity will be going to El Salvador for house building with the Habitat affiliate in Santa Anna.



Heading the March 9-17 trip will be Executive-Director Don Cross. Others include Bob Albertson, Richard Andre, Deborah Brown, Bradley Foster, Todd and Kathleen and Rachel German, Dan Harlow,

Catherine Henschen, Kyle Howard, Bob Menefee, Thomas Monnier, Steve Rondot, Jane Scott, Charles Shull, Gary Voirol, Brenda Willis, and Gerald Zimmerman, all of Fort Wayne. Also on the trip are Ann Queen of New Haven, and Jonathan Farr, Indianapolis. Ten of the group have been on previous mission trips.

The construction work will be in a Habitat community development area known as Charlotte near Santa Anna.

A
hand
up,



not a
hand
out.

Downtown Habitat street pole banner

following the dinner, Dean Kruse of Kruse International will conduct bidding for various components of a Habitat house build.

Because sponsoring firms cover event expenses, all money raised by the dinner, live auction, and the silent auction, goes directly to 2008 house construction. This year's building season is shaping up as another strong one, with 12 houses on the tentative schedule. The first house this year will be built at 3720 Sherwood Terrace, a special "green" build. (see page 2) Framing will begin March 17 and the home will be ready for occupancy in late May.

The silent auction includes Vera Bradley bags, a Indy Colts-signed football, and local restaurant and overnight hotel packages.

Mayor Thomas Henry is expected to officially proclaim March as Fort Wayne Habitat for Humanity Month. Our colorful Habitat street banners will again be seen in the downtown area. And Glenbrook Square's food court will be using special tray liners and table tents promoting Habitat.

Gretna Stormwater Project Starts

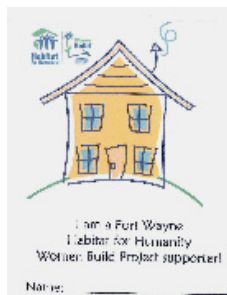
A key component of Habitat's homebuilding in a Southeast neighborhood reaches the construction stage this year. The City of Fort Wayne's Gretna Avenue Stormwater Project addresses surface drainage problems in the area east of Wayne Trace. Scheidleman Excavating was awarded a \$205,000 contract and will begin work in the area March 3.

New Gift Card Program Benefits Habitat for Humanity

You can now support Fort Wayne HFH through your everyday purchase of groceries, gasoline, food, and many other items and services through a popular gift card program. A portion of each card (on average 2%) comes back to Habitat to help sustain our homebuilding mission.

Information on participating firms as well as instruction for ordering is available from the MinistryHome Gift Card Center, accessed through our website home page www.fortwaynehabitat.org.

Women Plan to Build Again in 2008



With the success of the 2007 Women Build and a \$15,000 head start, efforts get underway in May for a similar project this year.

Special “house tags” have been designed and will be given for donations. Actual house construction is planned for this September.

Lowe's is a national partner in Women Build.

Green Build Project Readied

Senior students in a construction technology class at IPFW have been at work since August on plans for a sustainable “green” Habitat for Humanity house to be built this spring. This special Habitat project has been undertaken in partnership with IPFW, the Northeast Indiana Green Build Coalition, Hagerman Group, and WaterFurnace International. A groundbreaking ceremony will be held March 8 at 3720 Sherwood Terrace at 10am.

The effort is being coordinated by Associate Professor Regina Leffers, a co-founder of the Green Build Coalition. The students researched the site, seeking ways to best design and orient the house for energy conservation. Insulated concrete forms will be used in the construction, and WaterFurnace is donating a high-efficiency heating and cooling system. Other features include water-saving faucets and toilet, solar tubes in the ceiling, and site drainage to create a “rain garden” in a marshy area at the rear of the property.

A huge challenge has been to keep costs contained to fit Habitat’s affordable housing concept, and to make the finished house user-friendly for the new homeowners, Burmese refugees Hilliar and Hti Mu Belloc. The students are working on a special instruction manual for the family.

Aluminum Can Recycling

The Cans for Habitat recycling program collected 72,675 pounds of aluminum cans in 2007, producing gross revenue of \$51,193. The program is boosted by 14 community drop-off locations, collections by many businesses and churches, and by children in 17 participating schools in Allen County.

Fort Wayne Habitat for Humanity

Executive Director.....Don Cross
Development Coordinator.....Laurie Brumbaugh
Office Administrator.....Carrie Miller
Volunteer Coordinator...Ashley Weaver, AmeriCorps
Recycling Coordinator...Kory Stucky, AmeriCorps

Office: 629 E. Washington Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Phone: (260) 420-9919
Fax: (260) 424-9272
Website: www.fortwaynehabitat.org

Habitat ReStore

Location: 1111 East Wallace St.
Phone: 458-8159
Staff: Pam Lochner, Coordinator
Deborah Brown, Assistant Coordinator
Nathan Ainslie, John Weber, Gary Pinkston,
and Jennifer Roark (AmeriCorps Volunteer)

2008 Board of Directors

President..... Allen Glassburn
Vice President.... Jeffrey Woenker
Secretary.....Dick Florea
Treasurer..... James Swift

Carmen Files, Frances Ganaway, Rudy Koch,
Andy Minnich, David Nugent,
Veronique Poudrier, Dan Rickert, Jane Scott,
John Verduce, Lynn Weaver, Laurel Woebeking

A non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing organization, Habitat for Humanity works in partnership with people in need to build affordable housing. The houses are sold to those in need at no profit and with no interest charged. Payments are recycled into additional housing.

Newsletter Editor: Dick Florea

Board of Directors Elects Allen Glassburn President



The newly-elected president of the board of directors is Allen R. Glassburn, Director of Business Operations Support for Indiana Michigan Power. Glassburn succeeds John Verduce in the Habitat presidency, after serving as the board's vice-president last year.

Other officers elected for the new year include Jeffrey M. Woenker, attorney with Barrett & McNagny, vice president; E. James Swift, Senior Vice President, Star Financial Bank, treasurer; and Dick Florea, retired TV broadcaster, re-elected secretary.

New-elected to the board is Veronique Poudrier, Director of Product Development, Vera Bradley. Re-elected directors include David Nugent, Dan Rickert, Jane Scott, James Swift, and John Verduce.

Building Contractors Association Construction & Design Expo



Former board member Jim Norris (left) was among the volunteers staffing a Habitat booth at the February 13-14 BCA Construction and Design Expo at Memorial Coliseum. Also helping with the setup and event staffing were Don Cross, Stan Kessler, Ron and Carol Korte, Dave Nugent, Steve Patterson, Jane Scott, and Dick Weaver. Expo space and booth materials were provided by the Building Contractors Association and Hamm Event Services.

Habitat will also be represented with a booth at Tapestry, A Day for Women, 8:30am-4pm, April 25 at the Coliseum. If interested in volunteering for the event, call Laurie at the Habitat office, 420-9919.

Special Contributions Received

Bequest from Iva M. Jones

Bequest from Mary C. Martin

In Memory of Jeff Brooks
Diane Borcharding

In Memory of Richard Hess
Charles E. Anderson
Lowell and Judith Beineke
Willard and Nena Clark
Dick Florea
Fort Wayne Sertoma Club
IPFW Dept History & Political Science
Kay Leason
Samuel and Joan Lipscomb
Mark and Collenn Lengacher
Louise Magoon
Kimberly McDonald
Raymond and Betty Pippert
Dawn Ritchie
Richard and Yvonne Ramsey
Stanley and Enid Rosenblatt
Hermine Van Nuis

In Memory of Joe and Gini Hazelwood
Richard Aderholt

In Honor of Dick Florea
Fort Wayne Sertoma Club

In Honor of David Kiracofe
Robert and Phyllis Clark

In Honor of Steve and Deb Patterson
Reine and Andrew Patterson

Habitat Cover Indiana Bike Tour

Bicycle enthusiasts will again help promote Habitat and raise money for all 72 state affiliates in the 5th annual Cover Indiana Bike Tour May 11-17. In addition to the 7-day tour, a 3-day tour option, May 15-17, has been added this year. Participants from this area will start in Bluffton, then meet up with a group from South Bend the third day in Peru. The combined group will bike to Lafayette and Terre Haute and wind up in Indianapolis.

Nathan Ainslie, an assistant at our ReStore, will be among this year's riders.

Materials and information are available online at www.habitatindiana.org/biketour. The registration deadline is April 1.

Another "Thrivent Builds" Fort Wayne Project in 2008

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has boosted its four-year commitment to Habitat for Humanity by \$20-million. The largest four-year commitment in Habitat's history increases to \$125 million for the national affordable-housing effort.

Funding has been approved to build another house in Fort Wayne this June, one of 355 in the U.S. this year. Watch for details in the June newsletter.

Briefs

A statewide conference of all Indiana Habitat for Humanity affiliates will be held April 11-12 at the Carmel Christian Church in Carmel.

The family of Kaung Shein and Eicho Maung is the latest to be approved for partnership with Habitat. They will next begin the process of required classes and accumulation of sweat equity hours.

Habitat Fish and Tenderloin Dinner

Covenant United Methodist Church, 10001 Coldwater Road, will hold its annual Fish and Tenderloin Dinner Wednesday, May 14, 4:30-7:30pm. All proceeds will benefit Habitat for Humanity.

DONATE a CAR
to help build homes.

Habitat for Humanity
Cars for Homes

877.277.4344
www.carsforhomes.org

From the Director's Desk ...

Spring 2008



The subject of tax relief is all we are hearing from politicians these days. It is the popular thing to advocate. Is it the right thing to do?

First, we need to acknowledge that the reason we have any tax is to provide all those goods and services that we insist that our government provide us. Yes, we could argue

whether the government is very effective in providing those goods and services, but the reality is we as voters have insisted they do just that.

Therefore if we want tax relief we have two options:

1. We must expect less goods and services.
2. We try to find someone to provide those services more effectively.

Either way no value is added by the process.

The idea that tax relief will spur the economy is fantasy. If the government refunds taxes then they are spending less and their employees, contractors, vendors, and service providers are getting paid less. So even if the person or organization receiving the tax relief spends that relief money, the net gain is still zero. In many cases individuals will justly use that relief money to pay down debt, so now even the banks are earning less. (Not that I advocate building debt is necessarily a good thing).

By contrast the Habitat for Humanity program builds homes utilizing no government funds but funds which are donated from individuals or organizations and sells homes to low income families with no profit or interest. Those donated funds go directly to suppliers and subcontractors who in turn pay employees, buy materials and supplies; and cycle goes on and on adding to the gross national product of our city, state and nation. Also we ask no property tax abatement for our families, because we want them to learn and grow to be proud productive citizens contributing to the economy of their community, not living off of it.

Don Cross

Executive Director

Fort Wayne Habitat for Humanity

Promote and Support Habitat with Specialty License Plate

An attractive specialty plate is again available to Indiana motorists in 2008, with the added fee supporting Habitat for Humanity in the state.



The process has been simplified this year and can be completed at any BMV branch. In addition to normal fees for your particular vehicle, a \$25 donation to Habitat will be collected and a \$15 BMV handling fee for the specialty plate.

Homeward Bound 5K April 27

Fort Wayne HFH is again participating in the Northeast Indiana Homeward Bound Walk, a state-wide fundraising project among local homeless and affordable housing providers. The Fort Wayne 5K walk is set for Sunday, April 27, from Headwaters Park. Registration and entertainment begins at 1:30.

Other area agencies participating include Cedars Hope, Fort Wayne Rescue Ministries, Fort Wayne Women's Bureau, Genesis Outreach, Hope House, Huntington County Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Park Center, Pathfinder Services, Turning Point Steuben County, Vincent House, Whittington Homes, and the YWCA of Fort Wayne.

You can register your walk team and make pledges at <http://homewardboundindiana.org>. If you don't want to have a team please consider walking and sponsoring yourself.

Similar walks will take place in seven other Hoosier cities in April.

April 19 Chicken Sales for Habitat

Members of the Fort Wayne Area Association of Realtors will hold a chicken dinner sale Saturday, April 19, at the Speedway station, Stellhorn and Hobson Roads in northeast Fort Wayne.

And the same day across town a similar sale will be on the lot of Dick's Sporting Goods at Apple Glen by members of First Presbyterian, Grace Presbyterian, Calvary Third Presbyterian, and Anchor Community Church.

Both sales benefit 2008 Habitat home building.

Tell a friend!
Save at least 50%. All proceeds support Habitat homebuilding



Attractive new exterior ReStore sign welcomes shoppers seeking bargains on home improvement items. 2007 sales were up 8% over the previous year.

1111 East Wallace Street

**Open Tues-Sat 9am-4pm
 Wednesdays until 6pm**

National News

Immediately after Hurricane Katrina and then after Hurricane Rita, Habitat for Humanity's Gulf Coast Recovery program began putting plans in place to help low-income families in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas and Alabama affected by the storms build homes as part of long-term reconstruction.

Habitat has begun construction or completed more than 1,100 homes with the help of more than 70,000 volunteers from across the United States and also from around the world. The Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project will be held along the Gulf Coast May 11-16. It will mark the Carter's 25th year of involvement with Habitat for Humanity.

Along the Gulf Coast, Habitat is working to serve as a catalyst that brings together organizations to address low-income housing and recovery on a scale that Habitat alone would not be able to accomplish. In the past two years, Habitat has partnered with Church World Service to fund the repair of 600 homes belonging to low-income individuals and families and The Salvation Army to increase building capacity and affordability of homes along the Gulf Coast, among other partnerships.



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www.fortwaynehabitat.org

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Yes, I would like to support Fort Wayne Habitat for Humanity! Please mail to: 629 E Washington Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Check Enclosed \$ _____ Visa & MasterCard accepted Card number _____ Exp. Date _____

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Please advise us if matching funds are available from your employer.

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