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# THE HAMMER

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Habitat for Humanity HiawathaLand Newsletter

April 2006

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## Why We Do What We Do...

Working for Habitat can be intense at times; trying to raise funds to help our mission; trying to get enough volunteers to help with various projects; and trying not to burn out from all that needs to be done. But just when we are at the end of our rope and wondering why we are beating ourselves up, something like the following letter comes along and we are inspired to persevere.

This letter is from new homeowner, Julia Denney.

It is with great pride I write this letter of thanks today. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank each and every Habitat volunteer who helped in any way of the construction of our new home. I can't begin to express the gratitude my family and I have for all you've done. We recognize and understand you all have busy lives with busy schedules and yet...you still take the time to care and give unselfishly of your time and efforts to help turn the hopes and dreams of families like ours into reality, and for that we will be forever grateful. My family and I never imagined something this wonderful would happen to us.

Since receiving our beautiful new Habitat home our lives have been truly blessed. Everyday I continue to see remarkable changes in all of us. Like pride for example. My children now seem more eager and proud to bring friends home to see their new rooms decorated in the cool way they like. Another example is responsibility and willingness to help in ways they hadn't before, simply put...caring. Molly shows her own initiative to help with household chores without even needing to be asked. And lets not forget self-esteem...Joey has even begun to get better grades now in school and continues to show improvement. So you see, we have been blessed in more ways than one.

We received the keys to our awesome new home on December 11, 2005. Just in time to spend our first Christmas in our new home. I assure you, it was truly a day and holiday we will always remember.

Julie Denney & Family

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



The students are continuing to make progress with the Roberson Family home on North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The countertops are in the process of being installed and the floor coverings will be installed during the first part of April. All of the trim work and door hanging has been completed. Once the students have finished Deb Roberson and family will be painting. Like last year, we will have an open house for the students and their parents so they can see what the students have been working on.

## Roberson Dedication

We will be dedicating the Roberson Family home on **May 7<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.** The house is located on the first block of North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Please come and celebrate all the hard work and prayers that went into this

house, and welcome Deb and family into the Habitat family.

## Upcoming Events



### 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock & Roll Revival



Tuesday May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
at 7 PM  
in the  
High School Auditorium

A great time for the whole family



May 20<sup>th</sup>

### Watch the NASCAR All-Star Challenge race at the Moose Lodge.

Cost \$10 – includes entry, door prizes, food and games.

NASCAR Auction  
Raffle – for MIS NASCAR Race Tickets

### Cedar Grove Mennonite Yard Sale

On Kendall Road – off the River Road

June 21<sup>st</sup> from 12-5  
June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9-3

If you would like to donate items to the sale please contact either the Habitat office at 341-7437 or Linda Casteel at 341-6150.

### Eighth Annual SALAD LUNCHEON AND GARDEN GALA AUCTION

June 9<sup>th</sup>

We are planning our eighth salad luncheon and garden gala auction on June 9<sup>th</sup> from 11 to 1 PM. The auction will start at 12 PM. **Tickets will be available for a \$5.00 donation.** The luncheon will be at the St. Francis Parish Center (gym).

In May we will be putting up **sign-up sheets in your church** asking people to make salads, breads, and cookies as well as helping during the actual event. Please consider helping us, as the saying goes: “Many hands make light work.”

As always we are looking for **items to put in our auction.** Not only items for the garden such as flower pots, lawn ornaments, and birdhouses, but anything with a garden theme. We are always amazed at the generosity and creativity of our donors, and we are exceedingly grateful for your time and effort to help us raise funds.

For those of you who have been afraid or unsure of how to make a birdhouse we have included a beginner’s guide to house building. A couple of important things to remember when making a functional birdhouse:

1. Make sure there is a way to clean out the house.
2. Make sure the bird hole is appropriate for the bird. (Bluebirds – 1-1/2 inches and for Chickadees 1-1/8 inches). And if possible put a metal ring around the hole so that squirrels can’t enlarge the hole.