



Newsletter- Summer 2008

## Building Homes...Community...Futures

### *The Excitement is Building! Haywood Estates Underway...*

Beaches Habitat for Humanity has embarked on its most ambitious project to date, a 32 home development named Haywood Estates located on the corner of Mayport Road and A1A. Infrastructure work has begun and the site is visible from A1A just before Lakeside Apartments. A box culvert, which will cross Sherman's Creek on A1A, will provide access to the new development.

The development is named in honor of Haywood Ball, an attorney from Donahoo Ball & McMenamy, who has closed on all 180 homes (pro bono) built by Beaches Habitat for Humanity since 1991. In addition, Haywood has served as past President of our affiliate as well as member of our Site Committee which has helped

us acquire affordable building sites at the Beaches, a difficult task at best. Thanks to Haywood's help, we now have a three year inventory of building sites.

The 32 homes will include a mix of one & two story duplexes ranging from two to five bedroom designs. Each home will include central air, appliances (donated to all Habitat affiliates by Whirlpool), as well as floor and window treatment. Our goal is to make all our homes receive the ENERGY STAR, a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the US Department of Energy helping us save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices. This will help reduce the burden of large utility bills and make our even homes more affordable despite some up front costs to meet these goals.

In addition to providing simple decent affordable housing, our Education Program sets us apart from most other Habitat affiliates. These new families will be provided with opportunities that run from elementary school



Beaches Habitat Board Members Paul Schmidt, Bill Peaks, Joseph Dagher, Gail Alderson, Attorney Haywood Ball, Board Member Joann Campbell, Councilman Mike Borno and Board Member Deb Testa break ground.

through college. Our Prep Club program provides generous cash awards to children for both perfect attendance and academic excellence. Our After School Tutoring Program at both the Donner and Jordan Community Centers in Atlantic Beach-helps over 50 students with their reading and math skills. After high school, fully paid scholarships are available at both the University of North Florida and Florida Community College at Jacksonville. The UNF scholarship (covering all tuition, books, fees and campus expenses) program is available to any family whose high school student is admitted to the university. UNF has the capacity to award 5 new scholarships every year. A similar program at FCCJ can award 40 new scholarships each year. This program can be used by the entire family, including parents, for specialized job training or to obtain an Associates Degree.

Table of Contents	
1.....	Haywood Estates
2.....	Jimmy Carter Project
3.....	Fathers of the Year
4.....	Welcome Home
6.....	Education Corner
7.....	Donor List
8.....	Independence Day

**Save the Date**  
**5th Annual Beach Bash**  
**October 20th, 2008**  
 At  
**The Casa Marina Hotel**  
**Benefitting Beaches Habitat and B.E.A.M.**

## Building Community...

## One Week to Make a Difference

In August of 2005 one of the deadliest storms hit the Gulf coast devastating millions. Hurricane Katrina a Category 5 storm hit the coast causing billions of dollars in damage, leaving close to a million people homeless and killing thousands.

Almost three years later and the rebuilding continues. Tens of thousands still remain homeless or misplaced. This year Habitat for Humanity's '**Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project**' was committed to get the people from the Gulf Coast back into decent affordable housing. This year brought together the Carter Project and the Americorps Build-A-Thon. Over 1,000 volunteers from all over the world came to the coast to join in, including four Beaches Habitat AmeriCorps staff and Volunteer Coordinator Caja Kelly.



The group left early Sunday morning wide eyed and ready to give "a hand up". Mia, Joe and Bethany built brand new homes in Biloxi while Rob rehabbed homes in Gulfport. Caja was a media and VIP escort also in Gulfport. Our members worked long hours in pouring rain but it was all worthwhile. Rob Kennedy says, "It was fun to work with the homeowner and meet the families." "As a former resident of Gulfport, it's great to see that this area has not been forgotten—there is still a lot of work to be done," said Caja.



By the end of the week when the dust had settled and the rain had stopped, 42 families got to go home again, after three years. 10 more homes will be finished in the next month and another 20 rehabs will be finished thanks to all the generous volunteers who took one week to help make a difference. More stories to come about this miraculous week as the AmeriCorps share their stories of how their lives have changed. Also be sure to check out our photos in the Beaches Habitat gallery on our website <http://www.beacheshabitat.org>.

## Birdies for Charity, Giving is Fun during The Players Championship



*Birdies for Charity*, an annual fundraiser put on by The PGA TOUR, gives fans the opportunity to support local charities by making a pledge for each birdie made by the professional golfers during the competitive rounds of The Players held in May.

Over 51 local organizations participated in the program, including Beaches Habitat. *Birdies for Charity* serves as a great way to support local charities by tracking and keeping up with the world's best golfers during The Players.

The pledge for each birdie must be a minimum of two cents. Beaches Habitat had a variety of generous pledges even up to 15 cents a birdie.

*Birdies for Charity* also increases excitement as participants had the opportunity to guess the number of birdies made during the tournament. The participant who guessed correctly this year won a trip for two to Scottsdale, Ariz. This grand prize includes a three night stay at the Fairmont Scottsdale Princess, roundtrip airfare, golf at TPC Scottsdale, lessons at The Tour Academy, as well as other amenities. The *Birdies for Charity* Grand Prize Winners for 2008 are Rick and Cindy Stinson who contributed to the St. Johns County Education Foundation.

How many birdies do you think were made during The Players? In 2007, 1370 birdies were made, 2006, 1385 birdies were made. This year's total reached 1241 birdies during the four day tournament due to intense wind and weather conditions. As for the winner of The Players, Champion Sergio Garcia, contributed a total of 17 birdies during the competitive rounds.

*Birdies for Charity* generated around \$3,000 for Beaches Habitat. Thank you to all who participated in *Birdies for Charity* for your generous contribution!



## Beaches Habitat Fathers of the Year

### Homeowner Father of the Year, Nelson Osorio

Beaches Habitat is proud to honor Nelson Osorio as the Homeowner Father of the Year for 2008.

Nelson, a single parent of two daughters, lives in Sawgrass Chapel Place. Nelson has raised both daughters alone for the past 10 years. He says that being a single parent “is not a choice, [but] you have to do it. You have to understand the consequences and understand the responsibility of raising two kids alone,” says Nelson.

Before living in his Beaches Habitat Home, Nelson lived with his sister and her family. Seven people occupied the small house where Nelson, his sister and their families lived. Nelson recalls sleeping on the couch each night so his two daughters Erica, 12, and Auldrey, 13, could share a bedroom. “I needed [the Habitat house] for my kids,” Nelson says. “They needed a good place to live.”

So far Nelson and his family have lived in the Beaches Habitat house for six months. Nelson says being a homeowner makes life a bit more comfortable. “We enjoy it, the kids are happy to have their privacy as they shared a tiny bedroom before,”

Nelson is not only a full-time father, but also works at Avante of Jacksonville Beach Nursing Home. If that is not enough, Nelson is enrolled at FCCJ taking night courses. Nelson hopes by taking classes at the community college he will further his understanding of the English language. Nelson is originally from the Philippines.

Nelson, although busy as can be, smiles and laughs each day. Beaches Habitat is thankful and blessed to have such a remarkable home owner and father.



### Volunteer Father of the Year, Steve McCollum

Beaches Habitat is excited to award Steve McCollum the Volunteer Father of the Year Award for 2008.

McCollum and his wife, Dee, were 20 years old when they married in Columbus, Ohio. A college student, Steve managed to work two jobs and go to school while raising two children with Dee. After college two more children came along making the McCollum family complete... for a little while at least.

It was there in Columbus where Steve discovered Habitat for Humanity. Steve began volunteering his time with the ReStore of Habitat for Humanity-

Greater Columbus.

When he and his wife moved to Jacksonville, Steve continued building and volunteering with Beaches Habitat. Steve enjoys volunteering his time at Beaches Habitat saying it is small enough to where “you actually work with the people you are helping.” “It is so neat to see kids come home from school and play ball in the yard and somehow I had a part in that,” says Steve.

As the years passed and the children moved out of the house and had large families of their own, McCollum and his wife were left in the nest without children, a dream retirement for some parents. It wasn’t till their son John adopted a child from Vietnam when the McCollum’s considered adopting a child of their own. “I became very interested,” says Dee. “I just kept going online and looking into it thinking that our house seemed empty.” Steve added saying, “we were thinking about what we enjoyed most about our life, and we loved the parts that included children.”

After more research and prayer the McCollums made the decision to adopt a four-year-old child from China, Sarah. Both Steve and his wife were 57 years old with four children ages ranging in the thirties to forties.

Recalling the trip to get Sarah, Dee says “It was August and ten times as hot as it is here.” After a 36 hour flight, the two arrived with no time to relax and went straight to the orphanage where Sarah lived. “She came to us with a few toys and the clothes on her back,” says Steve. Steve recalls the first night after picking up Sarah saying, “She was scared. I spent that first night at the door of her room in the hotel making sure she didn’t try to sneak out and leave,” says Steve.

Sarah, now age 11, calls her parents “the old couple.” Steve and his wife Dee laugh saying, “life with Sarah is definitely not boring.” Steve smiles and says “I don’t even know what retired people do all day.”

**Building Homes...**



**Welcome Home!**

**Congratulations  
To our newest homeowners and  
Thank you  
to our generous sponsors:**

- Ashman Properties**
- Aqua East Surf Shop**
- Beach United Methodist Church**
- Forsyth Family Christmas Fund**
- Neptune Baptist Church**
- SteinMart**
- The Supply Source**
- Regions Bank**



## Welcome Home...

### Beaches Habitat's Newest Partners: Spring -2008

#### Marlene Watts

Marlene Watts and her daughter, Kiara will be residing in the Haywood Estate subdivision. Marlene is a Cashier at the Publix Supermarket located in Sawgrass Village.

#### Tabatha Williams

Tabatha Williams and her children Lareika, Izaria, Shekinah, Fredrika, Dayjja and Tyree will be residing in the Shangri-La subdivision. Tabatha is employed as a Deli Clerk at the Publix Supermarket located in Sawgrass Village.

#### Sandra Pastrana

Sandra Pastrana and her children, Carlos, Juan, and Kashla will be residing in the Shangri-La subdivision. Sandra is a Food Service Lead worker at Aramark Food Service.

#### Darren Delpizzo & Barbara Green

Darren Delpizzo and his mother, Barbara Green will be residing in the Haywood Estate subdivision.

#### Robert Jared

Robert Jared and his son, Joshua will be residing in the Cabo Blanco subdivision.

#### Katron Smith

Katron Smith and her children Ashley, Jasmine, Bryan, and Jaimee will be residing in the Haywood Estate subdivision. Katron is employed at the Marsh Landing Target Store.

#### Stephanie Harley

Stephanie Harley and her children, Tearra, Hope, Sakema, Shamyra, Anastasha, Jahstasha, and Albert will be residing in the Haywood Estate subdivision. Stephanie is a Deli Clerk at the Marsh Landing's Publix.

#### Kimberly Brown

Kimberly Brown and her daughters, Justyce and Jasmyne will be residing in the Donner subdivision. Kimberly is an Administrative Assistant at Pokey's Angelic Christian Children's Academy.

#### Komisha Blackmon

Komisha Blackmon and her children, Shana, Shane, Shyla, I'jzon, will be residing in the Haywood Estate subdivision. Komisha is a Hair Stylist at Classie-N-Sassie III Hair Salon.

#### Nadirah Baker

Nadirah Baker and her son, Marcus will be residing in the Donner Subdivision. Nadirah is employed at Landstar as a Qualification Technician.

#### Michelle Crews

Michelle Crews and her children, Mikala and Tyler will be residing in the Sawgrass Chapel Subdivision. Michelle is employed as an Office Manager at Advantage Plumbing.

Building Futures...



## Education Corner

### School's out for Summer...

Yes, another exciting school year has come to an end. This year our students participated in Jaguars Honor Rows program, Junior Achievements, Girls Inc. , Book Clubs, art and dance programs, tennis programs, Yoga and Karate at Artoga and so much more. We attended field trips to UNF, MOCA, Channel 4 Fox News station, and we went to Ms. Sis Van Cleve Miller's House for horse back riding. We also had guest speakers, retired Sheriff Nat Glover, Officer Grey from JSO Crime Scene Investigation Unit and Alan Hallman a Wildlife Biologist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Between the Donner Center and Jordan Center we had over 80 kids participating in those various activities as well as our reading fluency Great Leaps program and Quick Reads Comprehension programs. With all of these activities and kids we are lucky to have so many dedicated volunteers helping us out. They put in countless hours mentoring our students. A special dinner and theater was held in their honor May 29th but we would like to recognize them once again for their continuous support. Thank you; Joan Bender, Drew Brennan, Lu Cloyd, Dennis Gates, Lauretta Gaylord, Sue Goebertus, Bill Gunsch, Tom Ingram, Nancy Kohler, Jim Kolster, Diane Latta-Brandstaetter, Jean Lockley, Brad Mabry, Dan Mechenbier, Margot Metzler, Mike Miller, Susie Miller, Linda Pellot, Penny Rauckis, Donna Sauer, Jill Wannemacher, Lou Wannemacher, Bill Worth and Ms. Marion. A special thanks goes to Timmy Johnson Director of Recreation at Atlantic Beach, Gail Baker and Dee Davis who run the Donner and Jordan center respectively. Without their cooperation and team work we could not run our after school programs. Thank you all.

We also want to congratulate all of our students and their families. Our students have shown tremendous improvements over the school year. Congratulations go to each and every one of them who committed themselves to the after school program and worked hard to achieve better grades. Thank you parents for encouraging your children to participate and partnering with us in helping them achieve success. We look forward to seeing all of you next fall. Have a relaxing and safe summer.

~Education Department

Amanda Ward ~ Kathy Christensen ~ Bethany Petkoff

**Beaches Habitat for Humanity After School Program** would like to give a special thanks to the following sponsors; Scheidel Foundation, Jaguars Foundation, Beaches Resource Center and Target for their generous support to our programming. They are proudly partnering with us to help build better futures. Thank you once again!



## Building Community...

## Thank You to Our Generous Donors

### Groups and Organizations

Sonny's  
 Double J Repair Shop  
 Bono's  
 Quincy University  
 Donahoo, Ball & McMenanay P.A.  
 Neptune Baptist Church  
 Mystique Social Club  
 The Newman Center  
 Youngstown State U.  
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 Waynesburg University  
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 Holy Church of the Living God  
 Pete's Bar  
 Pan Am Mini Storage  
 St. Paul's Catholic Church  
 Mt. St. Mary's College  
 Aqua East Surf Shop  
 Design Center at the Avenues  
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 Helping Hand Ministry  
 Mt. St. Mary's University

Kentucky Fried Chicken  
 Stein Mart  
 St. Paul's Council of Catholic Women  
 University of Guelph  
 Christ Episcopal Church

### Individuals

Ms. Angela Banovski  
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 Ms. Elaine Bohn  
 Ms. Beverly Bondy  
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## You can give to Beaches Habitat with a point and a click of your mouse.



Beaches Habitat has teamed up with Yahoo!'s **GoodSearch** and **GoodShop** online. Every time you do an internet search through **GoodSearch**, we earn money a penny or more! So far Beaches Habitat has raised over \$200.00.

If you're an online shopper, check out **GoodShop.com**. There are hundreds of stores and Yahoo! donates a portion of your purchase to Beaches Habitat!!

If you're already using Google or Yahoo! for your internet searches, use **GoodSearch** instead. You get the same results and raise money for Beaches Habitat at the same time! Just type in "Beaches Habitat" as your cause of choice and get to clicking!

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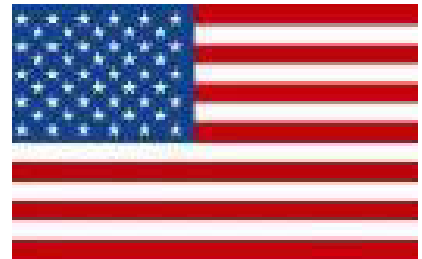


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## Donation Corner

Help someone gain their independence this July 4th by donating money that will go towards building a Habitat home. Your contribution will allow them to become a homeowner for them and their family.



Chose your level of contribution below. You can send your gift in the envelope included with this newsletter or donate on our secure website <http://www.beacheshabitat.org>. Donating online is faster and easier than ever before. Your contributions are greatly appreciated! Choose one of the following options:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roofing Materials for one home \$1,300 | <input type="checkbox"/> One Window \$130   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One Exterior Door \$150                | <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is a general donation in the amount of \$ _____ |

### Payment Options for donations through the mail- Please Check One

- Check: Please Make Checks Payable to Beaches Habitat for Humanity
- Visa Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_
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Please sign your name for credit card payments: \_\_\_\_\_