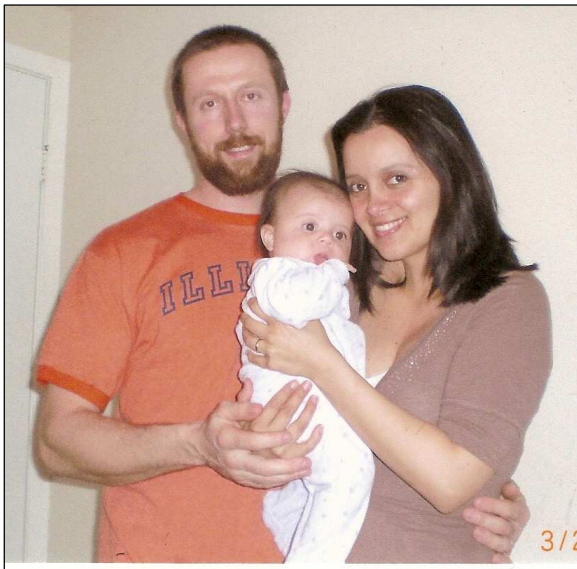


# NEWSLETTER

Summer 2008



Harasimowicz Family

## Introducing our New Partner Family

Adam and Paola, our new partner family, are excited about two events: the birth of their first child, a daughter who they named Aniela, and their being selected as a Habitat partner family.

Our 15th house is currently under construction and is located at 1319 Sage Lane in the Turtle Crossing Subdivision in Harvard.

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***We are all pencils in the hand of God.***

—Mother Teresa

## New Board of Directors for 2008-2009

Joseph Creasey, President  
Perfect Shutters, Inc.

Jose Rey, Vice President  
ReMax Traditions

Gary Ontko, Treasurer  
Wells Manufacturing Inc.

Susan Braun, Secretary  
Retired Business Owner / HFHMC Site Supervisor

Melissa Bigger, Director  
Affinity Décor, Owner

Keith DuShane, Director  
Legacy Homes, Owner

Sharon Hill, Director  
Retired Registered Nurse / Women Build

Christine Hooker, Director  
Women Build

Mark Peteler, Director  
Cary Bank & Trust Company

Glenn Schmeltzer, Director  
Commercial Loan Corporation



L. to r., front row: Melissa Bigger, Sharon Hill, Christine Hooker, Keith DuShane, Jose Rey; 2nd row: Susan Braun, Mark Peteler, Glenn Schmeltzer; 3rd row: Joseph Creasey

## Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Sponsors and "Team Builds" Once Again

Once again, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and local Lutheran Churches are partnering with Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County (HFHMC) to help fund and build another one of our houses — our 15th house, located at 1319 Sage Lane in Harvard.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, will provide 65% of the funding, and local Lutheran churches will try to provide an additional 10%.

Teams of volunteers from local Lutheran churches are forming to help build this house, with a goal

of 50% of the volunteers being Lutheran

This is the second HFHMC house being sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.



### Qualifications for a Habitat House

- Age 18 or over
- Resident of McHenry County for at least 1 year
- Citizen or legal resident
- Steadily employed or have reliable income
- Not able to qualify for a conventional mortgage
- Able to save \$500 for a down-payment and pay back a zero-interest mortgage
- Willing to help build the house

## Volunteer Highlight

Sue Braun is the Construction Site Supervisor for Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County (HFHMC). She first became involved with HFHMC in October, 2004. In September, 2004, she retired from a business she owned involving telecommunications. A week after retiring she saw an article in the newspaper calling for volunteers for a house that HFHMC was building in Woodstock. After the first day on site, she was hooked. Over time, she evolved into the Construction Site Supervisor.

Since May, 2006, Sue has served on the HFHMC Board of Directors, currently holding the office of Secretary. She said that being a board member enables her to have a voice in the policies and direction of HFHMC.

Sue has participated in the building of six Habitat houses in McHenry County.

In May, 2005, Sue spent a week in Beaumont, Texas, participating in Habitat International's "house in a box" program. At the time, the Habitat Beaumont chapter was in the process of building 32 houses on a single street, in an area impacted by Hurricane Rita. This "house-in-a box" concept allowed them to construct the entire framework of a house in less than a day.

In addition to being the Construction Site Supervisor, Sue serves on the Construction Committee and volunteers many hours managing the various construction stages, overseeing the procure-



Sue Braun  
Construction Site Supervisor

ment of construction materials, and managing the storage areas.

Sue is always willing to lend a hand wherever need.



## SAVE THE DATE!

### Annual Golf Classic and Silent Auction

Bull Valley Golf Club, Woodstock, IL  
Monday, June 22, 2009

**NEEDED:** Golfers, sponsors, and donations for our Silent Auction.

Please call the Habitat office at 815-759-9002 if you are interested in helping or want more information.

## Our Latest Completed Houses



House #14—806 Eighth Street, Harvard, IL



House #13—808 Eighth Street, Harvard, IL

### Green Build / Energy Star

Green Build / Energy Star involves building and renovating houses with the impact on the environment in mind.

Making minor changes in the way a house is built makes a difference — such as installing additional insulation to the walls and attic areas, double-pane Low-E windows, a higher energy efficient furnace or just taping the joints of the HVAC ducting system.

Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County has followed the above energy saving steps in the houses they have built, but now they want to take another step-up to a more energy-efficient house.

House #16 will be a Green Build / Energy Star Pilot Project. We will be working with as many agencies and experts as we can gather together.

Following is a list of sponsors who specifically donated funding for this house:

- Juno Lighting / Square D / Schneider Electric
- United Stationers Supply Company
- State Farm Insurance Companies
- Whirlpool Corporation

In addition, some of the above companies will be forming corporate teams to help build the house.

We will build as energy-efficient house as we can, but it must still be affordable for Habitat for Humanity to build and affordable for the partner family to buy. Lessons learned in building this energy-efficient, affordable house will be passed on to other Habitat affiliates.

For information and/or to join in the build, call 815-759-9002.



Chicagoland Habitat for Humanity is a locally run affiliate support organization of Habitat International. It is comprised of the following affiliates:

- Chicago South Suburbs
- DuPage County
- Fox Valley
- Lake County
- McHenry County
- Northern Fox Valley
- Will County
- Windy City

By joining together in our common mission of eliminating poverty housing, we can increase the number of families served in the Chicagoland area by strengthening each affiliate and also increasing the overall impact of our work through collaboration, sharing of resources, and mutual support.

For more information on Chicagoland Habitat for Humanity, the individual affiliates involved, and their ReStores, go to [www.chicagolandhabitat.org](http://www.chicagolandhabitat.org).

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF  
MCHENRY COUNTY**

P.O. Box 1166  
McHenry, IL 60051-1166

Phone: 815-759-9002

Fax: 815-759-9051

E-mail: [habitat1@mc.net](mailto:habitat1@mc.net)



*Building Houses in Partnership  
with God's People in Need*

**We're on the Web**

[www.habitatmchenry.org](http://www.habitatmchenry.org)

## **A Hand Up, Not a Hand Out**

Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County is not a give-away program nor is it government subsidized. Habitat partners with deserving families to build affordable housing in McHenry County.

The applicant family must live within McHenry County for at least one year and show a steady source of income to qualify. They commit to paying a small down payment and contributing 250 "sweat equity" hours per adult in building their house. By their investment in the building process, homeowners gain self-reliance, self-esteem, and new skills.

Down payments and monthly mortgage payments are used to build more houses through a revolving fund.

Once the house is complete, it is sold to the partner family at no profit and zero interest.

Habitat partners with businesses, churches, foundations, organizations, and private citizens to provide funding and volunteer labor to build houses, as well as build lives.

**Together we can make difference.**



**P.O. Box 1166  
McHenry, IL 60051-1166**