



Habitat for Humanity[®]

of Tompkins and Cortland Counties, New York

An affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International

Volume 4, # 4

March, 2009

First Green House Completed!

We got high grades on the blower door test of 165 Tompkins. We won the ENERGY STAR rating and will receive nearly \$2000 in state rebates. On 1-31-09 the Fetterly family moved into what they call their “forever home.” The family contributed 511 hours (and counting) to build their home.

New for this build: (1.) Company signs in the yard. Yaman, Niederhofer, and Crown Construction Companies; Builders Best; Pure Panes Window Washing donated services and equipment, we gave them advertising space in our yard. (2) A bottle and can recycling project begun in July by the Ohio Church Youth Group. \$1000 generated! (3) JM Murray, the sheltered workshop sent volunteers and job coaches to paint and clean.



2 SUNY Cortland painters with supervisor Paul Yaman at Fetterly House

Breed Road Update

Several new developments have occurred with the Breed Road property. A basic 3-bedroom house plan has been selected! The plan is currently under review to make the house handicapped adaptable. As for the construction process, a preliminary selection has been made. Well drillers and an excavator have been contacted to begin work. NYSEG has reviewed the site for bringing electrical power. Permanent power will be brought in under ground from the nearest utility power to a pedestal with the power meter. Temporary outlets can be place on the pedestal for construction power.

An April ground breaking is being scheduled. Before that may occur, a few other activities must be accomplished. We have a backhoe standing by to dig the “big hole” for the inspection and approval needed to obtain a Health Department permit for a septic system. Following that, we will be applying for a building permit. We will also need to build a shed to store our work materials during the construction period. Lastly and most importantly, we are looking for volunteers and donations of funds, materials AND services to help with construction.



Breed Road Frontage



Andrea scrubbing with tooth brush before sealing grout at Fetterly House

Diary of Habitat Volunteer In Trouble With Police

Wed 1-28-09 Evening -- Last volunteer build night at 165 Tompkins. With help, I clear out 12 big boxes of tools and haul to storage barn behind friend's house. Shovel path to barn and unload. All is dark in house.

Thurs. 1-29-09 Morning -- I return (to do final clean of house; remove cardboard & paint buckets to go to recycle center; take plastic film to TOPS; remove final deposit cans/bottles for redemption center). I return to barn with boxes of plumbing and electrical supplies. Immediately, a cop car pulls in behind me, then another one. There is some comfort that his gun is in his holster but his face is so grim. The friend is out of the country and the house on watch list. Cops block me in for half hour while I unload boxes and they call the friend's daughter, who knows nothing of Habitat storage arrangement. I will be late for hair appointment! I appeal to female cop. "Call the mayor, call the chief of police," I say, "They will vouch for me." Unresolved and reluctantly, cops let me escape to the appointment.

Friday 1-30-09 Old tire thrown on Fetterly front lawn. I retrieve it out of habit; take to gas station dumpster. Arrive home; a cop car pulls in behind me. My dog is barking on the front porch; mailman freaking out & afraid to deliver. Cop says, "2 wrongs don't make a right." I feel like Arlo Guthrie in Alice's Restaurant. I retrieve the tire, apologize profusely & turn it to the tire dealer, telling him of my woes. He takes the tire for free and says that he helped build the 2 Habitat houses on Fox Hollow.

Welcome News from Wells Fargo Housing Foundation

TCHFH just got the news from Wells Fargo: They have awarded us a grant of \$10,000 for our Breed Road project! Thank you Wells Fargo and especially Carol Burgess, who was an advocate for us within the bank. We are looking forward to having a workday with your group in the fall.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

* March 6, 7 & 8th: Tompkins/Cortland Builders and Remodelers Home Show; TC3
<http://www.tcbra.com/home-show2008.htm>

*March 25th, 4pm-10pm: Fund-raiser at Rogue's Harbor
 TC HFH will take over Rogue's Harbor! TC HFH Board members and friends will be acting as waiters and waitresses for the evening and all tips will be given to TC HFH. Full bar and dinner menu will be available.

* April: Ground Breaking for Breed Road Property! Date/Time TBA

* Wednesday, April 8th: Beverly J. Martin Science Fair; Beverly J. Martin Elementary School

* Sunday, May 31st: Ithaca Festival Gorges Green Expo; Stewart Park

Holiday Mailing Campaign: A Success!

Between Thanksgiving and Christmas of 2008, we launched our first holiday mailing campaign. Thanks to all of you who donated, we were able to raise about \$15,000! We are tremendously encouraged by your generosity and support. These funds will go into building our Breed Road house and lay the groundwork for Arthur Avenue, Cortland. If you haven't donated yet and want to help us build this house, please use the form in this newsletter - we still need to raise about \$50,000 more!

Why Return Bottles To Habitat

If you had purchased \$1000.00 of AIG stock one year ago, it would now be worth \$56.91. With 'Fannie Mae', you would have \$11.34 left. With the Lehman Bros, less than \$0.86. But, with \$1000.00 worth of beer you would have \$214.00 in deposit to donate to HFH.

WANTED:

1. A sign maker
2. A Keeper of the Tools -- periodically inventory our tools.
3. A Recycling manager for the Breed Rd build site
4. Grant writers
5. Family support committee members
6. A storage barn in both counties
7. People with building supervisory skills
8. Power tools, tools
9. Fund raising ideas you want to kick start
10. Energetic committee or board members
11. A storage shed for Breed Rd.
12. Several outdoor collection containers so that the bottle drive can continue.

I would like to contribute to the building of the next Habitat house.

Amount \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Mail to: TC HFH. P.O. Box 4683, Ithaca, NY 14852

Or go to our web site (www.tchabitat.com) if you would like to contribute to HFH through a painless monthly automatic deduction from your checking account or credit card.