



HELPING HANDS

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh, Inc.

P.O. Box 1694, Newburgh, NY 12551 . (845)568-6035 . www.habitatnewburgh.org . hhumanity@hvc.rr.com

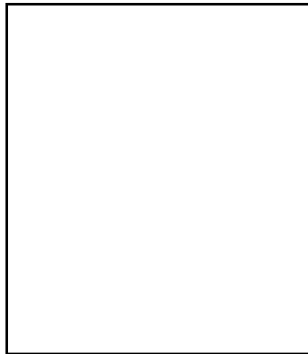
Vol. V•No. 2

Spring•2005

DEDICATION OF THE 15TH AND 16TH HOUSES

Inspiring Each Other to Support Habitat

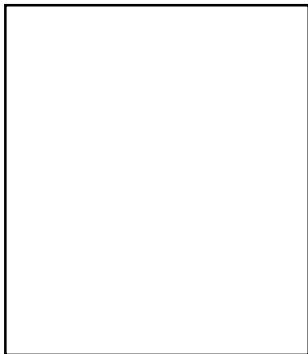
With great joy we dedicated and completed two more homes in the Liberty Street Project; homes for the Cruz and DiCaprio families. The Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation, 2003 “Building Hope ... Building Homes” matching grant in support of Habitat affiliates, and the ongoing support from area Lutheran churches made the completion of the Cruz family home possible. Thrivent, a fraternal benefit society offering financial services to Lutherans, invests in local communities by partnering with Habitat for Humanity to jumpstart community housing projects and by offering Lutheran groups an organized way to show their generosity and caring. Habitat Newburgh



A crowd gathers in front of 340 & 338 Liberty Street

received a \$15,000 seed grant to help fund the project supported by Lutheran churches.

This was Newburgh’s second Lutheran build. In 2001 we received a grant from the Aid Association for Lutherans. Led by Pastor Dwayne Mau, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Monroe, and supported by four more churches in our geographic area: King of Kings Lutheran Church, New Windsor; Christ Lutheran Church, Newburgh; Trinity Evangelical

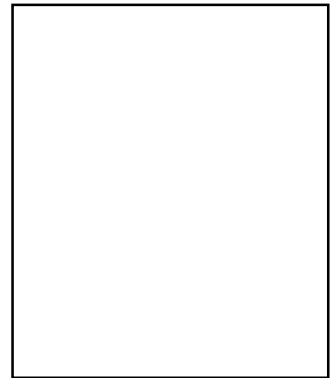


Nancy Graf Peters leads in a prayer

Lutheran Church, Walden, and Our Savior Lutheran Church, Fishkill, our newest project is a continuation of Lutheran mission to our affiliate’s area of greatest need - the inner city of Newburgh.

Following the dedication, volunteers and families celebrated at the Volunteer Appreciation Party at Mount Saint Mary College’s Desmond House. Tasha DiCaprio, when asked how many years she intends to occupy the new house, quickly answered, “The rest of my life.”

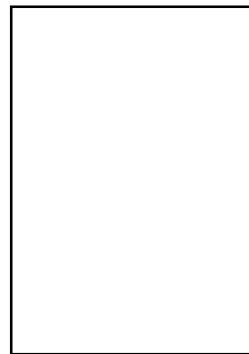
Congregations from Newburgh and surrounding areas have been our earliest and strongest supporters, beginning with our 2nd project, “Unity House”, in 2000; continuing with the Aid Assoc for Lutherans *Building Hope, Building Houses* matching award of \$20,000 in March 21, 2001.



Dedication of the PresbyBuild House

In October, 2004, we celebrated the first dedication of “PresbyBuild” house, a collaboration of twelve Presbyterian churches: Bethlehem, Calvary (Newburgh), Canterbury, Cornwall, Goshen, Montgomery, Monroe, Union, Highland, Marlboro, Chester and Washingtonville.

In November the congregations met and, led by Rev. Deke Spierling, made a commitment to sponsor a second Habitat home in the next two years. Welcoming all Presbyterians to participate in whatever way, and with whatever amount of money they can, this group’s dedication has become an inspiration to subsequent church sponsorships.

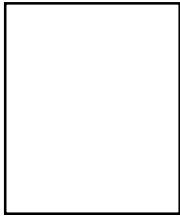


Carl Yettru working at the Liberty Street Project

Two long-time Habitaters, and among our most dedicated builders, Vivian and Carl Yettru began lobbying for a Methodist-Build in October 2004, though it began as a dream of theirs long before that. The first “exploratory meeting” was held December 3, 2004, and the project has taken off from there. Many of the Methodist congregations participated in our last “Beautiful Day” Trolley Tour,

and are now seen at Liberty St. and Carson Ave. – fast becoming part of our “regulars” on site. To date, nine United Methodist churches have made a commitment to this build: Cornwall, Gardnertown, Grace (Newburgh), Mountainville, Monroe, Highland Falls, Trinity Parish (Newburgh), Vail’s Gate, and Warwick.

(continued on pg. 6)



*President
Dave McTamane*

President's Message

I just went around my house, setting the clocks ahead as we “spring forward” into daylight savings time. I’ve been looking forward to this day, since I have had enough winter to last me for some time.

What really amazes me, however, is how much we have been able to accomplish despite the snow and cold. As winter was approaching, we were racing to finish four of the six houses on Liberty Street; well, we achieved that goal, and had all four families in before the end of January. But unlike many habitat affiliates that pack up their tools for the winter, out dedicated volunteers bundled up and continued to work. Sometimes they spent half the morning shoveling snow off the building materials, but they stayed the course, and I am proud of what our workers have done, not only at Liberty Street, but at the North Miller St. and Carson Ave. rehabs as well.

We also have made progress at the Monument Street site, moving into Phase Two of that project, while we make plans for the three houses that we will build there. At the same time, countless volunteers have been working to prepare for the Golf Tournament and the Walkathon in May. The Family Selection Committee has been working overtime to select our next partner families, and the office staff has been kept hopping all winter.

Last month, we hosted three different colleges as part of Habitat’s Collegiate Challenge – finding food and lodging and meaningful work for 43 students. Our Family Support Committee and our Ministerial Relations Committee met throughout the winter, and continue to plan a number of events, and many volunteers and Board members have been at work on other committees as well.

Now that Spring is in sight, and the ground is finally thawing, there is a long list of on-site jobs that still need doing – landscaping, painting, framing, as well as all the committee work. I am eager to spring ahead into those jobs, but first I want to thank all those who have worked so hard all winter long to help achieve our goal of providing decent and affordable homes for our partner families. We work on site Mondays, Wednesday, and Saturdays from 8 AM until 1 PM, so give the office a call for directions or committee meeting times and places and come join us as we set out together to get the job done.

Habitat Responds to Tsunami

Rebuilding Lives

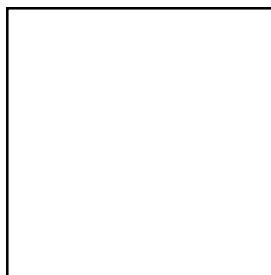
In response to the death and devastation that struck the nations hit by the Tsunami disaster, Habitat International has launched an unprecedented effort to raise an extra \$25 million to help at least 25,000 families whose homes were destroyed. Ten percent of all gifts to your local affiliate are tithed to the work of Habitat International and you can give directly to the Tsunami Relief Fund by contacting Habitat International. Newburgh volunteer, Tim McNeily, is one of many tsunami relief workers that will make the long journey to help those in need.

a word from Deirdre...

Our goals at Habitat Newburgh focus on building houses, and re-building neighborhoods. Habitat targets abandoned, boarded-up buildings with a goal of turning these into safe, affordable homes to the benefit of partnering homeowner families and the community. In beginning each ‘gut rehab,’ volunteers are often struck by the evidence of lives and the living conditions left behind by families who once occupied the derelict spaces. Damp floors and leaky roofs; chipping lead-based paint; mold and mildew; rodents, pigeons and squirrels that have gotten into the eaves and into the wall spaces. There are many links, direct and indirect between housing and health, and poverty housing affects all of us in this society. One million children under the age of 6, living in poverty housing, are affected by lead poisoning from old paint. Childhood asthma has been directly linked to cockroaches, cockroach dust, mice and dust mites commonly found in substandard housing. Mold and mildew are the catalysts for chronic allergies. Fires and accidents are common when wiring is old, and heating and lighting systems go without repair.

Indirectly, and locally, in households where more than 50% of income is spent on paying the rent, there is no money for health insurance, adequate nutrition, or required preventive health care. In inner city areas there is an abundance of fast food options but few local grocery stores, and without transportation to suburban markets, there are few options but fast food. It is to the benefit of us all to work together to eliminate substandard housing. Let us all join in working towards the goal of decent, affordable housing in stable neighborhoods, for all the children of this community.

IN MEMORIAM

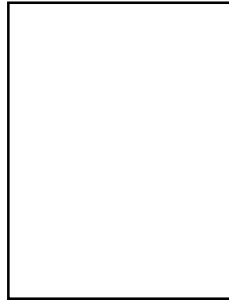


*Michael's sister, Marge
Mercier, at the 2004
Walkathon*

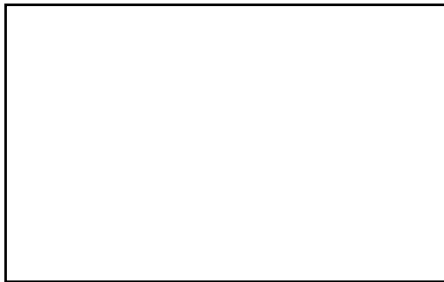
**Michael McKeivitt
(1954-2005)**

Michael McKeivitt, owner of Jiffy Stop Convenience Store and former District Manager for Freihofer's Bakery Company in Newburgh supported Habitat right from the start. Michael generously arranged for donated baked goods through Freihofer's for all our Wednesday coffee breaks, a gift of that has continued every Wednesday since 2000. We acknowledge our deep appreciation and our sympathy to Michael's wife and children, and to his sister Marge Mercier.

TAKING HABITAT TO NEW HEIGHTS!

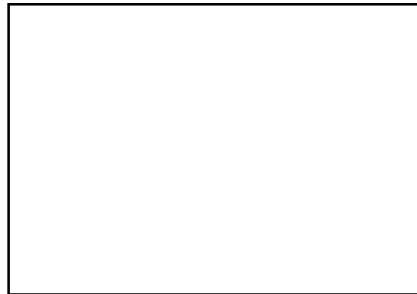


On April 25th, 2004 Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh held its 5th Annual Walk for Housing. Over 600 people walked! The



Participants in last year's Walkathon

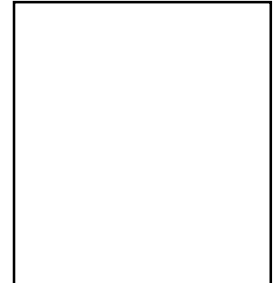
The continued growth of this annual spring event has enabled Habitat to complete sixteen houses in the past 5 years, and 29 adults and 61 children are now living in their own homes. The need is great and there are big plans for the coming year so please come out and support the 6th Annual Walk for Housing on Sunday, May 1st. Registration begins at 12 noon and the walk at 1 pm at the Newburgh Activity Center, Delano-Hitch Park, Newburgh. There will be entertainment, food and fun for the whole family!



*Homeowner Kia McHolder
with friends and family*

COLLEGIATE CHALLENGE 2005

This March, over 40 students from Messiah College (Grantham, PA), Lesley University (Cambridge, MA), and Wellesley College (Wellesley Hills, MA) traded in their bathing suits for work gloves and gave up a sun-filled vacation to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh, cleaning out buildings, and hammering nails during Habitat for Humanity's "Collegiate Challenge." The typical portrait of a college spring break depicts boisterous youth partying on a beach somewhere in Florida or Mexico. It is refreshing and important to know that there are exceptions to this cliché. These students not only spent the week working to support Habitat's mission of eliminating poverty housing, but also raised over \$6,000 for Habitat of Greater Newburgh.



*Messiah student, David Enders, at
the Liberty Street Project*



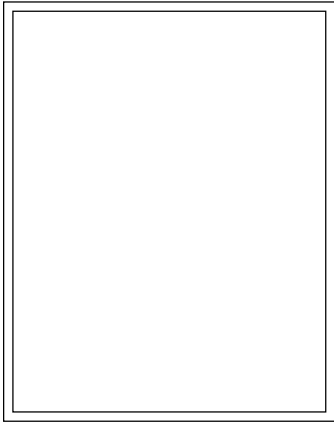
Lesley students gather at 81 Carson Ave

"I value the conversations I have had with the future home owners and the work experience itself," said Min-Jung Paik, a Wellesley student and long-time Habitat volunteer. "These experiences will continue to influence me and the decisions I will make in the future."

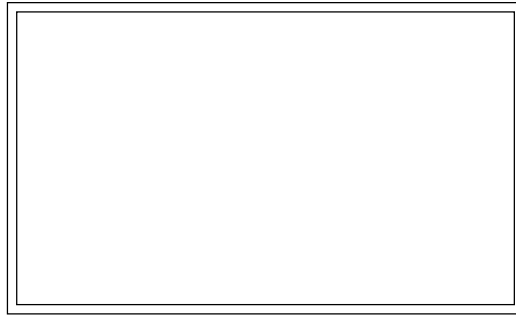
As always, this event and their work would not be possible without the support Habitat has received from the community. The students were accommodated by Head Start of Eastern Orange County, Grace Methodist Church, The Grail of Cornwall-On-Hudson, and Mount Saint Mary College's Kaplan Center. The Historic Society of Hudson Bay and Highlands, Calvary Presbyterian Church, First Congregational Church of Newburgh, Washington Headquarters State Historic Site, and the Polich Foundry have also opened their doors to the students.

Collegiate Challenge is a year-round program, coordinated through Habitat for Humanity International in Americus, GA. This year alone, 11,000 college and high school students will work on Habitat houses across the country during their spring breaks. In addition, these students have raised over \$1,000,000 for the 237 affiliates participating in the program.

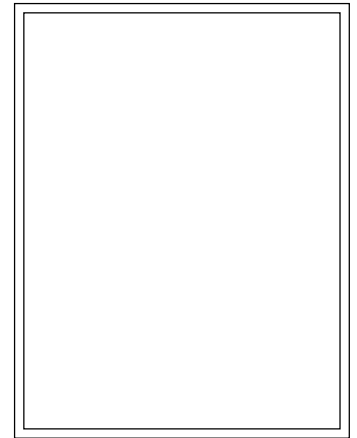
Call our office at 845-568-6035 for more information on the Annual Walk for Housing. Or, to learn more, visit www.habitatnewburgh.org



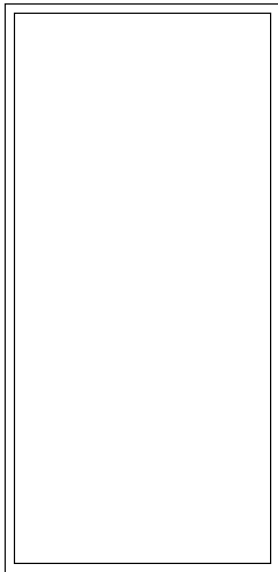
The Cruz family with advocate Martha Hasbrouck



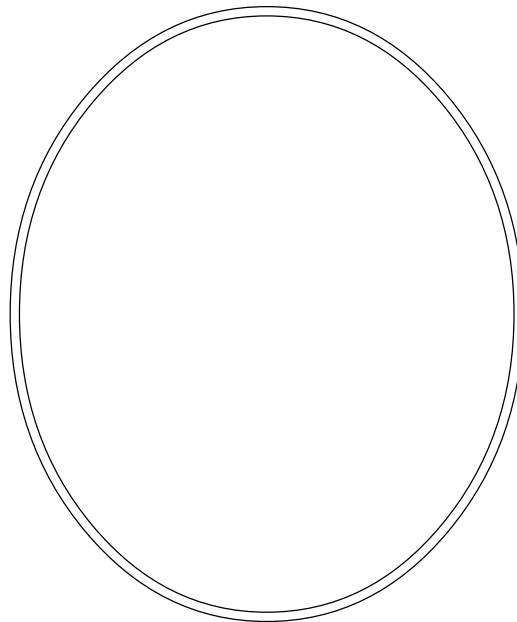
Mike DeVogel's team from Ira D. Conklin works hard to remove tanks at Monument St.



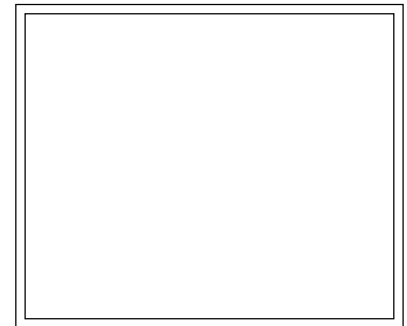
Linda Jones taking down walls at 81 Carson



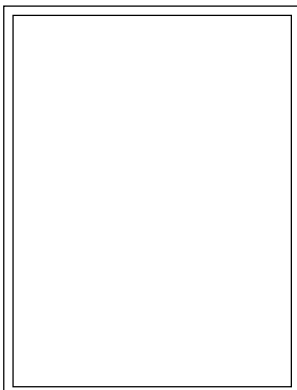
MSMC students Michelle Armstrong and Jessica Miller



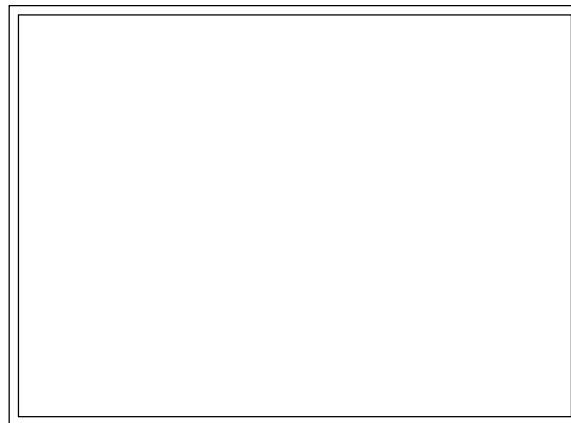
Bill Murphy with grandson Connor



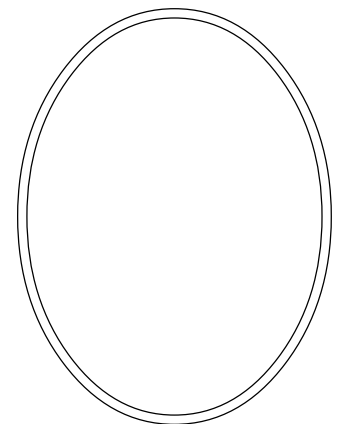
AmeriCorps VISTAs Nikki Drake and Michelle Bond with Kathy Wurster



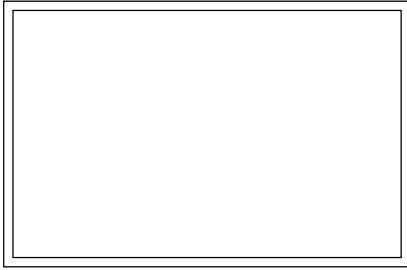
The DiCaprio's with Pastor Palmer at the dedication of their home



A group of happy golfers at the 2004 Golf Classic



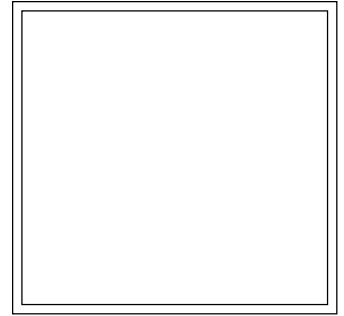
Come rain or shine - House Captain Celeste Bloomer at 81 Carson Ave.



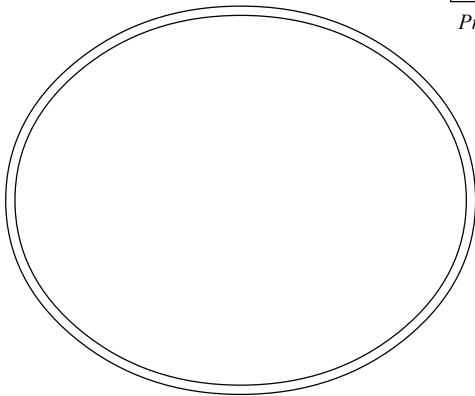
Team M&T at the Liberty Street Project



President Dave McTamane with Senator Bill Larkin at the 2004 Cocktail Party



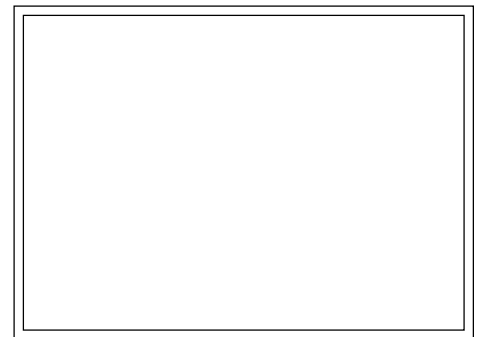
John McDermott, President of the Warwick Foundation with Sister Anne Sakac, President of MSMC and ED Deidre Glenn



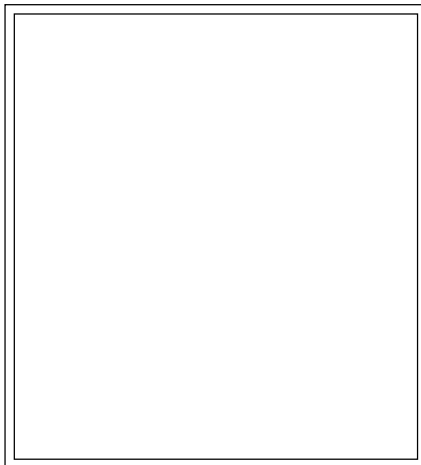
The 81 Carson Ave. crew gets ready for another day



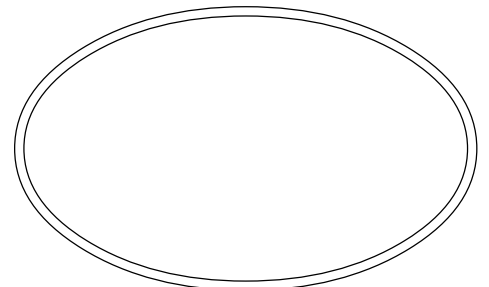
Wellesley College students lead-block the stairs at 204 North Miller St.



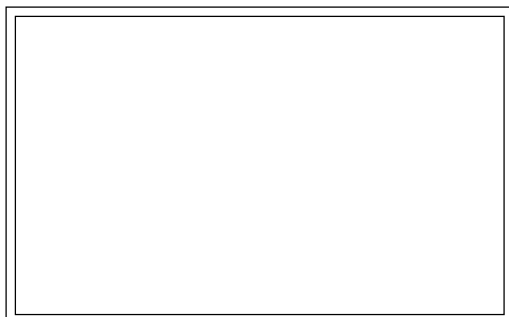
The team from Wachovia smile in front of Calvary Presbyterian



Artist and Habitat supporter Don Herron



Dr. McEwan and the Smiles for Life team at the 2004 Walkathon



Ralph Giddens and Pres. Dave McTamane in the basement of 81 Carson Ave.

BLESS THIS MESS!

Peter Smith, architect and Habitat board member, at the Monument Street Site

Inspiring Each Other to Support Habitat

continued from pg. 1

In November, 2004, St George's Episcopal Church of Newburgh hosted their first Episco-Build meeting. As of March, their partici-



St. George's Episcopal and Rev. Deborah Dresser walk for decent, affordable housing

pants included: Church of the Good Shepard, Newburgh; St Mark's, Chelsea; St Paul's, Chester; St John's, Cornwall; Holy Innocents & St Marks, Highland Falls; Fort Montgomery; St John's, Kingston; Christ's Church, Marlboro; St Anne's, Washingtonville; St George's, Newburgh; St Thomas, New Windsor; Christ's Church, Warwick; St Mary's, Tuxedo; St Andrew's, Walden;

St David's, Highland Mills; and Christ the King, Stoneridge. A grant from Trinity Wall St., NYC, has been awarded to Episco-Build in support of the mission.

The Episco-Build is holding two events (see calendar section): "Raise the Roof" - a humorous theatrical evening about Episcopalian life, and "Hip Hop Mass" - a Work & Worship gathering on site.

SMILES FOR LIFE

Help others while helping yourself! From March through June, local Crown Council dentist Dr. Lane McEwan is giving everyone the opportunity to give children a reason to smile- while giving themselves the gift of a brighter, more beautiful smile.

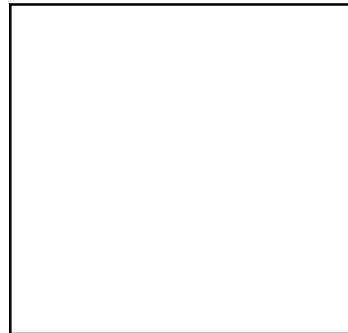
Dentists participating in the Smiles for Life campaign offer professional teeth whitening services at a considerably reduced price and donate 100 percent to children's charities. 50 percent of the money raised by Dr. McEwan will go to children's charities in communities across North America. The remaining 50 percent will be contributed to Habitat for Humanity in Newburgh, NY. Last year, Dr. McEwan and her team raised \$21,600 for the Smiles for Life Campaign and hopes to raise even more this year.

To whiten your smile and brighten the life of a child contact Dr. Lane McEwan and schedule an appointment before the end of May. Or, to learn more, visit www.smilesforlife.org.

Dr. Lane McEwan
5109 Rte. 9W
Newburgh, NY 12550
845-561-3689

NEWEST SITE FOR HABITAT HOMES?

- Offering Families a "Hand Up, Not a Hand Out" -



Habitat volunteers working with the volunteers from Ira D. Conklin & Sons, Inc.

Work has begun on the newest site - a large lot at **75 Monument St.** for which Habitat Newburgh plans a future build of three new affordable homes, architecturally designed to fit into the historic Washington Heights area. The city owned property, near South Junior High School, is

the site of the old Hopper Garage, now only burned out buildings. An environmental team from Ira D. Conklin & Sons, Inc, led by project manager Mike DeVogel, donated professional services for the environmental study of the lot. Mike's crew, accompanied by Martin Wodka, President of Team Environmental, donated their time and expertise to safely clear the site of hazardous material and pave the way for Habitat to acquire this city-owned property. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh builds homes for hard-working, low-income families in the greater Newburgh area.

HISTORIC KINGSTON-NEWBURGH TROLLEY SERVES HABITAT



The Historic Trolley on a tour

Anyone interested in knowing a little bit more about Habitat's work in the Newburgh area is invited to attend a Trolley Tour of the east end of Newburgh. Beginning at the Old Newburgh Court House with coffee and donuts, we board the trolley to tour the neighborhoods that Habitat Newburgh has focused on. The program begins at 11:00 and concludes by 12:15, and there is the opportunity to visit volunteers on-site at works in progress. Call the Habitat office at (845) 568-6035 for reservations.

HABITAT'S 6TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

Habitat's 6th Annual Golf Classic will be on May 16th at the Osiris Country Club, Walden. Chairman, Bill Murphy has once again rounded up an impressive lineup from the construction industry, and a wealth of prizes. A great time is planned. Proceeds from the event will sponsor the 4th Construction Industry House. For more information, call the Habitat office at 845-568-6035.



Chairman Bill Murphy at the 2004 Golf Classic

Board of Directors

Dave McTamane, President
 Moacyr (Moss) Calhelha, 1st Vice President
 Jim Ferguson, 2nd Vice President
 Anne Vollmer, Secretary
 Neil Drislane, Treasurer
 Dan Clarino
 Maureen Crush
 Al Favata
 Sandy Handler
 John Hutton
 Ginger Innes
 Christine McDuffie
 Judith McLaughlin
 William Murphy
 Pastor George Palmer
 Ian Rieger
 Peter Smith
 Dae Vitale
 Ed Webber

Committee Chairs

Board Development: William Murphy
 Development: Moacyr (Moss) Calhelha
 Finance: New Committee
 Building: Jim Ferguson & William Murphy
 Site Selection: Al Favata & Peter Smith
 Ministry Relations: Pastor Palmer & Gayle Weyand
 Family Selection: Judy Byrne, Sandy Handler & Judy McLaughlin
 Family Support: Suzanne Dawes & Karen Van Den Berg
 Volunteer: New Committee

Staff

Deirdre Glenn, Executive Director
 Bonnie McCormick, Resource Development Manager
 Jack Pierce, Site and Construction Facilitator
 Judith Deming, AmeriCorps VISTA
 Jessica Sun, AmeriCorps VISTA
 Jan Barber, Part-time Office Staff
 Christina Webster, Part-time Office Staff

Calling All Volunteers...

By Judith Deming, VISTA Volunteer Coordinator

When volunteers think of participating with Habitat they almost certainly think first of house construction. We couldn't build without our wonderful on-site crew, which includes our partner families. However there are any number of non-construction roles for volunteers, on site and off. Here is a list of "Job Openings" at Habitat:

Site Organization: which includes keeping site cleaned up and visible materials organized, especially at the end of the day so we leave the site clean and safe, working with Captain of the site.

Errands and Supply Runners: which can be a crew-member who is willing to assist Jack in picking up heavy/multiple orders, as needed. A person available on non-regular build days is also needed when we have heavy deliveries.

Dump Runners: would be part of a complex system of disposal of various materials from site, and also assisting with dumpster planning and set-up, working with Dave and Jack. The times may vary from regular site hours.

Coffee Breaks: A very flexible job, part of a team of volunteers and staff, setting up coffee breaks (and sometimes lunches for meetings), 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM on Wednesday or Saturday (and maybe other build days). Choose a regularly scheduled day to work either alone or with a friend. This is a job in which a child or youth under age 16 can participate with parent.

Volunteer Orientation: be available to host new workers and groups on-site. Includes showing safety video to groups. Work with Jessica with planning and hosting group work camps.

Office Help - Mailings: We often need a group to get together to put out large mailings under the direction of Jan. The times and days are "as needed", and usually involve a full morning and/or afternoon, working with a crew. Very flexible hours – once every month or two.

Office Help – Data Entry: Assisting our office staff with up-dating information into our new computer program. We need help during office hours working (in cramped quarters) with Bonnie and Christina.

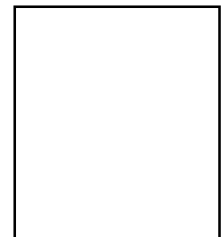
Event Coordination: This involves many possible levels of activity from planning events (chairing committees such as Walk-a-Thon) to phone-athons, to food preparation, to set up/clean up, and includes many diverse functions (name your skill) and possible time commitments.

In addition to these jobs, we have **eight committees** that support the organization: Family Selection, Family Support, Site Selection, Building Committee, Ministerial Relations, Public Relations, Development, and Volunteer.

If you would like to help, please contact the Habitat office at (845) 568-6035 or visit our website at www.habitatnewburgh.org

WELCOME BONNIE

Bonnie McCormick has accepted the position of Resource Development Manager, a full-time staff position supported by Habitat's 'Capacity Building' grant from Habitat International. Bonnie comes to us from International Paper, where she was Manager of Technical Service Support and Testing Standardization.



Bonnie McCormick



UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 1st: 6th Annual Walkathon
"Taking Habitat to New Heights"
- May 14th: Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour
- May 16th: Habitat Golf Classic - Osiris Country Club
- June 16th: OCAR Boat Ride
- June 25th: Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour
Dedication of the 17th House
Hip Hop Habitat
- July 30th: Raise the Roof Event
- July 30th: Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour
Dedication of the 18th House
- August 27th: Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour
- September 22nd: Beautiful Day Breakfast

WISH LIST 2005

TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Dump Trailer
- Contractor's Table Saw
- 10" Chop Saw
- Sawzall - Corded
- 1/2" Hammer Drill - Corded
- Jig (saber) Saw - Heavy Duty
- Belt Sander - 3" X 21"
- 18V Cordless Drill/Driver with Charger
- Wet/Dry Shop Vac (6-8 gal)
- 6 Ft. Level
- Ratcheting Socket Set - 1/2" Drive

VOLUNTEERS WITH SPECIAL SKILLS

- Framers, Roofers and Masons
- Drywall Installers
- Architectural Interns
- Data Entry Specialists



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