

Plans in Full Motion for *Casino Night, Second Annual Raising Roofs Gala*

Habitat for Humanity Newark's Development Committee recently announced plans for Casino Night and the Second Annual Raising Roofs Gala to be held next year.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

CASINO NIGHT
January 29, 2009
6:30–10:00 PM

Wilshire Grand Hotel
350 Pleasant Valley Way
West Orange, NJ 07052

RAISING ROOFS GALA
May 28, 2009

Location to be announced

First up will be the return of the very popular *Casino Night*. At this event you will enjoy real Las Vegas style gaming—everything but the money will be real! The evening will include plenty of excitement and entertainment for all with the chance to win great prizes while you enjoy good food and conversation. Please mark your calendar today and watch the mail and our Website (www.habitatnewark.org) for more details.

Last year, the first ever Raising Roofs Gala, was a resounding success. This year the event will be hosted by Steven Aduato, a well known New Jersey TV personality. The event features a great cocktail party with entertainment and a beautiful sit down dinner, along with a silent auction.



Please join us as we honor volunteers, Partner Families and others who help make HFHN a major success. You will want to be there!

Best of all, the proceeds from this event go to support the building efforts of Habitat for Humanity Newark, where we are building homes and hope for hard working Partner Families.

No Subprime or Foreclosures Here

In the midst of all the bad financial news we have been hearing lately, it is nice to know that at Habitat for Humanity Newark our homeowners are not faced with many of the problems facing so many Newark residents.

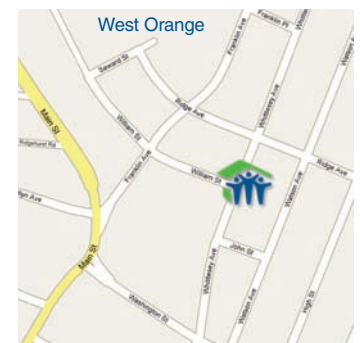
“We are not saying that our homeowners are not negatively affected by these tough financial times,” said Executive Director David Zurheide. “We are all affected, but by and large our homeowners are not in the position of having to worry about losing their homes.”

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Habitat Newark Spreads Out Operations to West Orange

Habitat for Humanity Newark recently announced that they will soon start their first building project in West Orange. Chartered to serve Essex County, the affiliate has built nearly 70 homes in Newark.

“We have been looking at several Essex County communities for the opportunity to fulfill our mission of affordable housing for hard working Partner Families for some time,” commented Executive Director David Zurheide. “West Orange presented us with a great opportunity that we are excited we will be beginning in the next few weeks. We hope to build more in West Orange and other Essex County communities in the future.”



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Volunteer Spotlight: Barry Wolfensohn

Barry Wolfensohn retired and began volunteering weekly at HFHN with the Carpenters Club, quickly becoming one of the group's stalwarts. He has built with HFHN international trips and HFHN's volunteer trips to New Orleans in 2007 and 2008. Barry coordinated the latest trip—adding his special flair to the trip by arranging for the group to go directly from the airport to a service at the local United House of Prayer for All People where our volunteers were welcomed to NOLA with a brass band. The band's trombones, tubas and cymbals joined in throughout the service and filled the small, recently restored church with extraordinary music. Always smiling despite extremes of weather or intensity of workday tasks, a Barry favorite quip as volunteers wait their next assignment is “Those also serve who stand and wait.”



Abraham House

Now a member of the Faith Relations Committee Barry took the lead in championing an interfaith effort to sponsor the building of an affordable home for a Newark family. This project, now under construction across the street from the Habitat Newark office, has been named ‘Abraham House.’

“Because of world tensions and the inability of religions to have peace with each other, we chose to call it Abraham House because Jews, Christians, and Muslims have

an affinity with Abraham in their religions,” Barry explained in an article in New Jersey Jewish News.

Visit the Habitat Newark Website for updates on the progress of Abraham House and an article on the April trip to New Orleans.

Sponsorships Available!

Habitat Newark now has 16 building lots under our control and will be breaking ground in the near future on several of them. This means that house sponsorships are available and are assigned on a first come, first served basis.

As you see from the article on the front page, we are now building our first two-family home in West Orange, Women Build III and Abraham House II. We will be breaking ground in November for 75 South 11th Street, a house sponsored by Exit Realty International. At this point we are in control of 14 additional lots that we intend to develop in the next two years. The next sponsorships available are located at 204 and 216 South 12th Avenue in Newark.

Many organizations have sponsored houses built by Habitat for Humanity Newark. A number of churches, social groups, businesses, civic organizations, and even individuals have raised funds through a variety of events and projects. Families and individuals often sponsor houses. You can either sponsor a full house or important parts of the building.

If your group would like to sponsor a home or would like to learn more about the possibilities, please call Don Blaesser, Deputy Executive Director at 973-624-3330.



The Gardner Family, pictured above with their friends, plan a special day each year when they volunteer to build. This family donated a home in honor of their parents and their brother, Jeffrey, who was killed in New York City on 9-11-01.

The ToolBox is published by Habitat for Humanity Newark, Inc., an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. HFHI is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat has built more than 225,000 houses around the world, providing more than 1,000,000 people in more than 3,000 communities with safe, decent, affordable shelter.

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Comings & Goings

Vote Today!

Here is a chance to vote (no big choices between candidates here) and help Habitat for Humanity earn a big donation from Wells Fargo Bank. All you have to do is go to: www.wellsfargo.com/somedaycontest and vote for Habitat for Humanity. It is easy to do but please remember where it asks you for your zip code you must put 07103 for Habitat Newark to get the credit. Overall, Habitat can earn \$250,000 and if our affiliate gets the most voters we stand to get a significant boost as well. Please go online and vote right now.

Help Wanted

We are always in need of working or retired construction professionals who want to donate their services to our wonderful cause. The help of electricians and plumbers is always needed. Right now we could really use the help of a cost estimator. If you are able to give some time to help make a difference, please call Fred Powell at 973-624-3330. More details are available at www.habitatnewark.org when you click on employment opportunities.

Women Build News

As usual, the ladies who make up Women Build are busy making things happen. Comcast TV has featured two five minute interviews with Lynne Blaesser that tell the story of WB and of

HFHN in general. If you missed it, you can see the interview at our Website (www.habitatnewark.org.) The ladies are also selling WB T-shirts for \$15. You can learn more by calling Jean today at 973-624-3330.

Giving Tree

Women Build is looking for locations that would be willing to display a Giving Tree for a short time during the holiday season. The tree's ornaments request donations via tags that indicate the cost of items and tools needed for the build (doors, hammers, windows, et.al.) Do you know a high traffic location (church, synagogue, store, retirement home, etc.) that would display a tree? Contact Rose Aiello via email at heart3X3@comcast.net.

Newark's Church Doors

There are still some *Newark Doors of Worship* posters available. This beautiful full color framable poster features the front doors of a dozen beautiful churches right here in Newark. They are available for a \$20 donation (Proceeds benefit Women Build) by calling 973-624-3330.



Email addresses needed

We are constantly striving to save money and be as good a friend to our environment as we can. You can help by giving us your email address. That way we will not need to print as many Toolboxes and can send out information via email. All you have to do is go to the Website, www.habitatnewark.org and click on the "sign up" button right under "Help Us Be Green."

Family Support Committee Sets Seminar and Events Series

The Family Support Committee has announced a full and active series of seminars and events to be held at HFHN headquarters.

Saturday, November 1, 2008 9:00 AM
Habitat/Homeowner Relationships

Saturday January 3, 2009 at 9:00 AM
Interior Decorating

Saturday December 6, 2008 9:00 AM
Security Alarm company representative and Police Captain discuss security issues for homeowners in your neighborhood.

Saturday February 7, 2008 9:00 AM
Financial Seminar

Saturday December 15, 2008
Tree Lighting Ceremony and Toys for Tots Giveaway at playground

Saturday March 7, 2009 9:00 AM
Exterior Home Maintenance

Please call Rev. Paul Valerius with any questions at 862-849-6329.



Nice car.



That old car of yours will probably not be worth what you think it should be as a trade in. But, you can donate that car to Habitat and earn a tax deduction.

To learn more go to www.carsforhomes.org or call 877-277-4344.

Please call or e-mail us if you are receiving multiple copies or do not wish to receive *The Toolbox*.

You can make a donation to Habitat Newark 24/7 at www.habitatnewark.org

Return Postage Guaranteed

No Subprime or Foreclosures Here

(continued from front cover)

There are many reasons Habitat homeowners are better off than most. They earned their down payments with sweat equity hours, they have zero interest loans which never adjust, their payments are based on what they can afford to pay at the time of selection and Habitat has always based operations on sound financial principles.

“It is more imperative than ever that we continue to build affordable housing for Partner Families who contribute to the process and earn their homes,” continued Zurheide. “When financial times get this tough, somebody needs to be there to help deserving families earn the right to decent housing.”

In the last few weeks a number of articles in national and regional news media have dealt with the growing popularity of Habitat for Humanity homes in these tough economic times. Most articles point out that more and more property is becoming available to Habitat affiliates because of the crisis.

Habitat Newark Spreads Out Operations to West Orange

(continued from front cover)

The new building will be a two-family structure on Whittlesey Avenue consisting of one three bedroom and one two bedroom home. The building will provide two Partner Families with safe, quality homes that will have a Victorian touch that includes a gable roof and a large front porch in this neighborhood of multi-family homes.

One of the guiding lights of the new project was Arthur Korenstein. A well known West Orange architect, Arthur helped guide the new building through the entire process in West Orange and did the original architectural drawings, before he passed away. For a special tribute to Arthur go to www.habitatnewark.org and click on the “He Was Always Looking Up” story. Watch for more on the West Orange home in future issues of the Toolbox and on the Website.

Houses built and dedicated by

