

Summer 2009

Orange County Habitat for Humanity's 24th House Dedicated – Now it is the Beasley's Home

On a cold Sunday in November, Orange County Habitat for Humanity had the groundbreaking for its 24th house. There was a big crowd of family & friends who wanted to get this 24th house off to a good start. Rev. Denise Hall led the service that included prayers for our partnership with Mike & GiGi Beasley.

For seven long months, the Beasley family (Mike; Gigi; Anthony, Jr.; Keanna; and Kevin) has worked alongside volunteers and OCHFH Board members to make this house a reality. There are not enough "thanks" to go around to all those who gave time & energy & enthusiasm to working on this house.

Now it is the home that the Beasley's have been waiting for; a home that is warm and dry. It's a big enough for their family and it's affordable. On a beautiful summer day, June 14, 2009, OCHFH and the Beasleys dedicated their home. It was a celebration of its completion, and a grand celebration it was!

There were approximately 45 people in attendance, including the Beasley's, their family and friends, Habitat Board members and volunteers. As part of the dedication, the family was given a Habitat Homeowner's Basket that contained a Bible, flowers, bread, candle, salt and sugar. The Bible is a symbol that this family may have a secure foundation; the flowers so that the family may always know beauty; the bread so the family may never know hunger; salt that their home may always have flavor; a candle so the house will never know darkness, and sugar so that life will always be sweet. In addition to the basket, the Beasley family was given the keys to their new house and an embroidered sampler from the Dolly Madison Quilters Guild as a house-warming gift.

Refreshments were provided by the Beasley family and by Randy Cooper of Elmwood at Sparks. House tours were available, lots of photos were taken, & many great conversations took place. It was a wonderful afternoon of celebration!

The Beasleys, like other Habitat families, made the down payment for their home and have put in hundreds of hours of "sweat equity" by working on their house & on other Habitat projects. They will be purchasing this home by paying a no interest mortgage on their new home. Habitat for Humanity does not build houses "for" families...rather, houses are built in partnership with families who need decent and affordable housing.



Meet GiGi and Mike Beasley

Family...family coming to visit...family coming over for a big meal...being able to sit down together around a table as a family every night. That's what having a home of your own means to this Habitat family.

In their old place, it was too small and too hot for even their immediate family to have dinner together. Their extended families liked to visit, but it was way too crowded to be comfortable. Now family can gather. GiGi and Mike are both close to their families and like families everywhere, they like to be together. Mike says he never knows who might be there when he gets home from work! And recently a young cousin came to spend the night & have some special time with her older cousin, Keanna.

According to GiGi, the oldest son, Kevin has a smile that won't stop (a lot like his mom!), and Anthony tells me that there are frogs and squirrels in the yard. Everyone agrees the water tastes much better than the water at their old place!

Cooking for family, doing laundry at home, listening to the quiet at night, having beautiful flowers to care for...these are all things the Beasley family loves and can now have in this place called home. Having a home has brought joy and happiness into their lives. They say it's given them a new look on life, and they want to make the best of this opportunity.

Special thanks were given to Bill Nowers who chaired the Building Committee and spent untold hours working on the home for the Beasley's. Bill provides the kind of dedication that can only come from a committed volunteer!



Letter from the President & Vice President

Orange Co. Habitat for Humanity has recently completed our 24th house, and thanks to the efforts of many dedicated volunteers, Anthony & Gissela Beasley are now happily living in a home of their own. The Dedication Service for this home was huge with about 45 family members, and volunteers coming together for the blessing of this home and the official "handing over of the keys". The weather could not have been more perfect and the yard looked especially beautiful after the Rapid Anne Garden Club got through planting flowers and shrubs. It was a special time for everyone. Food was plentiful and both conversation and laughter were in abundance.

We owe a special thank you to Bill Nowers who was the general contractor on this house. Despite health problems of his own, Bill's energy never flagged. We also want to thank 84 Lumber who helped by giving us a huge discount on building materials. There are too many volunteers to name who gave time & energy to partner on this home alongside Anthony & Gissela. Thanks to you all...we could not build without you!

We especially valued and enjoyed our partnership with 2 schools during this build. Volunteers from Woodberry Forest School and from Germanna Community College both provided valuable hours of building help, and we thank you both!

Now to move on to future plans...House number 25. We are in the final stages of family selection and are looking for land on which we can build. If you know of a building lot that could be donated to Habitat for Humanity, or which Habitat could buy for a small amount, please contact us. Our goal is to have our 25th home completed by late spring, 2010 (our silver anniversary home!).

This is a particularly busy time for OCHFH as we begin preparations for our first big (hopefully annual) fall fundraiser. Gina Sedwick, our Fundraising Chairperson has a fun evening planned and we will use profits from this event to help build our 25th house. Gina has formed a talented and ambitious committee that is already hard at work making plans & arrangements. We want to make this night a big success! Stand by for more information...

Adrianna Cowan-Waddy & Cindy Reid

ORANGE COUNTY HABITAT'S GOLF CLASSIC BENEFITED HABITAT'S BUILDING PROGRAM



What a great day for a round of golf!! The rain held off and the temperature was just right for the annual spring golf tournament, held at Meadows Farm Golf Course on May 15 th, to benefit Orange County Habitat for Humanity. The course was beautiful, and the lunch was delicious. It was a small group of golfers, but a good time was had by all.

The winning round was submitted by the foursome of (shown above) Ernie Johnson, John Payles, Ken Poole, and Curtis Gish. Their low score of 60 was good enough to win first place. In second place was the foursome of Sparky Watson, Marvin Snoddy, Bob Halstead, & Don Smith with a score of 64.

Thank you to all the very generous supporters and sponsors of the golf tournament.

- Many, many thanks to Herndon Chevrolet for the Hole-In-One Malibu. Although no one got the hole in one to win the car, it was greatly admired by all the golfers on Hole 15!
- Thank you to the Fairway Sponsors:
 - Virginia National Bank
 - Brian Manatz;
 - Orange Review;
 - John & Alice Henry;
 - Dr. Hugh Teller; and
 - Herndon Chevrolet.
- Thank you to the Platinum Sponsors:
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 - Jack Kelly;
 - Wilderness Center Pharmacy;
 - Custom Printing;
 - Brian Manetz
 - Rappahannock Electric;
 - Stellar One Bank; and the
 - Foot & Ankle Specialists of Fredericksburg.

Some Orange County Habitat for Humanity Board Members at Work!



Board members (left to right) Betsy Amos, Denise Hall, Gina Sedwick, Adrianna Cowan-Waddy, Cindy Reid, Pat Garnett, Henry Middlebrook working on plans for the Fall Fund Raiser. Not pictured are Dawn Cooper and Bob Clore. See the enclosed flyer and encourage everyone to come.

Renew America Together

While millions had the day off on Monday, January 19, many answered the national call to a day of service. Orange County Habitat for Humanity was happy to sponsor one site for this day of service, and a worthy crew showed up to install vinyl siding on our latest (24th!) house in Orange County. It was a wonderful day of work and fellowship, and excellent progress was made on the house. Volunteers came from near and far...as near as Orange County and as far as Madison, Greene, Spotsylvania, and Henrico Counties. A few days later Richard Coleman, of Southern Style Builders, volunteered his expertise and shingled the roof.

Thanks to all who gave up a day "off" in order to help provide a better community for all of us. Some of the dozen workers are pictured below and at <http://ochfh.org/BeasleyHouse.htm>.



Workers from the Rapid Anne Garden Club spent a hot day landscaping the house for the Beasley's. Plants were donated by the Orange's garden clubs members and *Grelen Nursery Inc.* Two pickup loads of mulch were donated by Unionville's *Village Feed Home and Garden Showplace*



Jay, Jason, Yonathan, Bill and David from Woodberry Forest School spent a Saturday laying the walk and helping on several other outside jobs.



P.O. Box 65
Orange, VA 22960

Contacts for Orange County Habitat for Humanity

Email: OCHFH@ochfh.org

Office Phone: (messages only) 540-672-5041

Adrianna Cowan-Waddy, President –

540-672-1100 AdriannaCowan@aol.com

Cindy Reid, Vice President – Cindy_Reid@woodberry.org

Betsy Amos, Secretary – BAMosquito5@gmail.com

Pat Garnett, Treasurer – 540-672-2000, p_garnett@verizon.net



Cars for Homes is Habitat for Humanity’s vehicle donation program. All donations from Orange County residents will go to help build homes in Orange County. Call the Cars for Homes toll free number, 1-877-277-4344, or visit www.carsforhomes.org to donate cars, trucks, boats, RVs, motorcycles, airplanes or other motorized vehicles. You will be sent an acknowledgement and all the forms required by IRS regulations. Even if your vehicle doesn’t run it can still be an important donation ~ vehicles are the most heavily recycled consumer product. Call today to get rid of that old car, help build a home for a needy family and get another 2008 tax deduction.

**ORANGE COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
TAX – DEDUCTIBLE DONATION**

YES!! I want to give a donation to Orange County Habitat for Humanity

Enclosed is a donation of: (Please specify) ___\$25 ___\$50 ___\$100

___\$500 ___\$1000 Other: \$ _____

___Check is attached

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: ___ ZIP: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Email: _____ (for OCHFH newsletter)

MAIL TO: Orange County Habitat for Humanity
PO Box 65, Orange, VA 22960



Shop and Share is an easy way to help OCHFH raise funds if you shop at

Food Lion and use their MVP Card. Each time you shop a portion will be donated to OCHFH.

Just mail or email us the following information:

MVP Card # (12 digits) _____

First Name: _____ MI _____

Last Name: _____

Day phone: () _____ - _____

Email: _____ (for OCHFH newsletter)