

## St Theresa school can be proud of successful build

St. Theresa's Habitat for Humanity committee is proud to announce the completion of the 2008 build. With over \$50,000 raised in contributions, along with a variety of donations of materials/supplies, the only remaining work to be done is sod and shrubs in the spring.

The family moved in on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December and, with a house dedication on the 20<sup>th</sup>, they were able to spend Christmas in their new home.

The whole experience took 19 months from start to finish. Some of the original students who did a presentation to Belleville City Hall in May of 2007, have graduated and moved on to bigger and better things: their contribution will not be forgotten.

The ground breaking and construction was started in May 2008. Over 60 different students were able to work at the site, with an additional 600 taking part in fund raisers at the school. Over 40 businesses and an additional 50 plus volunteers from the community helped make this build a reality. The total volunteer hours amount to just under 6000, a truly amazing testament to the kindness and generosity of the people in the Quinte area.

Post build, St. Theresa's will



*Laverne Rohrback and his wife Cheryl at the December 2008 dedication of their new Habitat home with their three grandchildren, nine-year-old Christopher, his twin sister, Tala, and little sister, Rebekah, 5, he and his wife are raising.*

continue to fund raise and volunteer for future builds. Although the task seemed overwhelming at times, the lessons learned and memories made will last a life time.

It has been said that nothing worth while is ever easy and the students and staff of St. Theresa have certainly learned that. But with most acts of charity it seems the people who contribute get far more out of the experience than they give. Well done St. Theresa's.

## 2009 build set for Picton

The 2009 Habitat build is set for a Barker Street lot in Picton this summer.

Volunteers from Bloomfield's Bethany Christian Reformed Church are heading up the project with help from members of the 2004/05 Prince Edward County build and the Affiliate.

The family selection process is well underway with an information meeting February 7th at the church in Bloomfield.

*"This is such a huge blessing for us and has given these kids a place they can call home for decades to come. This will give them an opportunity to settle down and feel secure now and that will make such a huge difference in their lives. They know they're at home now and this is where they belong." Laverne Rohrback, Dec. 20th, 2008*

# It takes many individuals and local and national companies to build a Habitat house.



## Habitat for Humanity salutes the supporters of our 2008 home build in Belleville, completed just before Christmas.

### *Supporting Business and Services*

Armtec  
Dafoe Roofing  
Hunter Douglas Canada Inc  
L2B Enviro Systems Inc  
Leviton Manufacturing Inc  
Ontario ICF Supply Inc.  
Belleville Home Building Centre  
Kennelly Heating & Air Cond.  
Martin Design & Drafting Studios  
Terry Vader Excavating  
Crane Canada  
NCC Corporation  
Whirlpool Home Appliances Cdn.  
St. Theresa Secondary School

Viewtech Windows  
Dayton Manufacturing  
Bellevue Self Storage  
Schneider Electric Ltd.  
Torlys Flooring Inc.  
Quinte Concrete Pumping  
MHS Contracting  
Robert Bellemare Const.  
Lafarge North America Ltd.  
W.R. Wollerman Surveying  
Connan Nursery  
Bernard Interiors  
The Cabinet Shoppe  
Fred Sigma Carpentry

Canarm Ltd.  
Eaton Electric  
ICI Paints  
Styiletto Design Inc.  
Bardon Supplies Ltd.  
Brite Electric  
Veridian  
Vanark Electric  
Porter Brothers  
Electro-Cables Inc.  
Bob Wood Const.  
Wilson Carpet  
Koet's Plumbing  
Habitat Re-Store  
Doug Story Drywall

### *Individuals and Volunteers*

Staff and Students of St. Theresa Secondary  
Vince Hatherley  
Bob Bellemare  
Derek Hilton  
Anthony Todd  
Kelly McMurter  
Wendy Hay  
Brian Turner  
Ruby-Ann Pringle

John Brisbois  
Gary Sopaz  
Len Smith  
Brent Hogan  
Rob Porter  
Tanya Vinkle  
Mark Almeida  
Cheryl Hunt

Mike Campbell  
Nancy McKeown  
Nathan Paddock  
Chris Woods  
Trudy McFarlane  
Anita Bredore  
Maureen Rashotte  
Steve Roach  
Lynn Hunt

Friends and Family of the Rorhbacks.  
Paul Denison  
Robert Ryan  
Wonda Fox  
Eileen Sopaz  
Marilyn McNarmara

**Site/Project Supervisor :Gary Sopaz**  
**Site Supervisors : John Brisbois,**  
**Paul Denison, Mike Campbell**



*Executive Director, Melanie Flynn tees off at the annual Quinte and District Real Estate Board golf tournament in June in support of Habitat for Humanity. About \$10,000 was raised to help fund the latest home build during the summer.*

## Sixth annual curling bonspiel set to go for February 22

The sixth annual Habitat for Humanity Curling Bonspiel set for February 22 at the Picton Curling Club will be extra special this year very much like the first one was.

Six years ago, the first Habitat for Humanity home build project was in the advanced planning stages resulting in two homes built in Picton in 2004.

This year, the third Habitat home construction for Prince Edward County is in the planning stages and is set to begin this summer on a Picton lot near the high school.

The mixed Habitat for Humanity Charity Bonspiel will be a fun competition as a mid-winter fundraising event in support of the 2009 Habitat build project in Picton. The Picton build will be the 11<sup>th</sup> Habitat home built by the Prince Edward-

Hastings Habitat for Humanity Affiliate.

A build committee from Bethany Christian Reformed Church in Bloomfield will be leading the project this time around with help from members of the original County build committee.

The curling bonspiel at the Picton Curling Club on Sunday February 22 will be a one-day event and the \$100 team entrance fee will include a hot meal and prizes along with lots of curling fun. A total of 16 teams can be accommodated.

“Teams can be mixed, all male, all female, whatever people want to do. We just want to have some fun and raise money for Habitat,” said bonspiel planning committee chair, Patrick Phillips.

“Many teams have already been formed, so if your business or club wants to get into the bonspiel, you’d better call for registration and pledge sheets right away before a February 1 deadline he said.

Each team member will be asked to gather pledges on behalf of the Habitat project as part of the day’s activities.

Information, registration and pledge sheets are available at the web site, [www.habitatpeh.org](http://www.habitatpeh.org). or contact Patrick Phillips, bonspiel planning committee chair, at 613-476-0027.

### Set aside Maple in the County weekend for Habitat fundraising breakfast



March 28 and 29 will see an army of Habitat volunteers preparing and serving a weekend’s worth of maple syrup pancake breakfasts at Honey Wagon Farms sugar bush in Prince Edward County.

Over 700 breakfasts were served to both adults and children during the last event. Funds raised will go toward the 2009 Habitat home build in Picton which may be one of the most unique home builds in Canada.

Watch for the Maple in the County brochures and check out [www.mapleinthecounty.ca](http://www.mapleinthecounty.ca).

# Family selection is first step in building a Habitat home in Picton this summer

Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat for Humanity is looking for a new homeowner for the next Habitat home to be built near the high school in Picton this summer.

An information meeting for qualified Habitat home buyers is set for Feb 7 at 10:30 am at Bethany Christian Reformed Church, Main Street Bloomfield.

A meeting was held in November where several families came forward and applications were handed out. Applications will be available at the February meeting.

To qualify, families must need better housing which means the existing home is too small for the number and gender of children, the house has structural deficiencies, or the rent is too high a percentage of income for housing cost.

Qualifying low-income families must have a steady income and be able to pay the mortgage (no down payment required and mortgage is interest free) and must agree to partner with Habitat which means cooperating with Habitat throughout the selection process and doing 500 hours of volunteer work building their home, called sweat equity.

"Usually the monthly payments that include insurance and taxes are the same or less than what a family currently pays in rent," said Family Selection Committee member, Muriel Brand

All questions potential home buyers may have will be addressed at the February meeting and help is available for completing the application process.

"We like to have a family selected well in advance of actual construction," said Habitat board member Nancy Hofford. "That way we can design the house to meet their needs."

"Habitat homes can be built to accommodate the physically disabled or parents with large families for example," She said.

There is no down payment and the mortgage is zero percent. Families must put in 500 hours of "sweat equity" in the building of the home.

The Picton home to be built on a Barker Street lot will be an energy efficient home with the latest in heating and energy conservation technology and could include a construction design unique to Habitat homes in Canada. The 2008 build in Belleville met the Energy Star standards with in-floor heating, extra insulation and Energy Star rated windows and appliances. Operating costs for such homes is low compared to standard home construction.

Members of Bloomfield's Bethany Christian Reformed Church, with help from the volunteers who built the first two Habitat homes in Picton in 2004/05, will work with the Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat for Humanity Affiliate to complete the home this summer.

The first two County Habitat homes were completed in January 2005. This past sum-

mer, the Affiliate with the help of students, staff and parents from St. Theresa Secondary School completed the tenth Habitat home in the area at a site in Belleville.

For further details go to *Apply for a Home* page or call Melanie at 613-969-1415.

Contributions to the 2009 Prince Edward County build can be in dollars or in kind. Members of the Picton Rotary Club, for example, will be on site with hammers in hand during the build as their contribution to Habitat for Humanity's goal to help give low income members of the community the chance to purchase their own home.

See the *Make a Donation* page to learn how you can help.

## ReStore welcomes Lowes as newest partner

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

**The store is open five days a week, Tuesday to Saturday, 8 to 5, during the winter.**

Stock is always changing too. Rob Bradshaw, ReStore manager, is pleased to have the new Lowes in Belleville as a partner.

Lowes has already made some substantial contributions of surplus materials to the ReStore.

## Want to get involved in the Habitat build this Summer?

- + Work at the site in Picton
- + 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,  
Barker Street, Picton, near the High school.



*Habitat volunteer John Zikopoulos auctions the remaining pies at the annual Ham Supper fundraising event held in the Fall in Belleville. The event raised \$1,700.*



*The Habitat for Humanity ReStore Salvage crew had a very busy summer that didn't end until the snow started to fly in November. Crews worked at salvaging items from homes, cottages and a series of old chicken barns in Prince Edward County. Materials from the barns alone raised nearly \$12,000. For 2008, 75 tons of materials were diverted from land fill sites in the region. The crew will return to the barns in the spring to finish up there. To book a salvage operation call Rob at the ReStore, 613-962-7526.*



*Melanie Flynn, Executive Director*

## **A fabulous build season says Executive Director, Melanie Flynn**

What a fabulous build season we have had! As always, the spring, summer and fall months are our busiest. Since our last Newsletter in the spring, we have opened the door to home ownership for two families! We had the pleasure of rededicating one of our habitat homes this summer. The first partner family had amazing success in breaking the cycle of poverty and has moved on to a new community with a new home purchased with a conventional mortgage on the open market. These are the stories that sustain us and drive us to continue the amazing work of Habitat for Humanity!

The true scope of our impact remains an ambiguous one to many, but for those close to the heart of the organization, shining moments of

clarity are in the very simple, almost mundane tasks that many take for granted. We see our purpose in the faces of family members as they sign their very first mortgage papers, when they make their first payment and when they use their key to unlock the door of their new home for the very first time. It is not only the key to a home that many families never thought they would have the chance to own, but also the key to the beginnings of a successful future.

The 2008 build, also referred to as the St. Theresa's build was an amazing adventure into the unknown for us. Using innovative building systems and new technology, we were able to build a more environmentally friendly home. It was a learning experience which has encouraged us to delve deeper into sustainable building projects. We will be pursuing building homes designed for both comfort and economy with features that will keep the daily living costs down for our partner families. The partner family for this special project celebrated with an indoor dedication ceremony on December 20<sup>th</sup> and was able to celebrate the Christmas season in their new home!

### ***Affiliate reaches out to help needy in Tajikistan***

The house on South George Street was our 10<sup>th</sup> home build and an amazing anniversary for us. This fabulous celebration will be punctuated with another amazing build project in a remote

corner of the world. The Prince Edward Hasting Habitat for Humanity participates in a "house for a house" program through the international office. This means that for every house we build locally, we contribute funds to build another house in an underdeveloped country. This year, in honor of our 10<sup>th</sup> local build, I will be travelling to Tajikistan on a Global Village team to help build our 10<sup>th</sup> house internationally. Tajikistan borders Afghanistan, China, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan and 80% of the population lives in poverty. We have raised over \$1500 toward this project and need an additional \$3500 to make it happen. We have an incredible event coming up for local youth to get involved in "thinking globally and acting locally" to help fund more projects in our own backyard and on the other side of our globe – Watch for news on the website in coming weeks!

I will leave you with one of my favorite quotes from Oscar nominated screenwriter, Randall Wallace (Braveheart, Pearl Harbor, The Man in the Iron Mask)

"Habitat for Humanity is a perpetual motion miracle. Everyone who receives, gives – and everyone who gives, receives. If you want to live complacent and uninspired, stay away from Habitat. Come close to Habitat and it will change you and make you part of something that changes the world".

***To donate in support of the 2009 Global Village initiative visit the Make a Donation page on this web site or call Melanie at 613-969-1415***

## New board member to grow Faith Relations Committee

Sharon Donahoe, who joined the Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat for Humanity board of directors in 2008 is the new chair of the Affiliate Faith Relations Committee.

She is building the committee with volunteers and establishing contacts with parishes in our jurisdiction. It's a big job considering we operate throughout all of Hastings and Prince Edward counties.

"We will start working on the ones in PEC because of the upcoming build", she said.

Habitat for Humanity, founded as a Christian based organization, is not affiliated with any individual church or church group but enjoys the support of many churches and faith groups.

Part of the Faith Relations Committee's role is to encourage churches to pray for and to become advocates for those in need of shelter.

The 2009 Habitat build project is a prime example of how churches in the area can get involved as Bloomfield's Bethany Christian Reformed Church is leading the project. Since 2004, when the first County build got underway, the church has been a financial supporter of the local Affiliate as well.

Habitat Canada has a separate department whose role is to help advise and provide programs and resources to local Affiliate Faith Committees.

Each year there are several national and international events that focus on the Christian foundations of Habitat for Humanity. Watch this web site for events in our area in 2009.



*Prayers were shared by the crowd at the rededication of one of our earlier Belleville homes after the original owner successfully moved jobs and city in 2008. A new Habitat family has purchased the home.*

Volunteers are always welcome to help out and Sharon would be happy to invite you to one of her committee meetings. Please call Melanie Flynn, Executive Director, 613-969-1415 for information.

## ReStore sales up in 2008 over 2007

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore continues to grow with sales up over those of last year to just over \$200,000. ReStore manager, Rob Bradshaw has set a 2009 goal for sales of \$250,000.

Bob Hoult, Assistant Manager, has agreed to a full time job with the ReStore after the grant program he had been on ends in February. Bob is a very valuable asset to the ReStore.

We were sad to learn that one of our Pathway volunteers, Freddy Warner, passed away over the holiday season. Freddy has been with us from the very start and will be greatly missed



You never know what you will find at the ReStore, 393 Sidney Street, Belleville. There's new and used whirlpool baths, sinks and toilets to new roofing shingles to every sort of lighting fixture you can imagine. There was even a brand new fridge donated by Lowes recently!

# Over 21,000 Volunteer Hours recorded in 2008

by Nancy Hofford  
Volunteer Chair

An organization like Habitat for Humanity runs on the energy and skills of its many volunteers. The 2008 year saw record numbers of volunteer hours accumulate in many varied activities.

House Build on George  
Street, Belleville  
ReStore Operation  
Salvage Operation  
Fundraisers  
Office Assistance

We would not exist without our dedicated, committed group of Volunteers. Board members alone contributed over 3000 hours organizing, fundraising and promoting Habitat for Humanity.

At the Volunteer Appreciation Christmas Party William "Will" Armstrong was recognized for his special contribution and commitment to the ReStore daily operations. Will can be seen at the ReStore helping organize the store and the refurbishing area and assisting customers with everything from finding items to cash and carry out. He is also often seen riding "shot gun" in the van on pick-up days.



*Many ReStore volunteers came out to the annual Christmas thank you night in December.*

We are grateful for our partnership with Pathways to Independence. Their ongoing support and leadership in the Salvage activities has been key to the success of the ReStore.

The new Community Hub that was set up by Volunteer Information Quinte has helped interested volunteers become more aware of our volunteer needs. This hub can be reached at [www.MyVolunteerPage.com](http://www.MyVolunteerPage.com).

Interested Volunteers are asked to fill out the Volunteer Application available on our web site: [www.habitatpeh.org](http://www.habitatpeh.org) and send it in to the address provided. Monthly Volunteer Orientation sessions are held to welcome new volunteers and determine their interests.

The 21,000 figure only represents the "recorded" hours. As Volunteer Chair, I know that many more hours go unrecorded.

2008 was a very successful year – a tribute to our terrific volunteers.

## Habitat welcomes Leon's store volunteers

Leon's of Canada has partnered with Habitat Canada for 2009 and the local Affiliate already has plans underway to welcome employees of the local Leon's stores to help out during the year.

Each store in Canada has offered 100 hours of employee volunteerism to Habitat affiliates.

Leon's volunteers will be found in the ReStore helping to reorganize the floor layout and apply their retailing expertise to the operation early in the new year. The 2009 build in Picton will provide an opportunity for volunteers as well.

"This shows how the corporate world can help our Habitat Affiliate achieve our goals of increasing housing for low income members of our community," said Volunteer Chair, Nancy Hofford.