

February 2010

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A New Home for the Riley/Martin Family

February 11th was a frigid, winter day, but Celia Riley and Daniel Martin managed to dig up a warm shovelful of hope for themselves and their two daughters, Tayla and Emily. Their Groundbreaking ceremony took place at 402 Donnelly, the site of their future Habitat home. Family, friends, new neighbors, Habitat staff and Habitat board members were all represented on this special occasion; and everyone passed on good wishes to the happy family. Lisa Kennedy, who will act as Family Advocate, was cheering on the sidelines as well.



Celia presently works at Lakeview Lutheran Manor and Daniel works at Caberfae, but in the next few months, they will have additional jobs as they build up the required sweat equity for their new home. Like other Habitat homeowners, they will assist in the construction of their house, but they will also help out with other Habitat projects.

This project will be completed by Career Technical Center students as well as members of the community. The high school students will get things started, but we will be looking for local volunteers in early spring. Call 775-7561 if you are interested.



*By Deb Maxey,
Executive Director
WHFH*

And a New Home for the Wexford Habitat ReStore



The Habitat ReStore is moving soon! Our new address will be 7545 E. 34 Road (Boon Road), which is just up the road from our present location.

ing, it helps our community by providing resalable items at a fraction of the cost of new. By recycling, we also keep perfectly good merchandise out of our landfills.

The Wexford Habitat ReStore first opened its doors for business on October 1, 2005. Due to the tremendous success of the ReStore, we have been able to increase the number of families served in our community from one to three families a year. Not only does the ReStore provide the funds for us to assist more families by providing safe, affordable hous-

Our new store will substantially increase our retail sales floor, provide for a receiving area, and offer ample parking. Our estimated move date is April 1st and we're looking for items to stock at our new location. Call the ReStore at 231/775-8661 if you have items to donate. Remember-- donate and deduct it!

April 1—Possible Moving Day for the ReStore.

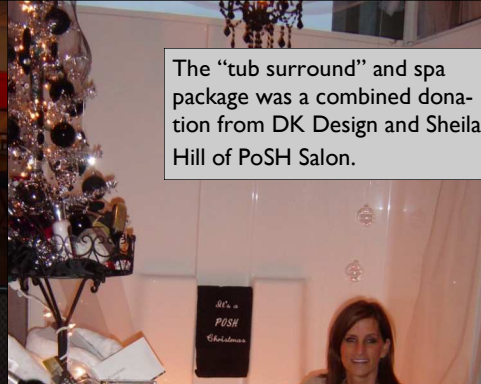
Apply now to become a Partner Family

Highlights from 2009 Breakfast with Santa and Festival of Trees

John MacLeod delivered his wife Freda's beautiful, hand-painted chair for the Festival Auction.



Rita Meech, a.k.a. Ms. Green, used recycled materials for her popular wreath design.



The "tub surround" and spa package was a combined donation from DK Design and Sheila Hill of PoSH Salon.



You're never too old to visit with Santa at Breakfast with Santa



No wonder Kris O'Neill's tree won the Children's Choice award at Breakfast with all the exciting toys attached to its branches.



Kyle Pylkas proudly shows off the Wii game system won by brother Chase at the Breakfast with Santa Community raffle.

The beautiful trees and wreaths designed by area florists, businesses and talented individuals still provided a large part of the excitement for the 2009 Festival of Trees and Breakfast with Santa, but there were also several new additions to the two events. For the first time, the winners of a community raffle were announced at Breakfast with Santa. Prizes included a beautiful "Nutmacker" tree with toys beneath it, a Wii game system, a quilt designed by North Star Quilt Guild, and a sports package.

The evening event, Festival of Trees, also had some new surprises. Wexford Jewelers designed a beautiful diamond pendant just for the Festival auction, Oak Heirlooms and Custom Interiors offered a beautifully decorated kitchen island, DK Design along with PoSH Salon presented a tub surround for the Habitat family combined with a spa package for auction winner, and Freda MacLeod painted a rocking chair with all kinds of Christmas designs.

Freda's chair was such a popular auction item, she was persuaded to paint an additional one. The ladies of the Winettes Wine Club also added to the evening fun as they sashayed up to the front with their specially chosen wines to auction off. Even area fishermen found some exciting items to bid on with a guided fishing trip by Tim Roller of Ultimate Outfitters and fly casting lessons from Dr. Terry Tatarchuk. A doll house from Toy Town and a lighted deer design from Chaos Spa Salon rounded out the auction specials.

This year's Festival and Breakfast was the most successful ever, raising more than \$43,000. We are thankful to our partner, Cadillac Rotary, for their help, but we also want to thank all the designers, donors, sponsors, bidders and guests who make these events possible. Special thank yous go out to our auctioneer Bill Rzepka, our photographer Tom Olmstead, our emcees Katy Huckle and Joy Van Drie, and to Dr. Roger Bandeen and his Rotary Interact students.

Help for Haiti

Even before the major earthquake devastated Haiti on January 12, 2010, Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) had been working to provide housing solutions in that nation for about 26 years. Their work included providing new housing, repairing existing structures and offering training in construction skills and financial literacy. In the aftermath of the earthquake, the needs in Haiti have been multiplied. In response to the needs of the Haitian people, the Clinton Bush Fund in the U.S has committed \$300,000 to HFHI. Additional funding to HFHI has come from private individuals, corporations and from the German Foreign Office.



With a goal of helping 50,000 families, HFHI is planning a 3-fold approach to the Haitian housing problems. The first part of the plan is to distribute emergency shelter kits in order to give families the tools to make repairs and or to construct temporary structures. The next part of the plan involves helping families remove debris, salvage building materials, and build transitional shelters. In the final part of the plan, HFHI will build "core houses with a separate sanitation facility." The core houses are designed with expansion in mind and can cost between \$4000 and \$6000.

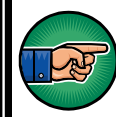
Habitat for Humanity International has proposed a challenge of raising \$3,000,000 for relief in Haiti. In order to do this, each affiliate would need to raise \$2000 additional dollars, and HFHI has promised that 100% of all funds raised would go directed to work projects in Haiti. If you would like to donate money towards this goal, please send your donation in the enclosed envelope and write "Haiti" on the check. We will make sure that it goes to the right place.



Habitat Partner Families!

To find out if you qualify as a partner family, go to www.wexfordhabitat.org and click on the "partner family" link. You can download an application and also see pictures of some of our current Habitat homes in Wexford County.

Would you like to advertise in our newsletter to help us recover our printing costs?



Please call Deb Maxey at 775-7561 for rates.



Hats off to Tracy Winkle of Don's Auto Clinic who helped one of our partner families with her automotive needs.



Three cheers for Bill Rzepka who went out of his way to help a homeowner. He's always there for us.

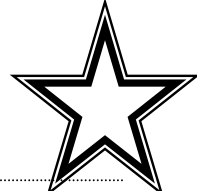
A big thank you goes out to DK Design for their generous donation of a design for the new ReStore.

Once again, Glen's Market in Cadillac has participated in the Spartan Scan Program to help Habitat for Humanity. Customers have been invited to contribute between \$1 and \$10 at the check out. Hooray! We thank them for their continued support.

The ribbon cutting ceremony for Chemical Bank's new building included the presentation of a \$1000 check to Wexford Habitat for Humanity. We are so grateful for their amazing generosity.

The student builders at the Career Technical Center continue to be our heroes, but we are also extremely thankful to the Large Machines Department for their help in repairing our fork lift. Woohoo!!

Dave Van Lente is our Habitat Construction Manager, but he is doing the construction at the new ReStore at a reduced rate. We appreciate his willingness to go above and beyond to help our Habitat families.





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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BY THE NUMBERS

- **50,000** — The number of families Habitat for Humanity International hopes to help in Haiti over the next few years
- **10,000** — The number of emergency shelter kits being distributed in Haiti after the earthquake
- **4000-6000** — US dollars required to build a core house in Haiti
- **250** — US dollars required to purchase one emergency shelter kit for a family in Haiti

**20% off
any item
in the
store**

This coupon is good until May 1, 2009



Wexford Habitat for Humanity was established in 1987 by community leaders of Wexford County who wanted to make a difference and eliminate poverty housing. They saw a need for simple, decent, and affordable housing. With the completion of the 2 homes this year, 23 families from Wexford County will be living in safe, decent housing.

Habitat for Humanity eliminates poverty one house at a time.