

***MANY TALENTS, MANY BLESSINGS.....Rich Wandling, President, CCHFH Board***

The impressive home-building activity on the north side of Charleston, at the corner of E Street and Locust Avenue, is a vivid illustration of what happens when caring, community-minded people join together. Any visitor to this site on Saturdays will leave with the knowledge that Coles County Habitat for Humanity is blessed by the contributions of so many talented and committed volunteers. Under the skillful leadership of site supervisor, Butch (Dennis) Thompson, the best of the human spirit takes shape on each site-build day.

Witnessing this constructive flurry of activity reminds me of the many efforts that go into building a house, and I will highlight a few to illustrate this:

- The Site Selection Committee's diligence in identifying new properties for purchase or donation, involves activities such as reviewing legal notices, consulting with government officials and even working with real estate representatives.
- The committed efforts of the Public Relations Committee keep the Habitat mission in the public eye, from press releases on through radio and television coverage.
- The information dissemination sessions coordinated by the Family Selection Committee as it cultivates future Habitat applicants while at the same time carrying on its important task of evaluating already-received applications.
- The numerous planning meetings of our fundraising events committees, such as the Golf Tournament, 4 for the 4th, Habifeast and the new Dinner/Dance.
- The behind-the-scenes coordinating activities of the Volunteer Committee in recruiting and arranging for volunteers and food for the volunteers for the ever-shifting construction needs on build days.
- The many hours devoted by the Treasurer to overseeing our finances, coupled with the multiple information communication assignments taken on by our affiliate's Secretary.

There are many ways to contribute to the Habitat mission, and all are critical to our success in Coles County. In fact, I easily could take up this whole newsletter if I listed all the various ways our volunteers, supporters and friends contribute to the cause. Some people pick up hammers on Saturdays, and some take up pens, paper, telephones, and computers during the weekdays! In the end, it all comes together as part of one big effort, with many talents and many blessings for us. Every effort, from hammering nails to planning fundraisers, is needed and valuable. Thanks for all that you do!



## *HABIFEAST*

September 29, 2007



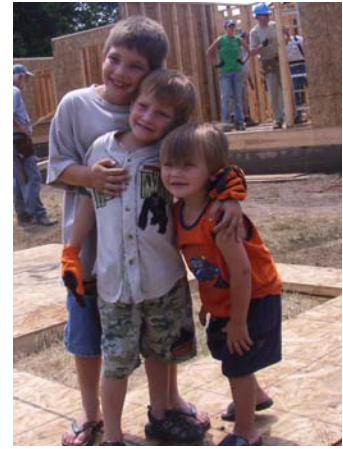
Come join the many volunteers and supporters of Coles County Habitat for Humanity at our annual Habifeast dinner on Saturday, September 29, 2007. It will be held at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, 1920 Richmond Avenue in Mattoon from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The menu will be a delicious Apple Walnut Chicken Breast with baked potato & all the trimmings, green bean casserole, rolls and fruit cobbler. There will be a variety of entertainment including Motherlode and other local groups.

The tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. If you can't attend but wish to donate, considering placing a "Well Wishers" ad in the Habifeast ad book. The cost for a "Well Wishers" ad is only \$10.00. You can order tickets or ads by filling out the enclosed form and sending it to the office. If you would like to support Habifeast, but can't attend, you can donate your tickets to someone who might not be able to afford to attend.....just let the office know.

## Introducing.....

### The DeRousse Family.....

Coles County Habitat for Humanity is happy to announce the DeRousse Family as recipients of the 19th Habitat house currently being built in Charleston. Aaron and Paula DeRousse have three sons, Jordan, age 7, Trystan, age 5 and Quinten, age 3. Aaron and Paula became aware of Habitat through a friend, Lisa Wehr, who is also a Habitat homeowner. Aaron and Paula decided to complete a homeowner application when friends continued to encourage and push them to apply. When asked how they thought Habitat would change their lives, they talked about the joy of being a family in their own home and having the space to sit down for a family dinner together. Both Aaron and Paula are working on their required sweat-equity hours and doing a little bit of everything from hanging drywall to picking up trash to keeping the building site safe. The DeRousse family would like to thank all the volunteers, especially the Salisbury Church, their partner family, Doug and Linda Simpson, and the Construction Supervisor, Butch Thompson, for all the time, effort and support given to them during this build.



### SAVE THE DATES: Calendar of Meetings and Events:

Annual Meeting (open to the public) SBLHC Education Center	August 21, 2007 6:30 pm
House Blessing for the Ward and DeRousse families	Sometime in September Watch the paper for an announcement
Habifeast	September 29, 2007 Immaculate Conception Church, Mattoon
Dinner/Dance/Silent Auction	Saturday, January 26, 2008

### Nomination Committee Actively Looking for Board and Committee Members....

*"A team is a group of people who may not be equal in experience, talent or education, but in commitment."*

Patricia Fripp

Coles County Habitat for Humanity is looking for a few good men and women. Due to the growth in activity and some recent vacancies, several Board positions are open and need to be filled. Additionally, committees are always in need of new members and chairs. People from all walks of life, age groups and backgrounds can play a valuable role in moving this affiliate forward. It is not necessary to know anything about building a house. We are seeking individuals with organizational skills, enthusiasm, a desire to serve and make a difference in the community.

I have been on the board for 5 years and never cease to be amazed at the wonderful and diverse people who make up this committed group. Each meeting is exhilarating and fun. There is respect, camaraderie and cooperation. Everyone there cares about the people who need a helping hand and a new lease on life. Personal agendas are left behind.

What do you like to do? Plan parties and events? Work with numbers? Get organized? Help people? Make new friends? Feel part of a team? There is a place for you with Coles County Habitat. Call the office and let us know you'd like to be a part of a great team!

Marsha Blair, Chair Nomination Committee

## MORE THAN HOUSES

As one looks at the accomplishments of Habitat for Humanity International since its start in 1976, it is apparent that the effort has built more than houses. The houses, to be sure, are incredibly important. However, it is increasingly obvious that the hundreds of thousands of volunteers, staff people, businesses and homeowners across the nation and around the world are building so much more than houses.

"We are building people.  
We are building relationships.  
We are breaking down barriers.  
We are bringing people together.  
We are promoting love and understanding.  
We are building and revitalizing neighborhoods.  
We are activating faith and planting hope in the hearts of people."

*Millard Fuller, More Than Houses, 2000*

Coles County Habitat for Humanity is in its 18th year and the progress and achievements the organization has made are also notable. This year CCHFH will accomplish its goal of building three houses in one year. This is no small feat for an affiliate to achieve given the size of our community. To grow from one house to three houses is a spectacular achievement. It could not have been done without the support of this community. As an example, just look at the two houses being built right now in Charleston. They are being built on land whose purchase was made possible by a significant donation from a single donor who wishes to remain anonymous. The support from the City of Charleston and the efforts of Board members and Butch Thompson made it possible to have the property rezoned to accommodate three Habitat homes and a facility, to be built, that will eventually accommodate CCHFH's offices and storage and The Charleston Food Pantry. The demolition of the barn, that was originally on the property, and preparation of the land for building was completed by the contribution of time, labor and equipment supplied by Swearingen Brothers, Swearingen Excavating, Doty Construction, Veolia Environmental Services, Ne-Co Asphalt Company and Salisbury Church members and many, many other volunteers. Drake Roofing donated the roofs for both houses and so many of the local churches and businesses donated lunches for the volunteers. And of course we could not have done it without the help of Butch Thompson and Charlie Smith who have overseen the building efforts by contributing countless hours.

Coles County Habitat for Humanity will be auctioning off this beautiful handmade patchwork quilt at HABIFEAST on September 29.

It is done in earth tones of brown and green on a beige background. It measures approximately 93" by 56" and comes with a forest green dust ruffle that fits a double bed. It is truly a beautiful piece of art.

The quilt was donated by Judy and Ed Moll and was quilted by Common Threads Quilt Guild.

Tickets for the raffle are 6 for \$5.00 and may be obtained by calling the office at 348-7063 or purchased at the dinner.



### Build More, pay less.....

Habitat donors over age 70 1/2 have a new opportunity to decrease their tax burden while supporting Habitat!

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows people to make tax-free charitable donations from their Individual Retirement Accounts to qualifying organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity, up to \$100,000 during the remainder of 2007.

The IRA Rollover joins several other options, from bequeathing money in a will to participating in a gift annuity program offered by Habitat for Humanity International's Planned Giving department.

There are a few restrictions that apply to the IRA rollover—for example, 401 (k), 403 (b) and other qualifying retirement plans are not included—so you should check with your financial or tax advisor before making a contribution.

Make your reservations for Habifeast today.....Call 348-7063

**Coles County Habitat for Humanity**  
**P. O. Box 945**  
**Charleston, IL 61920**

**Return Service Requested**

**Non Profit Org.**  
**U. S. Postage**  
**PAID**  
**Charleston, IL 61920**  
**Permit No. 16**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Coles County Habitat for Humanity's (CCHFC) mission is to improve our community by providing affordable, owner-occupied single family housing to low income families in Coles County.

Our office is located at 2202 4th Street, Charleston, IL 61920. The phone number is (217) 348-7063.  
Normal business hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
[www.colescountyhabitat.net](http://www.colescountyhabitat.net)

*I want to be part of Habitat for Humanity!*

## **HOW YOU CAN BE A PART OF CCHFH**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Pray
- Be on a committee
- Provide lunch for the volunteers
- Donate building materials
- Be an advocate
- Encourage those in need to apply
- Donate land
- Be a Partner Family
- Hold or attend a fundraiser
- Help build a house
- Get your "church family" involved
- Donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Detach and Mail to:**  
**Coles County Habitat**  
**P.O. Box 945**  
**Charleston, IL 61920**