

Land Bank Project Launched

The Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat for Humanity has launched a Land Bank Fundraising Project designed to raise the necessary funds to purchase suitable building lots throughout the Affiliate's jurisdiction.

Nine homes have been completed to date, all on donated land. However, to meet the goals established by the Affiliate board several years ago to build at least one home a year, it is not possible to rely on land being donated by individuals or municipalities.

The lack of land is the most challenging aspect to building Habitat homes, especially as land costs increase each year.

The Affiliate purchased its first building lot this Spring at 44 South George Street in Belleville. Students and staff at St Theresa Secondary School have been working for over a year to prepare for the 2008 build. Representatives from the school and the Affiliate were unsuccessful in persuading the city of Belleville to provide a lot, so the purchase was made.

To ensure future builds can happen, Affiliate volunteers have initiated the Land Bank Program. Foundations, corporations and individuals are being asked to contribute to a Land Bank fund to be used only for the purchase of building lots for Habitat home builds in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties in



Prince Edward Habitat for Humanity and Belleville's St Theresa Secondary School volunteers may have got a bit wet at the sod turning ceremony for the 10th Habitat home build in the area at 44 South George Street in Belleville April 28, but they were all smiles to begin the 2008 build. The build is being organized in partnership with the students and staff of St Theresa Secondary School, one of only two high school sponsored builds ever done in the area, and possibly, Canada. In 2003, Trenton's St Paul's Secondary School built a home in Trenton.

the years ahead. For information please contact Melanie at 613-969-1415.

Golf Tournament set for June 19

Habitat for Humanity Invitational Golf Tournament, hosted by Quinte & District Real Estate Board, is set for Thursday, June 19th at the Bay of Quinte Country Club.

Check out the information on this web page where you will find a registration

form and contact numbers so you can spend a wonderful day on the links while helping to raise funds for our local Habitat for Humanity Affiliate.

There's a great auction, steak supper, lunch and a golf cart. Tournament sponsor is Rona Cashway Building Supplies, Belleville.

Proceeds from the tournament are donated to Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat for Humanity.

Affiliate ED joins Team Canada in the 2008 Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project in New Orleans May 11-18

By Melanie Flynn

They say that New Orleans is on the road to recovery after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck in 2005. It is a true statement, but also very misleading. There is evidence of the storms in every corner of every neighborhood once outside of the heart of the French Quarter and other tourist areas. Houses and properties lay in ruins as though Katrina came ashore just last week. Broken windows and empty hallways leave once vibrant communities silent.

Spray painted markers on porches and doors stand out like wounds that won't heal announcing to the world the date the home was checked for survivors and if the house is safe to live in.

The families still living in the ruin of the 9th Ward have become accustomed to their children playing amongst the glass and debris which spills forth from the abandoned properties on a daily basis. The pride of home ownership for those families who stayed, or returned after the storm is apparent.

It is the modest homes obviously cared for and



Affiliate Executive Director, Melanie Flynn stands with new Habitat home owner, Vanessa Anderson, in front of her new home in New Orleans in May.

maintained which sit amongst abandoned, rotting properties that provide shining moments of clarity.

It is the smile and appreciation of the people of New Orleans where recovery is most apparent. So many people just left and never came back, so their houses sit in ruins and there isn't anything anyone can do about it. The state or Parish can't clean it up or tear it down without permission from the owner and finding them is like looking for a needle in a haystack.

Some people wanted to just forget, so they vacated, never thinking that that were leaving a horrible and dangerous reminder to the community they left behind to deal with.

The spirit of those still there fighting the good fight is strong and unwavering. It's like they've forgotten it was almost three years ago and they believe in their hearts that right around

the corner will be salvation. It's typical of southern community – big food, big family, big faith and heart and determination enough to stick it out no matter what.

The New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity is now the largest builder in the city moving from building five to ten houses per year prior to the storms to upwards of 200 homes per year since. They have made tremendous strides in St. Bernard's Parish taking on not only building homes, but gutting existing ones for renovation.

Habitat for Humanity is changing the face of the city for the better, providing a safe and decent place to live for partner families. Building homes and building hope in an area where both were lost.

As for me, I joined the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project with excitement and trepidation. As a very new member to the Habitat family it

was such a pleasure to have the opportunity to make this remarkable journey to New Orleans as a member of “Team Canada”.

I was a bit intimidated at the thought of participating in a blitz build when I was still so new to the wonders of home building but with each smile and bit of direction I received, I quickly felt useful in my own small way....

Many hands, no matter how insignificant the job seems, truly do make light work.

In five days team Canada erected two homes on Law Street in the Upper 9th Ward. We worked alongside the families who will bless the home with pride, love and prosperity. These families will once again have an address and a place to call home.

Vanessa Anderson, the new owner of the home on 3115 Law Street said “I will pay the mortgage with a sense of purpose. With Habitat I am helping to re-build my neighborhood. I will smile and be grateful each time I walk through my front door because I know that buried just to the right, under the drywall is a Canada flag.”



Many areas of New Orleans still suffer from the storms three years ago.

Habitat for Humanity

Vanessa Anderson

Hi my name is Vanessa Anderson. I am the proud mother of three kids, Larry Anderson, LaCreda Anerson, and Jilian Anderson. I am a high school graduate from Nichalls Senior High and I work for Tulane University Hospital as a Radiology File Tech for seven years. I have a family of six who I love very much. I am so glad I applied to the Habitat programs because it allowed me to keep my family together.

Because of the storm, we all live out of a FEMA trailer at 3121 Law St. And I still praise God because we all are blessed that I am able to get a home of my own. This has been a dream of mine since I was a little girl and it finally came to life. Thank you.



Melanie hard at work.



Meet Team Canada



The walls go up...



Jimmy Carter on site...



The Blitz build...from basement to a complete house in one week. Phew!



From the President's desk...

It has been a busy year for us. We completed a home in Flinton with thanks to our great committee headed by Ruth Peck, with site supervisor Rob Bonter, and the generous donation of land and money from Chisholms of Roslin, hired a new executive director, Melanie Flynn and commenced another Belleville build in partnership with St Theresa Secondary School.

We also purchased back a house from a family who was transferred, and have just completed its renovation and sale to a new Habitat family.

We had a very successful home tour, ham supper, and other smaller scale fund raising activities.

Norah Buckley, President



Annual General Meeting

June 18, 7:00 pm

St. Thomas Parish Centre

North east corner of Bridge Street East and Church Streets
(entrance off Bridge Street), Belleville.

613-969-1415

Guest Speaker

Melanie Flynn talks about her week in New Orleans at the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project May 11-16

Visit our ReStore at 393 Sidney St., Belleville



Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat for Humanity Affiliate President, Norah Buckley, chats with Doug Chisholm at the Flinton build site last summer. The Chisholm family business donated the land and \$20,000 worth of materials for the build.

ReStore on summer hours and 2008 Salvage program starts

Our Habitat ReStore at 393 Sidney Street has now switched to summer hours.

The store is open six days a week, Monday to Saturday, 9 to 5.

Stock is always changing too. Recently Rob Bradshaw, ReStore Manager, acquired a whole flatbed truck load of brand new shingles. A large shipment of Minwax wood stains is in stock.

More materials are arriving daily now that the ReStore Salvage Program is underway for another year.

Last year the salvage crews saved many tons of materials from houses, barns and cottages in the area.

Check it out....

Want to get involved in the Habitat build this Spring and Summer?

- + Work at the site in Belleville
- + donate new materials for the build
- + Make a financial donation
- + Bring coffee for the workers
- + Bring greetings and a smile to those on site

**Call Melanie 613-969-1415 or drop in at the build site,
44 South George Street in Belleville**

The Home Depot Canada launches fundraising project to support Habitat for Humanity: Buy a House. Build a Home.

The Home Depot Canada is a proud sponsor of Habitat for Humanity and has assisted in the many builds locally over the years. The following, *Buy a house. Build a Home* information describes the latest campaign of support as published on their web site. See the link on our site for more information.

“We invite you to make a \$2 donation while shopping with us on-line, or you can purchase a ‘paper house’ while

shopping in our stores. Proceeds raised through the *Buy a House. Build a Home* campaign, which runs from May 29 to June 29, 2008, will benefit Habitat for Humanity in Canada.

The Home Depot Canada is proud to be the leading supporter of Habitat for Humanity in Canada with annual donations exceeding \$3 million in cash and in-kind contributions. We share Habitat’s commitment to affordable housing for all

Canadians and encourage our customers to join us in making a positive and meaningful difference in the lives of Canadian families in need of a hand up.

We would also like to thank our partners, CGC, CIL Dulux, and Square D - a brand of Schneider Electric, for donating a percentage of their sales on specified products to Habitat for Humanity throughout this month long campaign.”



Volunteer brings Bell award to Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat

Habitat volunteer, Dave Stapley, a retired Bell Canada employee, brought more than his skills to the local Affiliate recently, a cheque for \$500 from Bell Canada.

Bell Canada awards \$500 after 50 hours of volunteer work. During 2007, Bell’s volunteer program generated grants of 1.5 million to 1,400 charities and community sporting groups.

To volunteer for the local Habitat Affiliate, call Melanie at 613-969-1415 for details.