



October, 2006

21 Brendan Lane
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Resale Store
(843) 757-9995

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Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry. Since 1990, local Habitat volunteers have built fifty-three simple, decent houses in the greater Hilton Head area, providing affordable housing to over 250 people in need. Habitat's goal is to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness and to make decent, affordable housing a matter of conscience and action.

Habitat is not a give-away program. Houses are sold to partner families at no profit, financed with affordable, no interest mortgages. Habitat homeowners invest between 300-400 hours of their own labor, called sweat equity, into building their own and other Habitat houses. Homeowners' mortgage payments are recycled into a revolving Fund for Humanity that is used to build more houses.

One of Habitat for Humanity's basic beliefs is: *"With God's help and more people embracing this life saving mission, Habitat will keep on hammering until all of Humanity can proclaim that no one, no where, no child, no family, no grandparent any longer must live in unsafe, unhealthy housing."*

Habitat affords the opportunity to share in not only the tangible evidence of building houses, but also of building lives with hope. In addition to building safe, sturdy houses, Habitat for Humanity takes special care to nurture its homeowner families. Support partners work with the families to equip them with the skills and knowledge necessary for homeownership. It is through nurturing that the cycle of poverty can be broken. Lasting friendships are created between volunteers and homeowners.

The lives of many Habitat homeowners have been transformed once they received the boost they need to own a simple, decent home. Many children become better students, health conditions have improved and often people feel a sense of accomplishment and self-assurance that allows them to set new goals for their lives. "Habitat for Humanity has not only provided us with a house. You have given us a foundation for our lives!" said one new homeowner.

As Hilton Head Regional Habitat for Humanity completes construction of Sixty-one houses in Brendan Woods, the need for new land on which to build is even more pressing than ever. Please help us offer a hand up, not a hand out, to hard working, responsible residents of our area. Please pick a pen and write a check. We promise to use your contribution wisely.

**HONOR SOMEONE SPECIAL
WITH A DONATION FOR
ANY OCCASION
CALL (843) 757-5864
(BIRTHDAY, CHRISTMAS, ANNIVERSARY, OR ANY
OTHER SPECIAL OCCASION)
GIFT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AVAILABLE**

From the Volunteer Coordinator's Corner ... Lois Wilkinson

Volunteers Are Needed to Complete Brendan Woods

Brendan Woods, the sixty-one home Habitat for Humanity community in Bluffton, is getting close to completion. Only the last seven homes have to be built. Each house requires approximately fourteen weeks of work to complete. We recently calculated that the number of volunteer hours needed to complete a house is 2100. That means that we need thirty hours of volunteer labor each day. Since we only work four hours a day for five days each week, we need at least eight volunteers each day to get a house done in fourteen weeks.

Even though we have a dedicated group of volunteers we can always use additional help. Our Construction Manager, Tuck Daniels, and Assistant Construction Manager, Susan Sommer, enjoy meeting and instructing new recruits. One of their top priorities is to see that all our volunteers enjoy what they are doing. Of course, the ultimate reward for their hard work is seeing a family realize their dream of home ownership on Dedication Day.

Proceeds from our Resale Store help fund all of the houses in Brendan Woods. Running this very successful endeavor requires many volunteers. Lacrede Riley, store manager, could use your help. The store environment is welcoming and friendly and always busy. Call the store at 757-9995 if you would like to spend your time with this worthwhile project.

If you would like to hear more about our work here in Brendan Woods and our plans for the future, call Volunteer Coordinator, Lois Wilkinson, at 757-5864.

My Name is not "Those People" by Julia Dinsmore

My name is not "those people."

I am a loving woman, a mother in pain,
giving birth to the future, where my babies
have the same chance to thrive as anyone.

My name is not "inadequate."

I did not make my husband leave us.
He chose to, and chooses not to pay child
support.
Truth is, though, there isn't a job base
for all fathers to support their families.
While society turns it's head,
my children pay the price.

My name is not "problem and case to be
managed."

I am a capable human being and citizen,
not a client.
The social service system can never re-
place the compassion
and concern of loving grandparents, aunts,
uncles, fathers,
cousins, community---all the bonded peo-
ple who need to be,
but are not present, to bring children for-
ward to their potential

My name is not "lazy, dependent. welfare
mother."

If the unpaid work of parenting, homemak-
ing and community
building was factored into the gross na-
tional product,
my work would have untold value.
And I wonder why my middle-class sisters
whose husbands
support them to raise their children are
glorified, and they
don't get called lazy and dependent.

My name is not "ignorant, dumb or unedu-
cated."

I live with a monthly income of \$621.00
with \$169.00 in food stamps.
Rent is \$585.00. That leaves \$36.00 a
month to live on. I am such a
genius at surviving that I could balance the
state budget in an hour.

Never mind that there is a lack of living-
wage jobs.
Never mind that it is impossible to be the
sole emotional, social and economic sup-
port to a family.
Never mind that parents are losing their
children to the gangs, drugs, stealing, pros-
titution, social workers, kidnapping,
the streets. the predator.

Forget about putting the money into our
schools~~
just build more prisons.

My name is not "lay down and die qui-
etly."

My love is powerful and my urge to keep
my children alive
will never stop.
All children need homes and people who
love them.
They need safety and the chance to be the
people they were
born to be.

The wind will stop before I let my children
become a statistic.

Before you give in to the urge to blame
me, the blame that lets us go
blind and unknowing into the isolation that
disconnects us, take another
look.

Don't go away.

For I am not the problem, but the solution.
And my name is not "those people."

Julia Dinsmore is a Habitat homeowner in
Duluth, MN

Construction Update ... Susan Sommer

The Fuller Center, along with Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Louisiana and a Community-based organization from Shreveport, built ten homes during a 5-day blitz build, 9/18-9/22/06. Eight of the ten homes went to families who evacuated from the Gulf Coast after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The project, called "Building on Higher Ground", will result in sixty new houses in the Allendale neighborhood of Shreveport, LA. Susan Sommer, assistant construction supervisor for Hilton Head Regional HfH, and Gale and Ken Wilson of Hilton Head Island, traveled to Shreveport to participate in the build. The experience was incredible – 350 folks coming together to build ten houses in five days for God's people in need. People from all over the United States, and a couple from Canada, who put their Faith in to action.

Construction Supervisor Tuck Daniels and Susan Sommer will lead a Global Village team to build houses with the Habitat for Humanity of Northern Ireland affiliate this November 4 – 18, 2006. The work Habitat does in Northern Ireland is instrumental in the reconciliation process underway there since the ceasefire of 1994. The team is expected to frame walls while working with the Northern Ireland affiliate in Downpatrick, about twenty-three miles south of Belfast.

Three houses are under construction in the Brendan Woods Subdivision. SunTrust and Oldfield have sponsored one of the houses, a generous family the second, and Palmetto Dunes the third house. The subdivision should be built out by June 2007. Tuck Daniels is part of the site-selection committee for the affiliate, which is working hard to find more land on which to build homes.

ReSale Store Has It All

Are you looking to furnish an apartment, condo or home? The ReSale store has everything you will need: from furniture for every room; linens and bedding; kitchen items for cooking and serving; outdoor furniture for those parties; and technical items to stay on top of your email and all of the fall's football games. If you are renovating, come see the wide selection of doors, windows, plumbing fixtures,--everything you will need INCLUDING the kitchen sink.

We are always looking for volunteers so if you have a few extra hours a week, come join our fun and help us eliminate sub-standard housing in Beaufort County. Call 757-9995 for more details.

ALL THAT JAZZ!

WomenBUILD 2007 presents *All That Jazz*, on Sunday, November 5th.

Swing along with Ron Burton, Teri Rini Powers, Carole Galli
and The Alligator Dixieland Jazz Band

2 to 4 pm, 11/5/06, at the Jazz Corner at Wexford.

Doors open at 1:30 pm.

Limited reserved seating \$25.

Tickets at: Burke's Main Street Pharmacy, Habitat Office in Bluffton
and The Jazz Corner.