

in this issue

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Women Build a Better Bucks | 1-2 |
| Gilmore Saves Lunch Money | 2 |
| Giddyup to the Hoedown! | 3 |
| Thank You Notes | 3 |
| Director's Corner | 4 |
| Tribute Gifts | 6 |
| Volunteer Spotlight | 6 |
| Farewell, AmeriCorps! | 6 |
| Collegiate Challenge | 7 |

upcoming events

OCTOBER 15

Habitat's Fifteenth Annual Holiday Card will be available for purchase at local retailers and through our products website page, www.habitatbucks.org/shopProducts.asp.

NOVEMBER 5

Save this date for a **Harvest Hoedown** in Milford Township! Enjoy a live auction, square-dancing, chuck wagon food, games and prizes at this fun event taking place in our big, red barn 6-9pm. For tickets and information, call Joe at ext. 303; j.morrison@habitatbucks.org. See page 3.

NOVEMBER 5-6

You're invited to the Elizabethan Christmas Open House! See page 4.

NOVEMBER 25

Register for the **4th Annual Habitat for Humanity 5K Race** taking place at the Quakertown United Methodist Church and organized by the Quakertown Rotary Club. For more information, see details on page 3.

DECEMBER DATE TBA

Stay tuned to www.habitatbucks.org, for details about the very first **Emerald Hollow Phase II** dedication of homes!

JANUARY 26

Join us for the Women Build 2006 Kickoff Meeting! For more information, contact Laura at x302; l.mcclellan@habitatbucks.org.

MARCH 13-17

Fifth annual Collegiate Challenge at Emerald Hollow. See page 7 for details.

APRIL 8

Come to the Re-Sale event at our red barn in Milford Township. Read more on page 3.

It's about...

Women Building a Better Bucks

In March 2005, Habitat Bucks launched Women Build! Women Build is a program about opportunities for women: Opportunities to become homeowners and improve their lives and the lives of their children; opportunities to develop and use real construction skills to eliminate substandard housing in Bucks County and worldwide.

Since 1950, the number of households headed by single women has grown by 400%! Unfortunately, less than half of those women own their homes.

Children of homeowners perform better in school and experience fewer behavioral and health problems. Yet the group responsible for the well-being of so many children—single moms—is increasingly being denied access to a most basic human right that greatly impacts their development—a home. Women themselves are also positively impacted by becoming homeowners. They are more likely to experience job growth and increased feelings of self-worth.

Additionally, volunteers are the lifeblood of Habitat Bucks. Without them, we could not fulfill our mission. Yet while women make up 47% of our volunteer force, they represent only 17% of construction volunteers. For numerous reasons, women are not stepping up to the challenge of construction. Women Build is meant to address both of these issues by providing a comfortable, non-threatening atmosphere in which women can develop construction skills, while creating the opportunity for more women to achieve homeownership.

The defining characteristic of Women Build is that women are leading the charge. The program, which culminates in an annual building event, is entirely planned, fundraised for and promoted by the efforts of area women. More than 90 women make up six planning teams (activities, food, fundraising, public relations, training and volunteer) and more than 250



Sharon Swatkowski, Bev Cupo, Sandi Ives, Deb Thorrick, Linda Andrews, Elaine Garity and Gretchen Van Horn raise their first wall at the Quakertown Lowe's Women Build Training Clinic on 20 April. Basic training clinics, being offered in both the Quakertown and Warrington locations, are the first step to becoming a crew leader on the Habitat construction site.

women receive program updates and are involved in various ways. "Getting to know so many women has been the best part for me," says Kelly Hile, outreach director. "This program truly has something for everyone, so we are working with a wonderfully diverse group of women."

Linda Andrews, co-leader of the Training Team, had worked with Habitat as a member of the Bucks-Mont NARI (National Association of the Remodeling Industry), of which she is the executive director. When asked what led her to Women Build, Linda explained, "I enjoyed volunteering for Habitat, but I was a little frustrated because when I was on the site with a group of professionals, I was largely entrusted with bringing them materials and food & beverages," she laughs, "I wanted to feel like I was really contributing." Women Build is not about excluding men (or professionals), but about including women.

The Women Build program offers a unique opportunity for area businesses and organizations to partner with Habitat Bucks. Lowe's Home Improvement is providing a major component of the program through their partnership. From March through October, Lowe's of Quakertown and Warrington are providing training clinics to Women Build participants free of charge. Basic clinics in cycles of four are open to all. In

continued on page 2

continued from page 1

addition, advanced training classes are being offered for women training to become crew leaders. These women will receive additional on-site training and participate in a leadership seminar before being certified to lead groups of volunteers on the construction site.

The Women Build 2005 fundraising goal is \$70,000. The cost of materials for one home amounts to \$60,000 of that amount. Because the affordable housing crisis and its effect on women and their families are not only Bucks County problems, however, Habitat Bucks is committed to tithing a portion of our funds raised to assist affiliates abroad. The Women Build program also incorporates the tithe, extending the impact of the program beyond our borders and battling the poverty and substandard housing women face locally and worldwide.

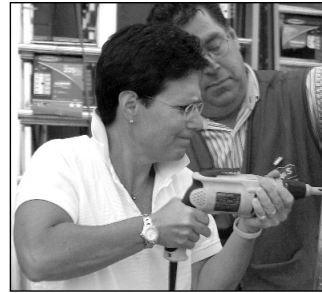
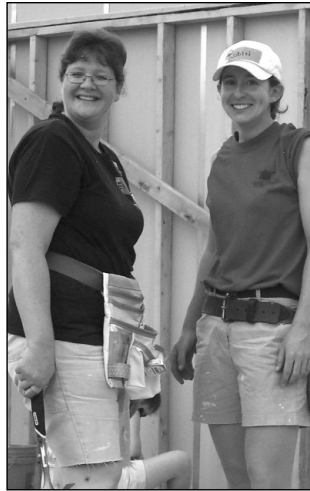
Women Build Week 2005, October 16-22, while culminating this year's program, is just the beginning. Following the event, space will regularly be held on the construction site to allow women to come out and build together. Women Build crew leaders will be encouraged to continue leading groups—of men and women—throughout the year. Planning teams will reconvene after a short break to begin preparing for Women Build 2006. The incredible momentum of Women Build looks to be shaping up into a fantastic second year!

Interested in Women Build? Contact Laura at 215.348.2204 x302; l.mcclellan@habitatbucks.org.

The Women Build Program is made possible in part by the support of Lowe's Home Improvement, Home Builders Association of Bucks/Montgomery Counties, GMAC Mortgage, GMAC Commercial, Jones Apparel Group Incorporated.

Women Build Advisory Chairs:

- Dawn D. Byers, *Central Bucks Healthier Community Team, Executive Director*
- Diane Gibbons, *Bucks County District Attorney*
- Jeanne Mantell, *Bucks County Women's Fund*
- Sandra A. Miller, *Bucks County Commissioner*
- Deanna Mindler, *Upper Bucks Chamber of Commerce, Executive Director*



Left: **Crew Leader-in-Training Elaine Garity and Habitat Bucks staff member Robin Fraser take a break from framing on the Habitat construction site.**

Center: **Lowe's Home Improvement of Warrington staff member, Rob Beck, oversees a Women Build-er at the Lowe's Women Build Drywall Clinic.**

Right: **Bev Cupo, a Women Build Crew Leader-in-Training, receives detailed instruction on framing from Ray Luszcak, Habitat Bucks's Construction Director.**

All Women Build photographs were taken by Evelyn Taylor. Evelyn has volunteered her photography skills to Habitat Bucks since 2004.

"We loved the idea of doing something for Habitat. We were given great suggestions on how to get involved so it was easy to participate."

--Bob Solarz, chief operating officer of Gilmore and Associates

A Month of Lunches Equals Big Bucks for Habitat!

New Britain company, Gilmore & Associates, Inc., a local provider of engineering and consulting services, designated March as Habitat Month! During the month, the company bought employees lunch in exchange for their contributions to the mission of Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County and then matched the amount collected. The check, totaling \$2,040 raised by the Gilmore staff and even a few clients, was recently presented to the Habitat staff.

"What [Habitat] is doing is commendable. We don't have many vehicles for affordable housing in this county. It was a fun and easy way to get involved—food gets our group every time!" laughed Steve Gilmore, president of the company. "It was a lot of fun. We had very enthusiastic participation from our employees,"

agreed Gilmore's Chief Operating Officer, Bob Solarz, "We even had a couple of our clients involved. Normally, we'd invite them out to

lunch, but once they heard about Habitat, they insisted on paying themselves." Gilmore & Associates' participation comes as a result of a recent request to designate a "Habitat Month." There are many ideas available for your own company's participation. If you'd like an ideas sheet or would like to support Habitat in some unique way, please contact Joe Morrison at 215.348.2204 x303;

j.morrison@habitatbucks.org, or visit us on the web under "Sponsorship Opportunities."



Gilmore + Associates: (From left to right) **Joe Morrison, deputy director of administration and finance at Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County; Steve Gilmore, president of Gilmore & Associates, Inc.; Bob Solarz, chief operating officer, Gilmore & Associates, Inc.; Trish Kriger, executive director at Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County.** Gilmore and Solarz recently presented a check in the amount of \$2,040 to Habitat. The check represents funds raised from Gilmore and Associates participation in Habitat Month.

Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County
OUR MISSION: To build affordable homes, better lives, stronger families and safer communities through partnerships with people and organizations throughout Bucks County.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF BUCKS COUNTY
From 2005-2008, Habitat for Humanity will build 36 affordable homes in Bucks County. Each home will require a commitment of 2000 volunteer hours and financial contributions averaging \$4,250 per day. Habitat relies strictly on the generosity and commitment of our neighbors and partner families to provide these resources, and to make safe, affordable housing a matter of conscience and action in our community.

"Yee Haw!" The Hoedown is Coming

The Second Annual Harvest Hoedown will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2005 from 3pm-9pm at our big red barn in Milford Township, PA.

We are currently seeking items (valued at \$500 or more) for a live auction to be held as part of the Harvest Hoedown. Examples of auction items being sought include vacation home packages, artwork, home decorations, catered functions and gift certificates. We hope to attract items related to the event's "Hearth and Home" theme, but every gift received will be welcomed for auction.

In addition to the live auction, the Hoedown will feature live music by The Blue Mountain Gang, square-dancing, old-time photos, chuck wagon food, pony rides, craft vendors and a wide range of games and prizes. This unique event is the perfect occasion to mix and mingle, catch up with friends, get reacquainted with neighbors and have a great time supporting the vital work that Habitat Bucks is doing right here in the community!

Tickets are only \$25 each (children under 12 are free) and are available for purchase through www.habitatbucks.org or by contacting Joe at 215.348.2204 x303; j.morrison@habitatbucks.org.

Exercise Off Those Thanksgiving Calories

Start training for the Fourth Annual Habitat for Humanity 5K! The Quakertown Rotary Club and Quakertown United Methodist Church are hosting the Third Annual Habitat for Humanity 5K Race at the Quakertown United Methodist Church, 1875 Frier Road, on Saturday, November 27.

Registration opens at 8:45am, and the race starts at 10am. Along with awards for the top male and female runners in various age groups, there will be a raffle for gift certificates and prizes—including homemade pies! All proceeds of the race benefit Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County.

"This is the fourth year for the run and the field has grown from 100 in 2002 to almost 175 last year," says race organizer, Bill Tuszynski. "Somebody's set a new course record every year and I hope that the string continues. The course is challenging but fair, it's a good test for experienced racers while being doable for casual runners and walkers. We'll have a few new wrinkles on food and prizes to keep things fun and, as always, I've got my tux ready to go!"

For more information and for registration, stay tuned to the Habitat Bucks website (www.habitatbucks.org) or email Bill at wtuszynski@comcast.net.

Habitat to Re-Conduct a Re-Sale!

Habitat Bucks will once again host a Bargain Barn Re-Sale on Saturday, April 8, 2006. We are currently looking for new and unused building materials and supplies, including lumber, carpeting, windows, doors and unopened paint; lighting and interior fixtures; new appliances; new and gently used garden, power and hand tools; extension ladders; new and gently used furniture and children's items such as strollers and playpens. We are unable to accept used appliances, clothing, toys, books or small household items.

Items collected will be "re-sold" to the general public and funds raised will benefit Habitat Bucks' mission. For more information or to arrange for drop-off of items, please email info@habitatbucks.org with "Resale" in the subject line.

THANK YOU NOTES

Joann McGowan and Erin McDonald for joining the development team as researchers. Their behind-the-scenes work may be unseen by our readers, but it won't go unappreciated! Thanks for sharing your talent!

Thanks to everyone who supported the HOPE152 CAMPAIGN. During a four-month time period, 249 people contributed \$42,542 to the effort. Your generosity is sincerely treasured and helped put another family (Sarah and Tyler Kelsh) into a safe and affordable home. Thank you kindly!



Tyler Kelsh loves his new home.

The QUAKERTOWN ROTARY recently made a grant of \$1,000 to Habitat Bucks. Their annual support, ushered in this year by Rotary President and Habitat Board Member Bill Tuszynski, is one example of the many friends on which we rely to fulfill our mission. All gifts, small and large, are needed and valued.

We appreciate the support provided recently by UNIVEST NATIONAL BANK. After a brief meeting between Joe Morrison, Trish Kriger and President and COO Leon Moyer, a check arrived for \$5,000 representing a grant to be used in support of our work at Emerald Hollow.

The SECOND ANNUAL MINIATURE GOLF TOURNAMENT was held this month at the Sylvan Golf Center. This year's event was once again



Players young and old enjoyed the weather and fun at the recent Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County Miniature Golf Tournament that raised \$2,000 for Habitat.

sponsored by the Doylestown Moose Lodge and raised over \$2,700 to benefit Habitat—nearly twice the amount raised last year! The day was fun for all ages with two groups taking home the honors of best team: The Redhatters Club and Tyndale, Inc. (also last year's overall winner). Thanks to everyone involved, especially event coordinator, Eric Detweiler, in making this event not only a success, but also a great time!

A LIBRARY HAS BEEN BORN. To help New Beginnings Community Church in Bristol set up a library for congregation members and their children, Habitat Bucks put

out an alert to our friends for new and used books. With the help of office members and volunteers, over 1500 books were collected and cataloged. In addition, we received a donation of two complete sets of encyclopedias! Thanks to all involved, especially Sam Martin, Habitat's office manager. Sam—who was a librarian in a previous life—provided the expertise and leadership needed to accomplish this big project. Welcome, New Beginnings Library!



director's corner

by Trish Kriger, Executive Director

On June 11th, Habitat Bucks celebrated the beginning of Phase II of Emerald Hollow Estates. The ceremony was held in conjunction with our annual volunteer picnic, which was moved to the barn at Emerald Hollow at the last minute because of a passing thunderstorm.

During the summer storm, many people looked out of the doorway of the barn's second floor. From that doorway, you could clearly see many of the 37 homes built by dedicated volunteers and now occupied by loving families. You could also see the first six foundations of the 36 homes that will be built over the next several years. As I recall the day, I remember thinking how that view was so telling—a snapshot of past accomplishments and future challenges.

Habitat Bucks has been blessed by the support of our community. Volunteers continue to dedicate themselves to providing safe, affordable homes for deserving families; so many in fact, that we are often unable to schedule a group for several months to a year. Unfortunately, we have more groups that want to volunteer than funds to build houses. We estimate that based on the total budget and the schedule for Phase II, each home will require 2,000 volunteer hours and an investment of \$4,250 per day. Support from Bucks County for a portion of the land and infrastructure costs has given us a head start on fundraising, but we continue to rely on churches, organizations, businesses, foundations and individuals to provide the remaining resources to provide homes and hope for future families.

We are so thankful for the support of our community in the past, and ask you to continue your commitment to the Habitat mission by offering your prayers, time, talents and financial support in the future. Together, we will make safe, affordable housing a matter of conscience and action in Bucks County.

Young Gardeners Use Their Green Thumbs to Help Habitat

Habitat Bucks places great importance on the youth of our community. We are not content to simply tell them about Habitat's mission—we want to see them get involved. So we are excited to find a dedicated group of young volunteers, even more so when it is an entire school! The students of Kutz Elementary School in Doylestown have volunteered with Habitat Bucks over the past five years in a multitude of ways.

Jill Talarico, the librarian at Kutz, ensures that Habitat remains front and center as a student volunteer opportunity each year. In addition to her regular duties, Jill heads up the school's Green Thumb Club. This group has participated in most of our youth

programs. In 2003, they hosted a Birdhouse Blitz Build. The birdhouses were sold to raise funds by both a silent auction at the school and at a booth manned by club members at our Harvest Hoedown. The club then purchased trees with the money raised and came to Emerald Hollow in the spring to plant them.

Kutz is best known, however, for their support of our Collegiate Challenge program. Groups of college students visit us to build for a week each spring break. Kutz students, from all grades, have long provided lunches for these volunteers.

"Providing lunches" is an understatement, however. Our volunteers are overwhelmed by the veritable cornucopia of yummy things collected and prepared for them by the elementary schoolers. This year, Kutz also provided a video camera for our visiting group to record their week. The group then visited the school to watch the video with the students, discuss their experience and get in some good recess time. Most touching,



though, are the handmade cards, individualized for each visiting volunteer that have become a tradition. It is that personal touch that keeps volunteers returning year after year.



The Kutz Elementary Green Thumb Club finishes up a day of tree planting at Emerald Hollow in Trumbauersville. As participants in the GREENscaping program, club members raised funds for trees and then came out in April to plant them.



Elizabethan Christmas Open House

Make plans to visit the Elizabethan Christmas Open House (to be featured in the Winter 2006 Bucks County Magazine) **November 5th and 6th** to do some holiday shopping! A wide array of products will be showcased, including classic Christmas stockings, glass icicles and stained glass snowflakes. Come take in the beauty of the holidays, nibble on a Christmas cookie and listen to live piano.

Tickets for the open house are \$5 and all proceeds benefit area community agencies, including Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County. Located in Bedminster, PA, Elizabethan Christmas is convenient to Philadelphia and New York. For more information, visit the Elizabethan Christmas website at www.elizabethanchristmas.com or call 215.249.0198.

Local Women's Clubs Raise \$7,400 for Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County

The Newcomers Club of Central Bucks and Encores Club of Doylestown, at a recent luncheon, presented Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County a \$7,400 check representing monies raised during their annual fundraising gala.

This is the third consecutive year that Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County was chosen to benefit from this event, Bet Your Lucky Stars, which raised a total of \$22,200 this year and was distributed among three local organizations (Camp Discovery and Twilight Wish Foundation were the other recipients).

"Our organization works very hard every year to acquire sponsorship and donations from local merchants and members, so nearly all of the event's proceeds go directly toward the chosen charities," says Newcomers Club President Kris Blaser.

Our sincerest appreciation goes out to all the members of both clubs for their work all year long in helping to support the Habitat mission—thanks, ladies!



Ransome CAT Makes Rental Donation

Renting construction equipment can be a major investment even for the most profitable contractors. But for non-profit organizations like ours, investing in much-needed heavy equipment is not even an option; rather, when it comes time to expand or update our equipment, we mostly rely on the generosity of others.

One local business, Ransome CAT, of Bensalem, PA, recently showed their generosity by donating three machines to the cause—a D4 dozer, a 236 skid steer and a vibratory plate compactor.

According to Mike Fallon, deputy director of construction, Habitat staff used the CAT machines for one month as they finished grading work and filling in stone around the houses' foundations. Fallon said, "[Ransome CAT] handled the delivery and pick-up of all three machines. After our meeting, the equipment was delivered to our site the next day. When we were finished, they came and picked [the machines] up," said Fallon. He added that this donation helped Habitat save nearly \$5,000 per week in rental fees.



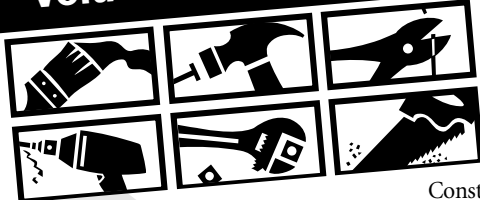
Steven Argue, construction/safety coordinator at Habitat Bucks, puts to work the bulldozer provided by Ransome Rent.

They Shoot, They Score...for Habitat Bucks!

Fort Washington Elementary School held their annual Fifth Grade vs. Teachers' Basketball Game and all the proceeds from the event went to Habitat. As a representative of Habitat, Community Relations Manager, Dan O'Connor, was honored to play on the teachers' team—even though they lost the game! The gym of Upper Dublin High School was packed with teachers, students, parents and friends. There were cheerleaders, a rally band, a DJ and posters rooting for favorite players throughout the gym. The event raised \$3,500; the school presented the check at their May Town Hall Meeting (the meeting is planned and implemented entirely by the students). Thanks, students and teachers, for a great game!

Dan accepts a check from Fort Washington Elementary School principal, William DeCollo.

Volunteer Spotlight



Dave Wert, a teacher at Poquessing Middle School in Neshaminy School District, decided to enhance his teaching abilities in an unconventional way over the past year. He took a sabbatical and fulfilled his requirement of 360 hours of work by attending classes and volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. Habitat Bucks was a natural choice for the Technology Education Instructor, who figured his experiences volunteering would be very relevant to the Architecture and Interior Design class he teaches each year.

He fit right in on the construction site, where he accom-

plished everything from installing interior trim to laying block to building decks. Described by

Construction Director Ray Luszczak as "a nice guy, very adaptable to whatever we were working on," he even provided tips to the crew while they installed a split rail fence along the Emerald Hollow Phase II property line. The construction crew was so impressed with his work that they awarded him the Volunteer of the Month Award for November 2004. The relationships he developed with the staff continued beyond his volunteer work, as he, along with his wife, Alaina, and two children, William and Gabriella, hosted Habitat's



Dave Wert

AmeriCorps members to a dinner at his house, on which he is currently putting an addition.

Wert also participates in volunteer projects with his church, Deep Run Presbyterian, the same congregation to which

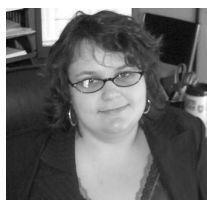
two Habitat partner families, Sarah Kelsh and Cheryl Moore, belong. He donated the hours he worked on the construction site towards their sweat equity require-

ments. Overall, Wert describes his experience with Habitat this past year as "awesome, I loved it, it was very rewarding. Anyone who has a chance should come out sometime." We hope to continue seeing him on the construction site for years to come!

Farewell, AmeriCorps!

Another year of AmeriCorps service has come to an end, as Jill Bakkum, Pete Cataldo and Gina Diliberti will all finish their terms over the summer. Their fun, easy-going attitudes and strong work ethics will be sorely missed. Next year, Gina will continue working with Habitat, serving as an AmeriCorps member in her hometown with Habitat for Humanity Milwaukee. Jill is also looking to pursue her AmeriCorps*VISTA service for a second year in Montana. Pete will begin pursuing a Master's Degree in Social Work at New York University. Good luck to all three of them in their future endeavors! Thank you for your invaluable contributions!

In addition, Melissa Trainor has completed her AmeriCorps*VISTA year of service as Habitat Bucks' family program associate. Melissa recently took a position at Central Bucks Healthier Community Team in Doylestown and the Habitat families and staff miss her terribly! We wish her well in her new job and thank her for her tremendous year of hard work, dedication and compassion. Her time here was well served in helping to restructure the expanding family program department, and in keeping it running smoothly while Stefanie took maternity leave this past fall. Melissa is a current and active member of the family support committee.



Jill Bakkum



Pete Cataldo



Gina Diliberti



Melissa Trainor

Tribute Gifts

(From 3/1/05 – 8/31/05)

Thank you all for your generous support and contributions.

IN MEMORY OF...

David Bonyng

*Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Arkans
Gerry Kaplan*

Heather Coddington

Mr. and Mrs. Barbara Siegfried

John Cron

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kirsch

Andrea Crossan

Holly Perpall

Harvey Crouthamel

Elizabeth Porter

Bob Emery

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Yerkes

Gertrude Forgay

Frank and Janet Pagenkemper

Joan Geonnotti

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hrin

John Hoin, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schramm

Fred Nye

Wayne Bishop

Sally Styles

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Verruto

Patricia Tosh

Evelyn Diamond

Tom Wright

Mr. and Mrs. William Hager

IN HONOR OF...

Habitat Volunteers

Charles and Margie Horton

John Kugel, Danielle Lamina and Tim Volz

Carol Plesser

Kurfiss Real Estate

Kayla Corso

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew T. Corso

C. Dale Hartshorne

Evelyn Hartshorne

Dan Kendra

Krempa Associates Inc.

Dan and Sue Kepich

Carol Plesser

Kurfiss Real Estate

Don Weiner

Catherine Adamoyurka

Jessica Williams

Joann Williams

Support Habitat Bucks while getting your caffeine fix



Through a partnership with Café Campesino, a fair trade coffee company located in Americus, GA, you can now purchase Habitat House Blend Fair Trade coffee. You can

purchase the coffee (whole bean or ground) online at our website, www.habitatbucks.org/shopProducts.asp, or stop in to our New Britain office or the Doylestown Bookshop to pick up a bag!

College Students: Donate your Spring Break

Collegiate Challenge Week asks high school and college groups to volunteer their school breaks in the name of helping others achieve homeownership. Each year, Habitat Bucks hosts two weeks of Collegiate Challenge groups. The groups spend their week learning building skills and then help build homes in Habitat's Emerald Hollow community. For most groups, Pennsylvania is not their home, so they travel to our location

and sleep in a local church basement, Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church, and shower at the Upper Bucks YMCA. We end the week with a celebratory dinner to honor their service and hard work.

Collegiate Challenge Week involves the whole community. Each year, we receive help from many churches, schools, community centers and individuals willing to provide lunches, dinners, welcome cards and banners, sleeping

arrangements, shower facilities, t-shirt sponsors and many other ways. We need the help of the community to achieve a truly meaningful week for these students! Please consider being a part of the Collegiate Challenge Week in 2006 by helping provide one or several of the items listed above.

Contact Dan at
215.348.2204 x312;
d.oconnor@habitatbucks.org.

What a Difference You Can Make!

This newsletter has a circulation of about 4,000 readers. What if each one of you used this reply card right now to mail \$25? Or even \$30 or \$50? Imagine the difference your gift would make when combined with so many others from concerned readers across the county and throughout the surrounding area.

Just \$25 from each reader would lift one family out of hopelessness and into a simple, affordable home of their own right here in Bucks County. And, it would also help build two additional homes elsewhere in the world through our tithe on that gift. Your gift can make a real difference both here and abroad. Your gift today can change lives tomorrow.

Bucks County's housing need is immense, but so is our resolve to meet it. Won't you consider sending a gift today? Even if it's just \$25.

YES! I wish to participate in Habitat's \$25-per-reader campaign or increase my gift as indicated below.

- ☐ \$250
☐ \$100
☐ \$50
☐ \$25
☐ Other: _____

Payment Information

Please charge my donation to:

- ☐ Check enclosed
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

We all have special people who have touched our lives. Who has inspired you? You may use your donation to honor him or her:

☐ My gift is in honor of: _____

☐ My gift is in memory of: _____

Please send acknowledgement to: _____

Donor Information

Name _____

Home Phone _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law. Please make checks payable to Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County or HFHBC.

Please send this form and payment to HFHBC, 215 Matthews Avenue, New Britain, PA 18901.

Habitat Families Enjoy Day at Franklin Institute

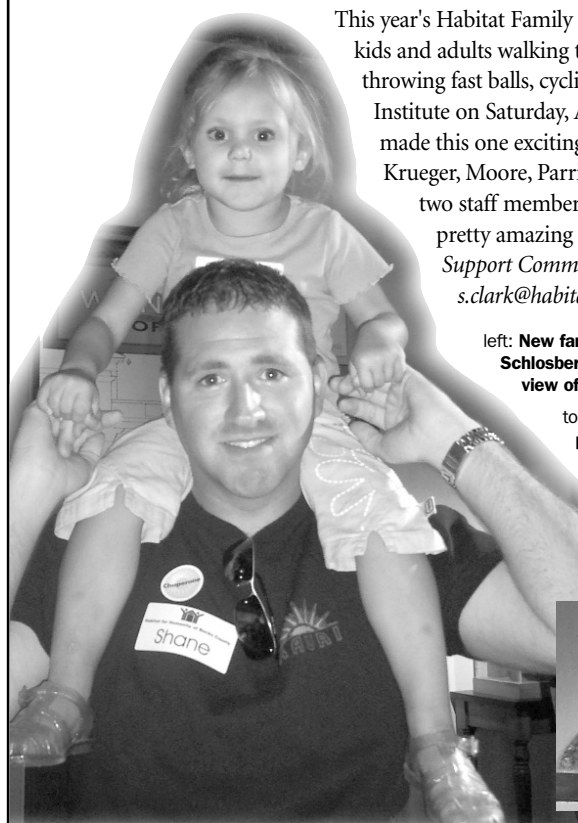
This year's Habitat Family Outing, sponsored by the Family Support Committee, had kids and adults walking through a giant heart, taking a deep-sea adventure, throwing fast balls, cycling in the sky and putting sparks in the air at the Franklin Institute on Saturday, August 27. Thanks to all of the families who attended and made this one exciting day: Argue, Besse, Bonfig, Carroll, Cole, Kausar-Bashir, Krueger, Moore, Parrish, Remick and Williams. Five committee members and two staff members also joined in the fun. Next year's trip will have to be pretty amazing to top this year! *For more information about the Family Support Committee, please contact Stefanie at 215.348.2204 x307 s.clark@habitatbucks.org.*

left: **New family support partner, Shane Schlosberg, gives Kille Remick a bird's eye view of the exhibits.**

top right: **Amina Sohail creates girl-powered electricity!**

bottom center: **Have no fear! Faith Carroll is at the helm!**

bottom right: **Vincent and Alyssia Besse of Emerald Hollow "take flight."**



wish list

- Bobcat
- 2-hp electric air compressors
- Small shop vacs (3 gallon)
- 21 oz. hammers
- Tape measures (25-30 ft.)
- Utility knives
- Molded plug extension cords
- Vibrating plate tamper
- 2-bag gas mortar mixer

Coming Home is produced by Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County

Editor: Mikaela D. Martin

Assistant Editor: Stefanie Clark

Contributors: Kelly A. Hile, Joseph J. Morrison, Laura McClellan, Dan O'Connor

Design: Kelli Regan, The Lightbulb Lab, Inc.

Printing: Old York Road Printing



**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
OF BUCKS COUNTY**

215 Matthews Avenue
New Britain, PA 18901
www.habitatbucks.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Member Agency



**United Way
of Bucks County**

Board of Directors

President, Steve Bauman, *T.H. Properties*
Vice President, Jim Dowling, *Ethan Allen, Inc.*
Treasurer, Julie Davis, *Dunlap & Associates*
Secretary, Lawrence A. Reinfield, *Attorney at Law*
William D. Kee, P.E., *Cowan Associates, Inc.*
Rev. Bernie Kelly, *St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church*
Paul Landes, *High Aim Resources*
Gena McCleary, *Prudential Fox + Roach*
Jennifer A. Stark, AIA, *Stark & Associates, P. C.*
Bill Tuszyński, *White Eagle Group*

Advisory Board

Tom Bisko, *Quakertown National Bank*
John Davis, *Borough of Doylestown*
Michael Fitzpatrick, *Congressman, 8th District*
Todd Hendricks, *T.H. Properties*
Dan Kendra, *Precision Solutions, Inc.*
Hal Margolit, *Drucker & Scaccetti, PC*
John Panichella, *GE Waterworks Technology*
Andrew Swinney, *Philadelphia Foundation*
Peter S. Thompson, *Attorney at Law*

Staff Members

Steven Argue, *construction/safety coordinator* • Craig Bennett, *construction coordinator* • Laura Blair, *finance director* • Vincent Cipriano, *construction coordinator* • Stefanie Clark, *family program director* • Mike Fallon, *deputy director of construction* • Robin Fraser, *construction coordinator* • Kelly Hile, *outreach director* • Trish Kriger, *executive director* • Ray Luszczak, *construction director* • Mikaela Martin, *marketing & public relations director* • Sam Martin, *office manager* • Joe Morrison, *deputy director of administration & finance* • Laura McClellan, *volunteer coordinator (AmeriCorps)* • Daniel O'Connor, *community relations manager* • Jennifer Williams, *construction leader (AmeriCorps)*

NON PROF ORG
U.S. Postage
PAID
No. 79
Doylestown,
PA 18901