



Springfield/Eugene  
**Habitat  
for Humanity®**

# Habitations

*Also serving Walton to McKenzie Bridge, Goshen, Pleasant Hill, Marcola, Coburg, Dexter, Lowell, Jasper, and Fall Creek*

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FALL 2009 Newsletter

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## MISSION STATEMENT

Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity is a Christian-based ecumenical ministry building simple, decent, affordable houses in partnership with people in need.

## 2009

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### President:

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## NEW BEGINNINGS!

Summer has ended, but for Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity, it's the beginning of a new season, a season of new beginnings. On September 3, we moved our offices to our new location at 1210 Oak Patch Road, in Eugene, where we will be opening a ReStore.

For many months several key committees have worked on identifying and then successfully negotiating a lease on a wonderful building for our offices and ReStore. Our offices are now installed (excuse the extra boxes!) in the more spacious and comfortable quarters, our construction crews have begun to use their new warehouse facility and most exciting of all our plans to open a ReStore are well underway.

What a blessing to find one building that serves

all these purposes so perfectly. Of course, the work is just beginning as we convert just under 12,000 square feet of the existing warehouse into a new retail store.

Locally the ReStore concept may be unfamiliar, but some neighboring affiliates do operate these retail outlets as a great source for new (and like-new) building supplies, home improvement items and more. With new lighting, heat & air conditioning, and a prominent store front we hope to open our doors and begin sales by the end of this year.

Watch the newsletter for updates as our construction process proceeds, or stop by and say hello to staff and volunteers in our new home. 1210 Oak Patch Road can be reached from either W. 11<sup>th</sup> or W. 18<sup>th</sup>. Look for the green awnings on our offices.



1210 Oak Patch

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## Festival A Huge Success!

Habitat for Humanity sponsored the **Willamette Valley Brews and Blues Festival (WVBBF)** on August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, at Island Park in Springfield. Almost 400 volunteers put in a great deal of time and energy to help create this first-annual event.

The festival was considered by many to have had the top blues musicians from this area, with over 120 musicians participating. It attracted dozens of sponsors, local microbreweries and wineries, along with incredible food, artisan and non-profit booths.

There was a very special Kid Zone named after

former S/E Habitat board member and long-time School District 4J school principal Kate Darden, who passed away from cancer this past spring. The Kid Zone had it's own stage and many of the musicians from the larger stage performed, along with face painters, balloon artist, jugglers and the local Science Factory. Prince Pucklers donated ice cream, and there was lots of fun for all those who attended.

August 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> is the date of next years festival, so be sure to put it on your calendars. Also, watch our website: [www.wvbbf.org](http://www.wvbbf.org) for all the exciting details, including volunteer opportunities.

This magical festival seemed to be exactly what

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Don Griffin

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**Festival ...continued**

our community has been waiting for, as we met and in many cases surpassed our festival goals. It attracted almost 5,000 people, and we collected over 5,200 pounds of food for FOOD for Lane County.

This festival, and those to come, will help make the needy people of our community a little better prepared to face the current economic challenges. The proceeds from the festival support Habitat in providing decent housing for people who have never had the opportunity to own a home of their own, and the food raised for FOOD for Lane County will greatly help feed the hungry within our community.

**News from the Board President:****Thanks to all for a Great 2009!**

I'd like to send out my sincerest thanks to all of our Habitat supporters that have made 2009 a banner year for the affiliate. We have definitely taken a giant leap forward in every phase of our efforts to serve our Springfield and Eugene communities.

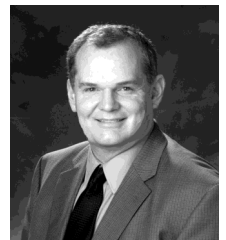
Wow. Where to start? Meyer Estates is going strong with our Bank of America partners coming on board to get the 4<sup>th</sup> home underway. We have six more homes to build and are actively looking for corporate, community and church sponsors to help us finish this amazing project that will transform the lives of 10 families for generations to come.

The first annual Willamette Valley Brews and Blues Festival was an overwhelming success, and I'll refer you to the article written by Kathy Pyfer, Board member and Festival Organizer, in this newsletter for details. Suffice to say almost 5,000 people came to Island Park in Springfield on a beautiful August weekend to support Habitat and enjoy some great music and fun. We have already begun preparations for next year, so look for more information to come.

And of course the ReStore: what an amazing effort this has been. By the time you receive this newsletter we will be well on our way with this incredible project that will add to the community's goals of recycling building materials while

supporting our ongoing efforts to eliminate poverty housing in our area. We are on target to have our ReStore open in time for the Christmas shopping season. Please see Scarlet Lee's article about this project in this newsletter.

And as a final note, I am sad to say goodbye as this will be my last newsletter published as Board President. My 2-year term has come and gone and my sincere hope is that I will leave this position with a stronger and more vibrant Board and Affiliate in place, one with a clear vision and plan that will continue the momentum that has been building since we embarked on this journey 2 years ago. You have a great incoming President in Dan LaCoste, District Manager for US Bank, who will bring a strong background of leadership and focus to the Affiliate, and of course our Executive Director, Don Griffin, continues to serve us in an incredible fashion, making sure that we are constantly on the right track and are actively fulfilling the mission of Habitat for Humanity. Please continue your support for our leaders as you have definitely done with me!!



**Rick Medlen**, President  
Board of Directors

**See you at a  
Habitat  
event soon....**

**Habitat Wish List!**

- ☆ Christmas wrapping paper
- ☆ Bows and ribbon
- ☆ "Scotch" tape
- ☆ Boxes suitable for wrapping gifts – small, medium, and large sizes.
- ☆ Tape Measures
- ☆ Hammers
- ☆ Carpenter Pencils
- ☆ Paint Brushes, Rollers, Roller Pans
- ☆ Work Gloves
- ☆ Paper Plates, Cups, Napkins, etc. for Lunches for Volunteers
- ☆ 14' - 18' Box Truck (Cube Van) for use by the ReStore to pick-up donations
- ☆ General Office Supplies – pens, pencils, copy paper, 8½ x 11 note pads, mini to large binder clips,
- ☆ New vacuum cleaner for our new offices.

## From the Executive Director's Corner



As we enter fall with Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas seemingly just around the corner, it truly is a season of hope. We're coming off a wonderful summer filled with exciting and energizing activities. We're headed for a time of great opportunity. This newsletter is filled with information about our success offering the First Annual Willamette Valley Brews and Blues Festival, the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans house sponsorship, the Bank of America build taking off, our move to new offices, and the upcoming ReStore. It sure is a time for our thoughts to be centered on being thankful for our blessings, enjoying the beauty around us, and being grateful for what we can do to help others.

We hear that our economy is improving, but that high jobless rates will continue nonetheless. With deep recessions

come major suffering and pleas for

support for myriad organizations that help those in need – and Habitat certainly is one of them asking for contributions to support our mission of building basic, decent, safe, affordable homes in partnership low income members of the community and community volunteers.

Looking into the eyes of recent Habitat homeowners, I have seen, even felt, the blessing they know they have received because of the generosity of donors and volunteers. Hearing the heartfelt words of thanks shared with tears of joy by a homeowner touches my heart and assures me that Christ's admonition to love our neighbor as ourselves is being expressed by our supporters.

As you make decisions about giving this year, we hope that you'll consider some special ways you can help Habitat serve families in need of simple, decent, and affordable housing in our community:

- Contact us about volunteering in the ReStore, to help wrap gifts at Gateway Mall benefitting Habitat, on a build sight, or a number of other ways to help Habitat.
- Visit Gateway Mall on Dec. 12-13, and 19-24 and have Habitat volunteers wrap your gifts for you as you make a contribution to Habitat.
- Consider giving an Alternative Gift this year. Contact us and we'll help you inform someone you love that a gift has been given in their name to Habitat as their Christmas present. A gift of \$100 can help buy a roof truss, \$5 helps buy 2x6 studs for the house, or \$5,000 can buy cabinets or flooring.
- Make a special gift to Habitat to help us open the ReStore.



— Don Griffin  
Executive Director

## Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to help assemble shelving and set up the floor plan for our ReStore. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Penny at the Habitat office 741-1707 or you may email her at penny@sehabitat.org.

## Lane County Home Improvement Show

Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity will be having a booth at this year's Lane County Home Improvement Show. Stop by our booth and say "Hello", we'd love to see you.

This year's show days & hours are:

Friday 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
 Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
 Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## GATEWAY GIFT WRAPPING FUNDRAISER

Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity will have a gift wrapping kiosk at the Gateway Mall again this year. Volunteers are desperately needed to help with the gift wrapping. Below is a schedule of when the kiosk will be open for business:

Saturday	12/12	10:00 a.m. to	9:00 p.m.
Sunday	12/13	11:00 a.m. to	6:00 p.m.
Saturday	12/19	9:00 a.m. to	10:00 p.m.
Sunday	12/20	10:00 a.m. to	8:00 p.m.
Monday	12/21	9:00 a.m. to	10:00 p.m.
Tuesday	12/22	9:00 a.m. to	10:00 p.m.
Wednesday	12/23	9:00 a.m. to	10:00 p.m.
Thursday	12/24	8:00 a.m. to	6:00 p.m.

If you would like to volunteer at the gift wrapping kiosk, please call the Habitat office at 741-1707 to sign up.



Springfield/Eugene  
**Habitat**  
 for Humanity®

# Help us make it happen!

Habitat for Humanity

builds more than houses- -

it builds families, communities and lives.

Every gift to Habitat is a testament to the caring and unselfish spirit of Habitat supporters who choose this way to make a difference in the world they live in. Yes, I would like to help Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity build another house!

\_\_\_ Here is my pledge of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month for \_\_\_\_\_ months.

\_\_\_ Here is my one-time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ Here is at least \$100 to join the “600 Club” (600 people pledging \$100 each, to help fulfill our mission!)

\_\_\_ I would like to make an **alternative gift or memorial gift** by making a donation to Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity. Please send a gift card to the following address:

\_\_\_ I would like to sign up for electronic funds transfer; please send me information.

Donate by credit card on-line through our website link, [www.sehabitat.org](http://www.sehabitat.org) and 100% of your donation comes to us.

Check here \_\_\_ if you do not wish to be thanked publicly (in a newsletter, other publication, etc.) for your donation. This selection applies to all donations unless you authorize otherwise.

**To:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Holiday/Occasion to be celebrated \_\_\_\_\_

**From:** Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to: S/E HFH. All donations are tax deductible as permitted by law. S/E HFH tithes on all unrestricted contributions to build homes in Nicaragua, helping end poverty housing around the world.*

## HOW CAN I HELP?

You can use the above coupon to give to Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity in many ways. You can make a monthly pledge, you can make a one-time gift; or, you can pledge \$100 to join the “600 Club” (600 people pledging \$100 each to help fulfill our mission.)

You can also celebrate a friend’s or family member’s birthday or other occasion with an alternative gift. Send us a check, the name and address of the recipient and they will receive a card telling them of your gift to us (not the amount).

Or leave a legacy by designating the Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity as a beneficiary in your will, life insurance policy, retirement plan, or IRA. Consider the advantages and contact your financial advisor or attorney.

## Homeowner Applications Being Accepted

The Family Selection Committee is accepting applications to become Habitat homeowners. Families are needed for three 2-bedroom homes in Meyer Estates, Habitat’s 10-house development at 49<sup>th</sup> and A Streets in Springfield.

Applicants are selected based on 3 criteria: Need, Willingness to Partner, and Ability to Pay. Need includes determination of the need for housing and the applicant’s income. Factors such as substandard conditions, overcrowding, or paying more than 30% of ones income for housing are considered. Persons/families with income levels from 30% - 60% of the area median income, adjusted for family size, are eligible. Willingness to Partner is most prominently reflected through the sweat equity requirement of 400 hours for a one-adult family and 500 hours for a family with two or more adults who will live in the house. Ability to Pay is a combination of credit history/debt load and income stability. Additionally, applicants must currently live in our service area or have worked in it for at least a year, and be a citizen or legal resident of the US.

Contact our office at 741-1707 or application orientation schedules and additional information.

**House #3—Sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**

Local Lutheran congregations and other volunteers are nearing completion on the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsored house in Meyer Estates. They are working hard to finish so that the Ambrose family can enjoy Thanksgiving in their new home.

We still need as many Lutheran volunteers as possible to finish up the home. If you are open to enjoying a great fall day filled with meaning and graciousness, come and help us on a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday. Call us at 741-1707 to make arrangements to help on the build. Making lunches for hungry volunteers is also a wonderful way to serve.



**Meyer Estates Update!**

**House #4—Sponsored by Bank of America**

On August 20, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the Jordan family, which will be the fourth house to be built at the Meyer Estates site. It was a beautiful day for the ceremony and a large crowd turned out for the event.

After moving to Eugene in 2004 with her children and a few boxes of belongings, Lisa Jordan, a single mother of three, has struggled to support her family and find a home. Last year Lisa was accepted into Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity's homeownership program and has been earning her "sweat equity" hours since then.

The Jordan house is being sponsored by Bank of America. In the photo on the right, from left to right is: Jeffrey Hedgpeth, VP Banking Center Manager, Rick Medlen, S/E HfH Board President, Lisa Jordan and two of her children, and Ronald Farmer, Market President Bank of America Commercial Banking.



## ALBERTSON'S COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAM

For those of you who haven't heard about Albertson's Community Partner Program, it's an easy way to help raise money to support Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity's mission to eliminate poverty housing.

The Community Partners Program has been in existence for over ten years. When you link your Albertson's Preferred Savings Card to our Community Partner number (**49000108872**), then for every dollar you spend on groceries at Albertson's, they will donate a percentage of what you spend, directly to S/EHfH as a cash donation.

The process to link our Community Partner number to your Albertson's Preferred Savings Card is very easy, just follow these step-by-step instructions:

- 1) go to Albertson's web site at: **www.albertsons.com**
- 2) Scroll down to the bottom of Albertson's home page to the blue menu bar and click on: **In the Community**
- 3) On the In the Community home page, about mid-way down on the right side, click on: **Albertson's Community Partner Program.**
- 4) Then click where it says: **Shoppers login or register with your Preferred Savings Card first.**
- 5) Sign in by entering your **Preferred Savings Card number** and your **10-digit phone number** and click on login.
- 6) On the sign-post on the right side of the page, click on: **My Account**
- 7) Under Add a Partner, enter our community partner number: **49000108872**, then click on: **Add a Partner** in red.

Please help us raise funds by joining this great program today. If you have any problems registering on Albertson's website, please contact Carol at the Habitat office (741-1707) and she will help you link your Preferred Savings Card with our Community Partner number.

Habitat for Humanity International affiliates around the world have built more than 300,000 homes in over 3,000 communities, housing over 1.5 million people in about 90 countries. Habitat for Humanity believes all God's people deserve a safe, decent, affordable, place to live. What a powerful way to express love for our neighbors!



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