



THE CARPENTER'S JOURNAL



HABITAT HOME AT 1124 Barrett Street, Schenectady
(above) is now home to The Harris Family; Kelly, Michael and their five children.

Jeff Clark, HFH Exec. Director and Union College President Stephen Ainlay (below—far right) were on hand for the home's Dedication Ceremony this past May 2008.



UNION COLLEGE'S DONATED HOUSE TO HABITAT NOW "DREAM COME TRUE" TO FAMILY OF SEVEN

One of Habitat's main objectives is to bring hard working, inner-city families into home ownership and out of overcrowded, sub-standard rental housing situations.

The Harris family found renting for their large family difficult because the assumption is that they may ruin a landlord's property. Last year, out of desperation, they rented a 1,000 square foot cottage for the seven of them. Three of their daughters bunked in one small bedroom and two sons in another, which made for overcrowding for the children. Living there during remodeling of the house revealed an infestation of mice and a missing cellar door that

never seemed to get installed making the house cold, drafty and expensive to heat in the winter.

Upon hearing of Habitat's call for a large partner family for the Barrett Street property, the Harris' applied and were approved. Kelly had just graduated from nursing school at Ellis Hospital's School of Nursing and currently works at Bellevue Hospital in Niskayuna as a nurse. The family has settled in nicely and "it's a dream come true for my family," says Kelly.

When Habitat acquired the two story, two apartment frame house from Union College as a donation, it had been vacant for several years. It needed total gutting

to bring it back to a single family structure. Rehabbing would have been a daunting job were it not for the commitment by Union College students and staff to stand by us and see the project through to completion. Businesses came through with volunteer labor and material that helped with the restoration. "Eventually there was light at the end of the tunnel as the house began to shape up into a lovely structure with enough space for a large family of seven to thrive in," stated Jeff Clark, Habitat Executive Director. "The Harris children may also qualify for scholarship opportunities at Union College. Habitat works for families needing a hand up."

Dreams do come true. ♦

THRIVENT BUILD HOME IN WOODLAWN COMPLETED

Tonia White and her family recently became the proud owners of a Habitat home at 2943 Coniston Road, Schenectady.

The original house was demolished due to the owner's death, and subsequent infestation by squirrels. The donated property was selected

as Thrivent Builds site for a Habitat home for 2008. Thrivent is a national fund set up by the Lutheran Church which appropriates grants to selected Habitat affiliates countrywide to build homes with support by local Lutheran churches and their congregations.

Mary T. Gray, Thrivent "Champion" acted as the liaison for local churches helping coordinate volunteers to help build, raise money, arrange lunches and encourage involvement.

This home is Habitat's twenty second since 1993. ♦



Partner family mom Tonia White thanks everyone for their support during the Sunday, Oct. 24th Home Dedication Ceremony for her Coniston Rd., Schenectady Habitat home.

Send your donation to help build Habitat homes to:
P.O. Box 9043, Schenectady, New York 12308

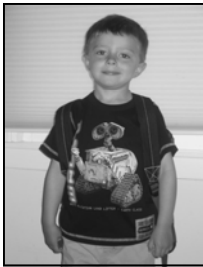
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COMMUNITY NOTES

◆ **In Memory** of Sylvia Ryder Ebeling, Habitat friend and supporter, age 88, March 26th, 2008.

◆ **Special thanks** to Girl Scout Troop #2519—Jefferson School in the Schalmont School District who visited the ReStore on Dec. 6, 2007 and Junior Girl Scout Troop #2280 of Rotterdam who visited the ReStore Feb. 25, 2008, for educational tours.

◆ **Special thanks** to Ryce Ferguson who turned 4 years old last May and raised \$250 at his birthday party.



He donated the money to Habitat for Humanity's "Lunch Angel Program." Our volunteer builders thank Ryce for making lunches for them!

HABITAT FUNDRAISER

The 2nd Annual "TEAM BUILD" Bowl-A-Thon is scheduled for Sunday, April 5th, 2009 at 1 P.M. Bowl for fun and prizes and get a team together to compete with others. Individuals who want to bowl for Habitat will be placed on a team. There is no registration fee, bowlers raising a minimum of \$100 in sponsorships will receive an event T-shirt. Bowlers can raise money online as well as in person. For information, call the Habitat office for Darlyne at 395-3412.

GRANTS TO HABITAT

◆ **COVENANT FUND**—\$40,000—First Reformed Church of Schenectady became our "Building On Faith" project partner for 41 Verona Ave. for the Wagner family (with disabilities)

◆ **MISSIONER'S FUND**—First Reformed Church of Schenectady. Underwrite salary for ReStore Coordinator position.

◆ **CARLILIAN FOUNDATION**—\$5,000—Grant to be used toward special equipment for 41 Verona Ave. for the Wagner family (with disabilities)

◆ **COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION** - Funding of the Construction Coordinator position for 3 years.

◆ **SEFA Campaign** pledges to Habitat for Schenectady through the United Way has a new donor charity number: SEFA #50-3069.

2008/2009

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ReSTORE CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR WITH SUCCESS

The Habitat ReStore has been embraced by many who find its recycling for a greener environment a great idea. ReStore is the only retail operation of its kind in Schenectady County, saving 50 tons of disposed materials from the landfill each year by selling it for reuse to customers. If you're looking for home improvement merchandise, used appliances, good used furniture, hardware, lighting and just about anything else home-related, stop by during our regular hours; Thurs. & Fri., 10 - 5, and Sat., 10 - 2. We accept donations of material in good to excellent, usable condition, but request a phone call for approval first. The ReStore is open to the general public. Volunteers are welcome.

HABITAT QUILT WINDING UP

Calling all quilters! The 2009 Quilt raffle is up and running, and you are invited to submit a quilt square for submission. All proceeds from the raffle benefit Habitat in its mission to build Habitat homes in Schenectady. Each year the quilt is made through the effort of volunteers.

For further information, go to our website www.hfhscny.org.

HABITAT RECOGNIZES VOLUNTEERS

◆ Vic Mion of Anthony Mion & Sons was recently recognized with the Vic Mion Service Award in recognition of his years of service to Habitat.

◆ Recognized for faithful volunteer service: (building activity); Bernie Witkowski (AI Finke Award), and Virginia Newton

◆ Volunteer Services award: "Lunch Lady" Lynn Makrin

◆ ReStore awards: Jenny Mann, volunteer office manager and ReStore delivery/pickup dispatcher, and Tom Mace, volunteer

We think **ALL** our volunteers are Special People!!