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**CNY Blooms Preview Party Fundraiser**

CNY Blooms Fundraising Preview Party provided a fragrant and colorful escape from the cold, gray and snowy Syracuse Winter doldrums. Preview Party goers received a sneak peak at the CNY Blooms Syracuse Flower and Garden Show at the Conference Center at OnCenter, on Wednesday, February 27.



This first time fundraising event was a collaboration between Central New York Nursery & Landscape Association and Syracuse Habitat for Humanity. All money from the 248 tickets sold was donated to Syracuse, generating \$12,400.

Preview Party goers ambled through large gardens filled with fragrant flowers, mingled with nursery and landscaping experts, and were entertained by live music, while enjoying hors d'oeuvres and refreshments, including Mueller Farm's renowned, punch packing Pink Nectar.

The event would not have been a success without the generosity of our sponsors and the hard work of our volunteers. Syracuse Habitat wishes to express their thanks to the following people, companies and organizations for their support:

Sponsors

Central New York Nursery & Landscape Association, Grimm Investors Money Management, Holt Companies, Salina Abstract & Title Agency, Inc.

Volunteers

Stephanie Blanco, Luis Breyer, Carol Brown, Lily Dye, Pepo Tonu, Matt Palleschi, Sean Pandungtun, Jennifer Pietras, Jeff Rogers, Connie Saldicco, Ellen Sugarman, James Tartaglia, Molly Varner



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# From the Executive Director

There are many times when I cannot think of the right words to say and I look to people who have inspired me over time. I am sending the words of a beloved woman whom I admire and whom I am sure you do also. God Bless you and have a wonderful Spring!

## DO IT ANYWAY

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered;  
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;  
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;  
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank people may cheat you;  
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;  
Build anyway.

If you find serenity a happiness, they may be jealous;  
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, People will often forget tomorrow;  
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;  
Give the world the be you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;  
It was never between you and them anyway.

— *Mother Teresa*

In His Service and Honor,



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Alicia Steppawolfe — *ReStore Assistant Manager*

### Habitat Harbinger

2008 Habitat Harbinger is published periodically by Syracuse Habitat for Humanity, Inc. A Christian ecumenical organization, Habitat builds non-profit houses which are sold to selected families through interest free mortgages.

### Mission Statement

Syracuse Habitat for Humanity, Inc. works in partnership with God and people everywhere, from all walks of life, to develop communities with people in need by building houses so that there are decent houses in our communities in which people can live and grow into all that God intended.

Syracuse Habitat for Humanity Inc.  
is an equal housing opportunity  
organization.

308 Otisco Street  
Syracuse, New York 13204  
315 422 2230  
[www.syracusehabitat.org](http://www.syracusehabitat.org)



## SYRACUSE HABITAT NEWS BITES

### Destiny USA Donated Marble to the Syracuse ReStore

In keeping with their pursuit of green alternatives, Destiny USA donated to the ReStore for resale, 110 pieces of 2'x4', one inch thick, white marble pieces that had been removed from the former Lord & Taylor department store at Carousel Center.

So if your remodeling plans call for marble, please come to the ReStore. Individuals and contractor welcome.

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### Syracuse Rotary to Contribute \$5,700 to SHFH InterFaith House

This generous donation the InterFaith House, symbolizes the Syracuse Rotary Club's long-term faith and support in the SHFH mission.

.....

### Home Improvements? Remodeling?

Are you searching for low-cost doors, windows or a sink? Consider buying them at the Syracuse Restore. Do your remodeling activities live you with materials you no longer need but that someone else could use, consider donating them the Syracuse ReStore. Save money while helping the environment.

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308 Otisco Street Syracuse, NY 13204  
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## From the President



Winter doldrums and the news about our economy can create an atmosphere of great negativity. But winter does end, as do the tidings of a poor economy. It is important, therefore, that we focus on the positives in our lives and community, and in so doing, remember those who are undoubtedly less fortunate than we are.

Consider your own circumstances and note your abundance: family, friends, health, a child or grandchildren on the way, a home, faith. Unfortunately, there may be those things that are not so good, but I pray that for all of you, the good things largely outnumber the not so good ones.

So what is my point? Glad you asked.

While the grass may not be greener elsewhere, it is certainly brown and patchy for too many families in our community. You can confirm to yourself that while you may not be in great shape, you are undoubtedly better off than many. While you may be preoccupied with the cost of gasoline, you do have a car. While you may be concerned about your health, you do have health insurance. While the stock market may be upsetting your retirement plans, you do have a retirement account. And while the market may be blunting the value of your home, you do have a home.

In these uncertain times, we tend to look inwardly and go into a defensive mode, spending less and worrying more. However like the seasons, these concerns will pass. You know that to be true. Unfortunately, the families we serve cannot afford for us to wait until "things get better". They need our help *now*, perhaps more than ever, as the plight of the working poor becomes dramatically worse as the economy goes sideways.

"Be prudent with your resources" - that is always good advice. But if you feel the need to "cut back", please, please, please do not cut back on your support of our families and our mission. Remember, your dollars help the Syracuse economy: We buy our materials here, hire our specialty trades here, and are adding taxable property to the tax rolls. Your contribution is an investment in this community. With your help, we will all weather the current storm and be better on the other side, when it comes to its inevitable end.

*Mitchell J. Katz*

## Farewell and Welcome

Things have been changing here at the SHFH Office.

First, a farewell: Ms. Kristen Brandt decided to take an offer she simply could not refuse, and is no longer the Director of Resource Development. For those of you who have met Kristen and have worked with her, you know she did an amazing job here at SHFH. Her brilliance, creativity, sense of humor and smile will be missed.

Now for the welcomes: Ms. Lisa Gibson joined the SHFH team as Administrative Assistant in the SHFH office. Her organizational skills, ingenuity, patience, optimism and youthful enthusiasm are greatly appreciated around the office.

Another welcome to the SHFH goes to Stacey White. Stacey replaced Kristen as the new Director of Resource Development. Stacey brings to SHFH over seventeen years experience in new product market planning and strategy, and business development in the for-profit sector.

Both Stacey and Lisa look forward to meeting, working with and getting to know you.

## You've Been Busy!

*Here's what some of you have been up to...*

### Texas Road House and the Syracuse Crunch Bartending Fundraiser

On February 4, the Texas Road House hosted a fundraiser with the Syracuse Crunch. That evening the Crunch hockey team bartended at the Roadhouse and donated all their tips to Syracuse Habitat. An exciting time was had by all who attended.



### S.W.E.A.T. at the Bon-Ton for Syracuse Habitat

S.W.E.A.T. volunteers, organized by Donna Mathewson, participate in each of the Bon-Ton Community Days coupon sales that the Bon-Ton holds throughout the year. Shoppers received discounts while benefitting Syracuse Habitat. SHFH expresses its gratitude for the work of Donna and her volunteers during these sale days.

## An InterFaith Build International Dinner Fundraiser organized by I.C. Social Ministry Committee with Members of Islamic Society of Syracuse

*By Nancy Shepard*

On Sunday, February 10, An International Dinner fundraiser for the "InterFaith Build" of Syracuse Habitat for Humanity was held at Dwyer Hall of Immaculate Conception Church (I.C.), Fayetteville. The event was organized by the I.C. Social Ministry Committee chaired by Nancy Shepard. Master of Ceremonies Milt Hill welcomed the approximately 100 diners. Sister Monica Zmolek of I.C. said the blessing before the meal.

The dinner was an event that brought diverse people together on that snowy afternoon to share dinner and raise \$2,315 for Habitat for Humanity. Delicious international food was prepared by women of the Meskhetian Turk, Palestinian, Somali, and Somali-Bantu Muslim communities. Diners met future home owner Faith Gilliam and her children and were reminded by Mitchell Katz, chairman of the Syracuse Habitat Board that Habitat gives a hand-up, not a hand-out. Monsignor Ronald Bill from I.C. sang an inspirational song. Religious leaders Rabbi Charles Sherman from Temple Adath Yeshurun and Mohamed Khater from Islamic Society of Syracuse gave thanks and expressed the shared belief that people serve God by helping other people. Meskhetian and Somali Bantu teens demonstrated their dances.



*Meskhetian teen dances with  
Stacey White of Syracuse  
Habitat and Jane  
Forstadt of Immaculate Con-  
ception Parish*

## S.W.E.A.T. for HABITAT HOLDS 7<sup>th</sup> SUCCESSFUL BOWL-A-THON

By Barbara A. Leach

For the seventh consecutive year, S.W.E.A.T. for HABITAT held another successful Bowl-A-Thon on Sunday, February 10, at the Bowl Mor Lanes in East Syracuse. When all pledged monies are collected, it is anticipated the event will raise about \$3,500.

While snowy weather and an earlier than usual starting hour resulted in lower attendance than in past years, about 60 youth and adult bowlers participated. They represented seven church groups: First Presbyterian United, Camillus Baptist, Bellevue Heights United Methodist, Manlius United Methodist, Fayetteville United Methodist, Baldwinsville First Presbyterian and Onondaga Hill Presbyterian. Two teams from The Reformed Church were snowed-out, but planned to bowl for Habitat independently. In addition, several bowlers represented the law firm of Menter, Rudin & Trivelpiece. Support also came from Teamsters Local #317.



*First Presbyterian of Baldwinsville*



*Camillus Baptist*

S.W.E.A.T. for HABITAT (South/West Ecumenical Action Team) is an informal group composed of individuals and representatives of several churches. Funds raised by S.W.E.A.T. are used to build tool storage sheds for each Habitat house that does not have a basement. In addition this year, S.W.E.A.T. became a sponsor of the 2007-08 "Inter-Faith Habitat House" on Grace St. in Syracuse by contributing \$5,500 and several days of volunteer labor at the construction site. Members also build the tool sheds. Tom Hilring is the supervisor for the tool shed builds. Don Faber-Langendoen serves as the volunteer coordinator.

Committee members who organized the Bowl-A-Thon were: Barbara Leach, Ray Leach, Betty Fisher, Mike Sponsler, Nancy Wilson and Don Faber-Langendoen. Much thanks also goes to Mark McBain of Bowl Mor Lanes who made the whole thing possible. Many others provided door prizes. And, of special importance to the success of the Bowl-A-Thon were the bowlers who sought dollar sponsors and those who supported them. Thanks to all!

## S&V Renewable Wood Pellet Stove Raffle Fundraiser

By Ellen Sugarman

By the time you read this, some lucky person will have won an ENVIRO wood pellet stove valued at \$3400.00 that was raffled off by Habitat for \$25.00 a ticket. The environmentally friendly stove was donated by Ellen Sugarman, president of S&V Northeast Renewable Energy Project. Pellet stoves can help people heat their homes for as little as \$100.00 per month with these pellet stoves and fireplace inserts. These units can heat a 2000-2500 square foot house for as little as \$3.50 per day - which means a savings to homeowners of \$200 to \$400 a month on their utility bills. A season's supply (3 tons) of New England wood pellets costs only \$700.00, delivery included. EPA certified, the stoves release no greenhouse gases, and, since pellets are made locally from wood waste, they reduce our dependency on foreign oil and help the planet. S&V offers an array of excellent financing options, including low interest flex fund loans from Home HeadQuarters and energy loans and grants. If you missed last month's raffle event and are interested in learning more about these stoves, please visit [www.svrenewable.com](http://www.svrenewable.com) or call 315-446-3132.

## We Get By with a Little Help from Our Friends

In February, Syracuse Habitat received help with the preparation of the Harbinger from the Red Hat Ladies of Enable. Here are some photos from the morning they came to help.



# Contributions

Allen, Larry L. & Kileen M.  
 Alperin D.D.S., Jay  
 Alperin PhD, Diane E.  
 Atkinson, William J. & Patricia A.  
 Bailer, Jean & Richard  
 Basset, J. Thomas & Silvia De La Garza  
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 Bertsch, Kanneth & Theresa  
 Bisson, Jerrold & Nicolina  
 Boland, Deborah M. & Daniel J.  
 Bowman, Jean R.  
 Bregman, Randi K.  
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 Brooks, Rachel & Dennis  
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 Cherney, T.  
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 Diefendorf, Muriel P.  
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 Harrold, Dorothy F.  
 Hassett, John P.  
 Hayford, Sharon  
 Heins, Maurie G.  
 Hershberger, Gordon & Kathleen

## Individuals

Hollopeter, J.  
 Hooper- Raspberry, Gloria  
 Horsington, John F.  
 Huntington, Dr. & Mrs.  
 Hurley, Betty C.  
 Jenner, K.  
 John J. Cucinotta and Jamie M Cucinotta  
 Katz, Mitchell J. & Leslie D.  
 Kauh, Mary Louise  
 Kelley, Scott D. & Cheryl D.  
 Kiggins, C.W. & J.G.  
 Kirsch, John P.  
 Koten, Donald E. & Marguerite S.  
 Kragh, Sonia Y.  
 Kubicki, Robin A.  
 Kwiatkowski, John L.  
 Lee, David B. & Anne M.  
 Levy, William I. & Linda G.  
 Livingston, Robert  
 Mason, Vivian I.  
 Masterpolo, Sandra L. & Daniel B.  
 McDivitt, John C. & Margaret B.  
 Merckel, Barbara S. & Gary C.  
 Mersereau, Bertram  
 Mezet, Susan M. & George J.  
 Midley, Nicholas V. Jr.  
 Miller, Patricia C.  
 Morris, Eric M. & Pamela  
 Murphy, Charles E. & Natalie R.  
 Narsipur, Spiram  
 Neilsen, Douglas A. & Gail F.  
 North, Shirley  
 Palma, Ernst G. & Elizabeth P.  
 Penniman, Dawn  
 Pikes, Rhoda  
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 Streissguth, Michael J. & Leslie B.  
 Thor, Alexander & Angela  
 Timmins, Jack  
 Vahey, Milton & Joyce

## Individuals

## Individuals

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 Watts, Michelle E.  
 Whalen, Gretchen V. & Mark L.  
 Wiggins, Dorothea  
 Williams, Susan  
 Wilson, Gary D. & Nancy  
 Writter, Donald R. & Kendra J.  
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 RRM Safety Center, Inc.  
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 The Allyn Foundation  
 The Dorothy & Marshall M. Reisman Foundation  
 United Way of Central New York  
 Upstate NY Empowerment Fund

## Organizations and Businesses

## Faith Communities

Bellevue Heights United Methodist Church  
 Church of The Most Holy Rosary  
 Community Christian Reformed Church  
 DeWitt Community Church  
 King of Kings Lutheran Church  
 Marcellus United Methodist Church  
 Oneida Association - United Church of Christ  
 Pitcher Hill Community Church  
 Rapha  
 Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church  
 The Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse.  
 St. John's Episcopal Church  
 St. Mark's Lutheran Church

If SHFH built at our current rate, it would take **thousands of years** to completely eradicate this housing crisis.  
**This is at the 2008 need!**

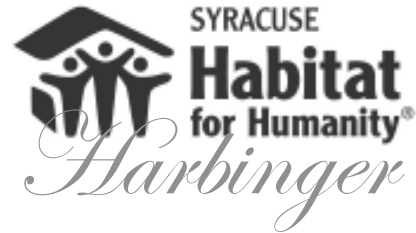
## Employer Matching Gifts

Did you know that many employers match employee charitable donations?

Here's a list of employers. If you don't see you employer on the list, check with your human resources department. You never know, *YOUR* employer may match your donations to SHFH!

AT&T	General Foods	NCR
Allied Signal	GlaxoSmithKline	National Grange
American Express	John Hancock Mutual Life	National Grid
Avon Products	Home Depot Foundation	Owens-Illinois
Borden	Honeywell	Pitney-Bowes
CIGNA	IBM	Prudential Foundation
CNA	J.P. Morgan Chase	Charles Schwab
Chemical Bank	Johnson & Johnson	Radio Shack
Chubb Group	Kemper National P&C Co.	Rockwell Automation Trust
CitiCorp & CitiBank	Key Foundation	SmithKlineBeecham
Crouse-Hinds & Cooper Industries	Lever Brothers	The St.Paul Companies
Deluxe Corporation	McDonald's	The Travelers Companies
Digital Equipment Corporation	Merrill Lynch	UPS
Emerson Electric	Mobil Oil	UTC
Equitable Life Assurance	MONY-AXA	Verizon
Fireman's Fund Insurance	Mutual Life Insurance	Xerox

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## UPCOMING 2008 SHFH EVENTS

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### **THURSDAY, APRIL 17**

Syracuse Lowe's Grand Opening to Benefit  
Syracuse Habitat for Humanity  
8 AM—7 PM ■ I-690 at Midler Ave ■ Syracuse

Lowe's will donate up to \$5000 in gift card sales to SHFH for each gift card sold on April 17.  
For information, please contact SHFH at 315 422 2230.

### **MONDAY, MAY 5**

SHFH Annual Meeting  
The meeting will be held at 6 PM at St Andrews Church at 124 Alden Street, Syracuse, NY. Please bring a dish to pass. For information, please contact SHFH at 315 422 2230

### **SPRING / SUMMER 2008**

- Gilliam Family House Dedication
- Wade Family House Dedication
- Women Build 2007 House Dedication
- SSO / Carrier House Blessing / Start

### **FRIDAY, JULY 25**

SHFH Annual Picnic  
This year's picnic will take place at .  
4 PM—8 PM Long Branch Park, at the Glen and Knolls Sites. For information, please contact SHFH at 315 422 2230

### **MONDAY, AUGUST 11**

SHFH Inaugural Golf Outing Fundraiser at the Pompey Club. \$150 per person/ \$600 per foursome. To register or for information contact SHFH at 315 422 2230

### **AUTUMN 2008**

- InterFaith Build Blessing / Start
- SHFH Affordable Housing Advocacy Walk
- "Mr. Habitat" Fundraiser

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

"Raise the Roof" Benefit Concert w/SSO

### **WINTER 2008**

SHFH Winter Holiday Party