

**Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod
Late April 2010 Director's update**

Check out our website www.habitatcapecod.org for frequently updated news items, photos and announcements.

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Community Kick-off Celebrations/Volunteer info Events

WELLFLEET – 7 PM, Wednesday April 28, Wellfleet Congregational Church

We are back in Wellfleet this spring building a Habitat home! Wellfleet was one of the very first communities to welcome Habitat's program on Cape Cod. Please join us Wednesday evening as we celebrate the start of volunteer construction, introduce the homeowner family and provide detailed information for volunteers and supporters. Reception with light refreshments to follow.

We need a few more people to bring a plate of finger foods (sweet *or* “healthy”) for the reception. Please call Hilary 508 775 3559 x16 if you can help out.

MASHPEE kick off: Save the Date: Thursday July 8th, 7 PM at Christ the King Church.

Construction of the first of three homes in Mashpee begins in Mid-July. (We will start each of the other two houses about 6 weeks apart). **Please look for more info about signing up in my June Update. Susan Lauber is volunteer coordinator** for two of the houses. She will be opening sign-ups in early June. **We are still seeking a Volunteer Coordinator for the house that is designated for WomenBuild 2010.**

Mother's Day is May 9th – Join us in Celebrating Moms and Supporting our 2010 Women Build

Send a Mother's Day gift card that celebrates important women in your life and supports our affiliate's upcoming Women Build. Visit our website at: <http://www.habitatcapecod.org/cards-memorials.html>, download an order form and send it along. We'll do the rest. We ask for a minimum donation of \$10 and ask that orders are received by May 5th.

You've Got Mail:

On Friday, May 28th Habitat will be hosting its *Inaugural Mailbox Silent Auction*. The fundraiser will be held at the **Chequessett Yacht & Country Club in Wellfleet from 5-8pm**. We have been working with local artists whose work is featured on the mailboxes. Click here to see some of the 50 beautiful, stunning, humorous, quirky, wonderful mailboxes that will be up for auction that night.

http://www.flickr.com/photos/rickknightphotography/sets/72157623591251765/show/wit_h/4467592983/ There will also be an area of non-traditional mailboxes for those with P.O. boxes.

There will be a cash bar, and local specialties graciously provided by local restaurants. Many mailboxes will have special gift certificates inside. Bidding will conclude at 7:30. For more information – please check our website or call our office at 508 775 3559. All proceeds to support our mission to work in partnership with families in need to build homes, hope lives and Community on Cape Cod.

Habitat's Kayak Raffle

If you want to be on the list to help with the kayak raffle in the mid and lower cape areas, please contact Nancy Erskine 508 945 2163; nancybillersk@comcast.net. With your participation this fundraiser is more successful every year. (Our hopes are set on \$20,000 + this year). Thank you!

What's happening on our Construction Sites?

We are off to a great start on Cross St. in Dennisport, with volunteer working Tuesdays and Saturdays. And in Wellfleet we are framing walls on May 8, with a Thursday/Saturday work schedule.

Here's a video of April 3 volunteer house framing at Cross St:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bNR1UnFsd9A>

We have a great support team in place, coordinating volunteers, staffing the registration table, coordinating coffee hour and devotions, and lunches most Saturdays.

We do need a food coordinator for the Hemlock Rd., South Dennis site which will open in June. (Please contact Hilary Greene if interested)

We welcome individuals to sign up on line, accessing "VolunteerUP" through our website www.habitatcapecod.org. For Wellfleet and Dennis, Joanne Broderick is the lead contact person for individuals (508 240 5860 joannebroderick@comcast.net), and you are welcome to call or e her with any questions – or for help signing up.

ALL group sign ups are through Hilary Greene (508 775 3559 x16 hilary@habitatcapecod.org) (including for the Mashpee homes which begin this summer.

For each of the six homes we are building this year, we are opening sign-ups for individuals APPROXIMATELY six weeks in advance of various site days. Activities of each day are described on Volunteer UP as well as how many people are needed.

Groups are welcome (encouraged) to put their requests for a day in with Hilary any time, so she can plan on reserving spaces. Group days are limited this year and group sizes will generally be limited to 8 – 10 participants.

Saturday May 1 is a WomenBuild Day on the Cross St. site, as part of National WomenBuild week. There were still a few volunteer spots open as of this writing.

Cheers and Kudos

A note of appreciation to the combined 17 member team from Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod and Northside Methodist Church who traveled to Bridge City, Texas in March, partnering with the Fuller Center in re-building homes ravaged by Hurricane Ike. Team leader, Fred Yarger, refers to Hurricane Ike as the “forgotten disaster” – one of the greatest natural disasters in our history in terms of property and financial damage. Team members worked hard in a full range of repairs to several homes And returned to share an awareness of the remaining devastation in this area.

The staff that runs! A big cheer to Coordinator of Volunteer Services, Hilary Greene, on her recent completion of the Boston Marathon. Hilary raised funds for the Special Olympics and raised awareness for Organ Donor programs.

An odd statistic: three of our total staff of seven (3 fulltime; 4 part time), are Boston Marathoners: Sue Daggett some years ago; Mike Williams, last year – and now Hilary. I am pretty confident that we remaining four have no such aspirations.

Tribute

We note with great sadness the recent passing of Habitat volunteer Esmat Nouri. At one time a regular Tuesday construction volunteer, in more recent years Esmat was a leading force on our Land Acquisition committee. Esmat’s inspired and persistent efforts in the Town of Dennis ultimately brought forth the land donations for the two Dennis sites where we are constructing Habitat homes this year. We dedicate our work on Cross St. and Hemlock Rd. to his memory. He will be fondly remembered and dearly missed.

Haiti Fundraising Challenge

We did it! Thanks to all the contributors who helped us pool together an extra \$2100 donation to Habitat International for its work in Haiti. This challenge was part of an effort by all U.S. affiliates to provide help with funding the massive relief efforts – over and above our usual tithe contribution.

Update on Haiti Relief Work

Below is the most recent update we have received from Habitat International

“BRINGING BACK SMILES AND HOPE

Early this morning, a group of approximately 100 gathered at the Whirlpool warehouse in McDonough, Ga., to spend their day preparing additional shelter kits to send to Haiti. Today's volunteers included groups of employees from Habitat partners, as well as individuals and Habitat staff eager to help with the Haiti effort. The American Red Cross, CARE, Delta and Home Depot were among those represented, as well as AmeriCorps and the University of Phoenix. Habitat Haiti national director Claude Jeudy was on hand, pitching in and sharing his experiences and observations with local media. "What I see here today gives energy, motivation, to continue our work and to share with my fellow Haitians, 'You are not alone,'" he said. Speaking to volunteers assembled for a mid-morning break, he spoke about building a new Haiti. "We are here today to bring back smiles and hope to Haitian families," he said. "Because of you, we feel capable. And we are 100 percent certain we will transform this situation. Because where there is willingness, there is the possibility of transformation."

EMERGENCY SHELTER KITS

Even as the third wave of shelter kits was being assembled in McDonough, distribution of the second round of kits was poised to begin in Haiti, with assistance from the United Nations, Save the Children and ADRA. This week's assembly will result in 13,250 more kits being shipped to Haiti, thanks to financial support from the American Red Cross and CARE.

TRANSITIONAL SOLUTIONS

Ten transitional shelters are under construction, and supplies are being gathered to begin building 1,000 T-shelters in Cabaret and Leogane, two smaller towns outside the capital of Port-au-Prince. Full-size replicas of the types of T-shelters Habitat is building are on display at the warehouse in McDonough this week and will be moved next to the Global Village & Discovery Center in Americus so visitors can better understand what is meant by "transitional shelter." In Haiti, Habitat also is helping with another type of transitional shelter solution: assistance for families in areas not directly impacted by the Jan. 12 quake who have temporarily opened their homes to quake-affected families. This assistance, tailored to individual needs, will be offered in areas where Habitat had a presence before the earthquake.

CORE HOUSES, RESOURCE CENTERS AND REPAIRS

A core homes coordinator has been hired in Cabaret and will be oriented into his role to deliver the first 30 to 50 Habitat units on land allocated by the municipality. Meanwhile, Habitat is working with Architecture for Humanity to establish principles for large-scale core home settlements. A new resource center that will be central to carrying out Habitat's recovery work has been established in Cabaret, and an office location for another Habitat Resource Center has been identified in Leogane. Habitat's team also is gearing up for a repairs program being planned using data from damage assessments, which Habitat helped facilitate.

IN PARTNERSHIP

In working to meet its commitment to serve 50,000 families over the next five years, Habitat's efforts in Haiti are being carried out in conjunction with numerous other nongovernmental organizations and with financial assistance from many companies and groups such as Toshiba, Cisco, CEMEX, the German government and Polish Humanitarian Action. Grant requests are pending with additional funders, and new grant applications are being submitted regularly. U.S. affiliates of Habitat for Humanity also continue to contribute generously from funds raised specifically for Haiti in their communities. Five affiliates have sent at least \$30,000 each: HFH Westchester; HFH Tulsa; Twin Cities HFH; HFH Broward County; and HFH Henderson County."

Posted 4/12/2010 by Habitat for Humanity International

Chapter Meeting Information

Upper Cape meets on the first Monday of each month. 7 p.m., Mashpee Senior Center. Chapter Chair: **Bob Leary**

Lower Cape: next meeting to be announced.

Mid-Cape

Chapter Chair: Marilyn Nouri 508-385-8568;

Co-Chair: Fred Yarger 508-385-5407 fred.yarger@lycos.com

Affiliate Office Contact Info

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Email: office@habitatcapecod.org

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Construction updates– x2, bad weather hotline - x3;

Anne Corrieri x10,

Vicki Goldsmith, Executive Director x15

Sue Daggett, Director of Resource Development and Communications x14

Hilary Greene, Coordinator of Volunteer Programs X16

Isa Weddige, Fiscal Coordinator, x11

Mike Williams, Director of Construction X17

Linda Caldwell X12

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To comment on content: please call or email Vicki G. at vg@habitatcapecod.org