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Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa | 641.424.8978 | www.habitatnci.org | September 2009

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Habitat Happenings

Welcome to Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa's first edition of "Habitat Happenings!"

We thank you for taking the time to check out this new and exciting way for Habitat NCI to share the projects we're working on, introduce our Partner Families, and fill you in on the latest arrivals at the ReStore.

Though each edition will be brief, we'll do our best to bring you up to date on the latest and greatest news on the Habitat home front.

It has been an exciting year so far, and much is planned for the remaining months as we continue to bring new home ownership opportunities to deserving families in need throughout north central Iowa. We hope that you will enjoy the journey with us!

Stay tuned for more "inbox deliveries" in the near future!



Melissa Schoneberg
Executive Director

- Quick Links**
- [Current Projects](#)
 - [ReStore](#)
 - [Contact Us](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

Habitat NCI needs volunteers in several areas. For details, click on the links below. To get involved, click on "Sign Up Now!" and put your preferred project in the Subject line.

Mason City:

Rick/Thrivent Home
Tuesdays, Saturdays

Clear Lake:

Harthan House
Thursdays, Saturdays

Work in ReStore

Serve on Committees

Provide lunch for builders

Sign Up Now!

Put Your *Faith*
Into *Action* !

Support Habitat--
DONATE NOW



Your gift can help buy:

- \$10 -- Box of nails
- \$35 -- Roof shingles
- \$75 -- Window
- \$100 -- Kitchen sink
- \$150 -- Front door
- \$300 -- Lighting
- \$500 -- Bathtub
- \$1000 -- Siding
- \$2000 -- Flooring

Habitat Builds in Clear Lake

CLEAR LAKE - A Clear Lake mother and her two sons will move into a new home later this year as Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa builds its first home in the lake community in almost 10 years.



The Habitat NCI chapter had its first groundbreaking of 2009 in early April in the Pine Brooke Subdivision of Clear Lake, where it will build its 33rd house.

The house will be home to Jeanette Harthan and sons John and Luke, students at Clear Creek Elementary School. Jeanette works at Mercy Medical Center North Iowa. Jeanette will buy the Habitat home with low monthly payments and a 0 percent interest loan. She also will help build her home by logging 250 hours of "sweat equity" while the house is under construction.

The lot for the home was donated by Tim Stenberg of Joshua Homes, Inc. Stenberg started the company in 1996. Wells Fargo Bank has donated \$17,500 for nine Habitat houses. The Clear Lake home will receive part of that money, as did the Kathy Doeden home in Mason City (see "Our Habitat Family," below).

The level of community support for the home in Clear Lake is exciting, according to local Habitat for Humanity representatives.

Building Habitat homes involves many groups and individuals. Whether it's swinging a hammer, providing food or assisting with jobsite coordination, there's a place for everyone who is willing and able to help.

Habitat NCI encourages anyone interested in helping to contact their office at 641-424-8978.

Dynamic Duo Tackles Remodeling Project

MASON CITY - A father and son are hard at work this summer remodeling and restoring one of the first Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa houses in Cerro Gordo County - and looking forward to the day they will call it home.



Chris Hjelmgren and his son Christopher, 11, have been flood victims four times, most recently in June 2008 in Mason City, when their basement filled with 8 feet of water. When he applied for Habitat housing, his request was simple:

"My only requirement is that I asked not to have a house near the river," Chris said.

Not a problem. Melissa Schoneberg, Executive Director of Habitat NCI, said a family who left Mason City donated their Habitat home - a two-story, three-bedroom, split-level built 14 years ago - back to the organization a couple of years ago.

Chris is willing to tackle the challenge of remodeling projects on the home including: new drywall, carpeting, doors, paint, fixtures, landscaping and

Our Wish List

Habitat NCI has a varied and ever changing list of items that we need to help carry out our mission. On the list currently:

- Cash register
- Digital camera
- Laminating machine
- Storage space
- Occasional use of skid loader and forklift

If you can supply any item on our Wish List, please call **641-424-8978**.

Drop-off Site in Clear Lake

Woodford Lumber and Home in Clear Lake is now a drop-off site for donations of new and gently used building materials to the ReStore in Mason City.

Donors should call **641-357-2134** to make an appointment to drop off items during regular business hours, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and 7:30 a.m. to noon Saturdays.

Apply for a Habitat Home

more.

Chris, a manager at Subway, also fixes computers and electronics. He works at the Habitat ReStore and other Habitat homes on his days off. When they don't need him, Chris is putting in sweat equity at his own house.

If all goes as planned, he and Christopher will move into a dry home - far from any rivers - this fall.

ReStore Brings 'Green' to Habitat



MASON CITY - Homeowners with a remodeling project on their To Do list can "go green" - save a little money and help the environment - by shopping at Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa's ReStore in Mason City.

The ReStore is a home improvement discount outlet that sells new and gently used building materials and home improvement supplies to the public at 50% to 75% off the retail price.

The store is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays. It is located at the end of Commercial Park Road off of South Taft in Mason City (see map).

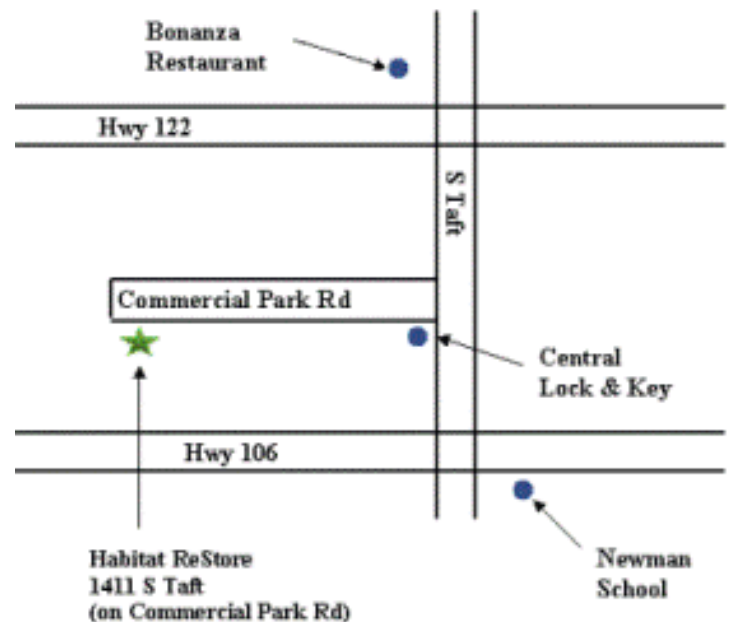
Items added recently include crown molding, Pella windows and doors, Valspar paint and store closeout light fixtures. The inventory is driven by donations and changes daily but consistently includes a large selection of light fixtures, ceiling fans, paint, doors, windows, tile, cabinets, sinks, flooring, hardware and appliances. The inventory often includes hard-to-find older items as well.

The ReStore's mission benefits the community in three ways:

1. It helps the environment by recycling and reusing building materials, keeping them out of a landfill.
2. It helps homeowners by providing affordable products to help them save money on home maintenance and improvements.
3. Proceeds from the sale of materials at the ReStore help fund the construction of more Habitat homes in north central Iowa.

All items are donated for tax deductions by contractors, businesses and the public. Receipts are provided.

Monte Kloberdanz is the ReStore manager, hired through a grant from the federally sponsored AmeriCorps program.





Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa selects families for homes based on need, ability to pay and willingness to partner with Habitat. For details, click [here](#) or call our office at 641-424-8978.

Mark Your Calendar!

* * *

"Let's Eat"

Dad's Belgian Waffle Breakfast

Saturday Sept. 26
8-11 am

First United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall
Tickets: \$6 in advance or \$6.50 at the door (Tickets for sale at Habitat for Humanity)
Children age 5 & younger eat free

Carry-outs available

Serving: Waffles, Flavored Syrups & Beverages

Remembering Our Founder

Millard Fuller, whose ideas and efforts created Habitat for Humanity, died Feb. 3 after a brief illness. He was 74.

Fuller earned his first million dollars by age 29 as an entrepreneur and attorney. But with his marriage and health suffering, the Fullers sold everything, gave the

Traffic at the store has increased this spring and summer as the word continues to spread about the store, and as homeowners tackle home improvement projects in an economy that continues to struggle.

For more information on how to donate items or to volunteer at the ReStore, interested parties can call the direct line at 641-423-1688.

Curries, Lions Club Help Family Have a Place to Call Home

MASON CITY - Kathy Doeden and sons Nathan, 17, and Brandon, 19, both disabled, have settled into a handicap accessible home this summer, thanks to the generosity of Curries Company, Lions Club International Foundation, and Wells Fargo Bank.

Kathy's long-time desire to buy a home was also a desperate need since their previous living quarters were not handicap accessible. Daily routines such as bathing were almost impossible without a home equipped for a wheelchair, and Kathy is thrilled to now own a home that meets their needs.

Curries, a leader in hollow metal door and frame construction, commemorated its 50th Anniversary by partnering with Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa to help build the home. The company donated \$25,000 to jump-start funding for construction of the home, as well as provided the volunteer labor to build the home.

"We are proud to partner with Habitat for Humanity on such a worthwhile project and to assist Kathy and her family to achieve homeownership," Jerry Currie, President/CEO, said.

The Lions Clubs International Foundation pumped up the funding with a grant for \$22,600.

"On behalf of the LCIF Trustees, I extend our gratitude for the District's efforts to improve the living conditions of the disabled through the Lions-Habitat Partnership Program," said Jimmy Ross, Past Chairman of the LCIF Board of Trustees.

Curries employees built the home with help from NIACC Building Trades students, Lions Club members, and various other community volunteers.

Kathy is from Swaledale and has lived in the North Iowa area all her life. She works for Comp Systems as a direct care aide assisting special needs children and adults. Nathan, who has Spina Bifida and is in a wheelchair, is a NASCAR fan. Brandon has Muscular Dystrophy and enjoys Vikings football and working on the computer. He graduated from high school this spring.

The house was dedicated and the Doeden family moved into their new home in late April - just in time for Brandon's graduation party!



money to the poor and moved in 1965 to Koinonia Farm, a Christian community in Georgia, where the idea for Habitat was born.

The Fullers launched Habitat for Humanity International in 1976. As of this year, more than 300,000 Habitat homes have been built, housing more than 1 million people worldwide.

Fuller wrote 10 books and received numerous honorary degrees and awards, including the nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

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Thank You!

You, our sponsors, donors and volunteers, help us to fulfill our mission:

Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa believes everyone deserves a decent place to live.

Habitat does this by working in partnership with families to build simple, decent, affordable housing for those who might not otherwise become homeowners.

Thank you -- we couldn't do it without you!

Habitat Celebrates 15th Anniversary at Open House

MASON CITY - Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa celebrated 15 years of helping to provide decent, affordable housing to area families in need with an Open House on June 25 at the ReStore at 1411 S. Taft.

In its 15 years here, Habitat has helped 46 adults become homeowners and has given 78 children bedrooms in their own homes.

The event was open to the public and included trivia, prizes, a Blazing Wild Wings eating contest and other activities to commemorate the 15th anniversary.

Plenty of food and drinks were provided by Buffalo Wild Wings, Kraft/Jello, and Pepsi Americas.

The NCI chapter of Habitat for Humanity began operations in 1994, following the Habitat belief that everyone deserves a decent place to live. Since then, with help from hundreds of volunteers and thousands of dollars of in-kind donations, Habitat has built 32 homes in its six-county region. It will work to provide housing for five additional families in 2009.

The NCI chapter serves Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Hancock, Winnebago, Worth and Wright counties.



Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa is a not-for-profit, ecumenical, Christian housing ministry.
To get involved, call **641-424-8978**.

Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa | 1411 S. Taft Ave. Mason City, IA 50401 | 641.424.8978 www.habitatnci.org

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