

# We Build and Repair Homes and Lives

*A Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County Newsletter*

Fall 2009

## Habitat for Humanity Broadens Its Mission

Habitat for Humanity has introduced a new program to broaden its mission. The new program is called *A Brush with Kindness*.

*A Brush with Kindness* (ABWK) is an exterior home preservation program that provides painting, yard clean-up, and minor repair services for homeowners in need. ABWK helps low-income homeowners impacted by age, disability and family circumstances, who struggle to maintain the exterior of their homes, reclaim their homes with pride and dignity.

ABWK serves as a companion to Habitat's core building program, enabling Habitat to serve more families, increase opportunities for volunteers, and expand the base of sponsors.

Most importantly, *A Brush with Kindness* is part of Habitat's broader community development strategy, a holistic approach, which assists communities as well as families. It revitalizes the appearance of the neighborhood, strengthens connections within the community, and helps preserve affordable housing stock.

Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County will be participating in this new program.

## Exelon Corporation Partners with Habitat for Humanity



In partnership with Exelon Corporation, the nation's largest electric and gas utility company, Habitat for Humanity has launched a new pilot program to weatherize existing Habitat houses, helping to reduce energy use and utility bills for homeowners.

Weatherization will include improvements such as weather stripping, caulking, adding or replacing door seals, replacing showerheads and furnace filters, installing CFL bulbs, and insulating attics and basements.

This new program is under way at Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County.



A Brush with  
Kindness



# Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

**Look what your  
donation can  
buy !**



In these difficult economic times, we would not be able to continue with our mission of building simple, decent, affordable houses for families in need if it were not for the generosity of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and their *Thrivent Builds* program, which is currently providing funding and volunteers to build our 17th house in Marengo.

Thrivent's grant application process for 2010 is in

progress and we are hopeful that we will once again be awarded a *Thrivent Builds* grant for our 18th house, which is scheduled to be built in Harvard.



Please help us in our mission to provide simple, decent, affordable houses to families in need.



## Board of Directors Elected for 2009-2010

First row (left to right): James Pahno, Sharon Hill, Christine Hooker, Melissa Bigger, Sue Braun, Keith DuShane

Second row (left to right): Mark Petteler, Joe Creasey, Gary Ontko, John Georgy

*Together we can make a difference*

# Our Latest Completed Houses



House #15 in Harvard



House #16 in Harvard



## Save the Date

Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County  
Annual Golf Classic and Silent Auction

Thursday, June 17, 2010

Bull Valley Golf Club

Woodstock, IL

### Board of Directors—2009/2010

Joseph Creasey, President	John Georgy, Director
Melissa Bigger, Vice President	Sharon Hill, Director
Gary Ontko, Treasurer	Christine Hooker, Director
Susan Braun, Secretary	James Pahnno, Director
Keith DuShane, Director	Mark Peteler, Director

### Contact us!

We need your help.

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