

## Building Houses, Building Hope, Building Communities

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*My family and I are very happy about our new home and we look forward to moving in for Christmas*



## Another House Sponsorship from Thrivent

A national home-building alliance between Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Habitat for Humanity International will again help Habitat for Humanity – Trenton Area expand its home building capacity. This year 5 homes will be built in the Trenton Area. The second home is a part of the Thrivent Builds with the Habitat for Humanity alliance that brings together thousands of volunteers and financial support from Thrivent Financial.

Ophelia Davis, a member of one of our partner families, will be one of the people receiving a house funded by the partnership. "It has been a great experience building our own home with the volunteers and staff at Habitat," said Ophelia M. Davis, of Trenton, "and I am looking forward to many happy memories in our new home."

## Handel's Messiah Helps to Build Homes

### **Pro Musica's Performance To Benefit Habitat of Trenton**

On December 2, 2007, Princeton Pro Musica performed Handel's Messiah which benefited Habitat for Humanity-Trenton Area.

Habitat's mission is to work with residents of the Trenton area to build affordable houses with sweat equity and volunteer labor and sell the homes to low-income families in need. To date, we have built or rehabilitated over 80 homes now owned by those who formerly lived in crowded, substandard slum housing.

Handel composed the Messiah at the request of three charities, and he gave the income from the work's premiere to the three



*Pictured above is Princeton Pro Music practicing for a performance*

Charities. Music historian Charles Burney wrote, "It has fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and fostered the orphan more than any single Musical production." Princeton Pro Musica is following that tradition by sharing the income from this concert with Habitat for Humanity-Trenton Area.

You can purchase tickets to Handel's Messiah on December 2nd and benefit Habitat for Humanity-Trenton Area.

Princeton Pro Musica will perform the Messiah At 3pm on Sunday, December 2nd at the Trenton War Memorial.

Tickets are \$45 and may be purchased by calling 609.393.8009, ext 261, by sending your order to Habitat for Humanity-Trenton Area, 601 N. Clinton Ave, Trenton, NJ 08638, or by visiting our website at [www.habitatta.org](http://www.habitatta.org).

An order form is also enclosed for your convenience.

Please consider coming out for a beautiful classical performance while supporting our building efforts.

### Director's Corner

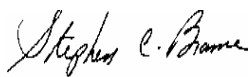
At Habitat for Humanity-Trenton Area, we are very proud of our accomplishments in the East Trenton neighborhood. Two families moved into their new three bedroom homes; a third and fourth family are scheduled to take occupancy of their new homes by the of this year; and the construction of four additional homes are scheduled for completion in 2008.

Our mission of "Building houses with God's people in need" goes beyond these accomplishments. By providing housing in the East Trenton neighborhood, Habitat, its partner families, and its many volunteers, are making positive contributions to the community.

The challenges and problems confronting this neighborhood may seem overwhelming. We have seen and heard about the violence, poverty, and hopelessness that can hang over this neighborhood community like a heavy fog. However, through the efforts of all of us, and with God's help, the light and warmth of the sun is breaking through the fog and scattering the darkness over this community. Our efforts, together with many good and hard working residents are awakening to the possibilities of for stable living conditions, safe neighborhoods, access to learning and education, and sharing in God's bounty intended for all of us.

I see opportunities for the East Trenton neighborhood now and in the future. With your continued support, these possibilities will be realized.

Peace be with us,



## Covert Ally Build

Covert Alley, the five-unit row-home project across the street from the Habitat Center, is making outstanding progress. Development was slowed because of lack of staff in the beginning, but now positions have been filled and Covert Alley is on its way to completion. Howard Adcock, former volunteer with Thrivent Financial Builds with Habitat for Humanity joint venture, has joined our construction team as a full-time Construction Supervisor. Mr. Adcock is working along side of Tom Kelly, our Senior Construction Supervisor. Things are "going very well now because we have another full time member of the construction staff," Tom said. The goal is to finish house number one, known as 642 North Clinton Avenue by the end of this year. Homes 644,646,648, and 650 are set to be finished in 2008.



*Pictured above is the current progress we have made on our five-home row house project.*

## National Night Out

In celebration of the National Night Out campaign known as "America's Night Out Against Crime," Habitat for Humanity-Trenton Area, together with some of its community partners, sponsored a variety of activities and good food for our residents of East Trenton.

The activities included music, face painting, sand art, banner painting and a jumping gym. The evening also provided an opportunity to conduct health screening for the children and their parents, including blood pressure checks. The festivities were coordinated by Liz Leonard in collaboration with Farrah Carter on behalf of City Works, Inc., a close partner of Habitat for Humanity-Trenton Area. Approximately, 300 community residents attended and actively participated in the open-air block party in celebration of neighborhood unity in the fight



*Local residents enjoying the festivities at the National Night Out celebration.*



Habitat for Humanity-  
Trenton Area

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### Many Invaluable Volunteers

## Bovis Lend Lease Golf Outing

Bovis Lend Lease is one of the world's leading project management and construction companies, using industry best practices when working with clients to create high quality, sustainable property assets. The Group has a presence in over 40 countries, spearheaded by regional hubs in the UK, Australia and the US. In early September of this year, the management at the Princeton Junction, New Jersey, donated the net proceeds of its annual golf outing to Habitat for Humanity-Trenton Area in the amount of \$75,000 which is roughly the cost of a new home.

The event was a great success and an enjoyable outing for everyone in attendance.



*Pictured above are some of our hard working volunteers framing up some of the new homes that the Bovis Lend Lease golf outing will help to fund.*

We here at Habitat for Humanity– Trenton area greatly appreciate such a generous partnership and look forward to further collaboration in the future.

## New Faces

In recent weeks, Habitat Trenton Area has been fortunate enough to welcome new faces to the Habitat family. Tom Kelly, Construction Supervisor, was a former volunteer at Habitat and has recently stepped up to his current title. Tom hails from Lawrence Township, New Jersey and is a Trenton State (The College of New Jersey in Ewing, NJ) Alumnus of 1978. Tom was originally hired as Weekend Supervisor, but “felt the responsibility to take a bigger role,” recognizing that Habitat For Humanity could really use his expertise, Tom said.

We are also fortunate to have Howard Adcock working with us as a construction supervisor. Howard is a skilled carpenter as well as a hospital administrator on leave. Howard has also worked with Habitat-Trenton Area as a construction volunteer for several years. We are happy to have him with us.

Roxane Cruz-Cortez is another new staff member Habitat Trenton Area. Roxane is the daughter of Carmen Cruz, the first family partner for Habi-



*Howard Adcock and  
Tom Kelly*

*Roxanne Cruz*

Army after high school and spent seven and a half years in the Service. Her Tours of duty included Iraq, Germany, and the Pentagon.

After her military experience, Roxane began volunteering at Habitat helping out with the financial bookkeeper, and in June began working as a part-time member staff. Roxane is very happy to be with us, and feels that Habitat is a “great opportunity for families, and that’s why I came back to help out,” she said.



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## 20th Anniversary Celebration

The sounds of music and laughter could be heard for blocks as Habitat for Humanity– Trenton Area celebrated 20 years of building in Trenton at George Page Park on Saturday October 6th. The event kicked off with an amazing performance by the Trenton Children’s Chorus. A DJ then played music as people danced and ate a delicious catered meal. There were two blow up rides for the children including a moon bounce and a slide that were a huge hit with the kids who laughed and played all through the afternoon. The only bigger hit was the face painting booth where children were painted up like tigers and flowers. Finally, the audience was treated to an interactive performance by TEDI (Trenton Educational Dance Institute). Where dancers performed as well as helped to get the audience involved. The energy was electrifying as many enjoyed the afternoon’s activities. The event culminated with desert and more dancing to music from the DJ.



A row of decorated doors symbolized the different streets in Trenton on which Habitat has built more than 70 homes. They displayed pictures from all different builds over the past 20 years. There were pictures of partner families and volunteers working on homes as far back as the earliest build. Many photos displayed the connection that many of the volunteers and partner families had made in the building process.



*Everyone in attendance enjoyed food, music, dancing, and even face painting. Shown above is a family sitting down together for the delicious catered meal. To the left is the dance group TEDI posing for a group photo.*

### Want to Volunteer?

We are looking for both individuals and groups to help with our construction work. No experience is required. We will teach you everything you need to know. It’s fun and you may even pick up some new skills. Call our volunteer Coordinator at 609-393-8009 ext. 228 or email at [volunteer@habitatnj.org](mailto:volunteer@habitatnj.org)