

## DEDICATION OF 1 Harrison Avenue, Salem



New homeowners celebrate at 1 Harrison Avenue.

**In true Habitat for Humanity of the North Shore style**, a joyous dedication ceremony was held for the newly-built house on 1 Harrison Ave. in Salem on Sunday, March 29, 2009. The house has been in works for a year and half, but now it is time for the Bojos and Truang families to enjoy their beautiful homes. From a small factory in Salem, Habitat for Humanity and many volunteers and sponsors transformed the drab building into two warm homes.

The ceremony inspired Salem Mayor, Kimberly Driscoll, and State Representative of the 7<sup>th</sup> Essex District to attend. Driscoll happily accepted Habitat's efforts, saying that the house was a "win for the street, the community, and the families." Also in attendance, Don Preston, President of the North Shore group, kindly welcomed the deserving families who graciously opened their doors for the ceremony.

This project is now the home of Ms. Van Truang and her two children, Lina and Robert, and Mr. and Mrs. Bojos and their children, Ana and Andres. The two families have always dreamed of owning their own homes.

With the vision of J. Michael Sullivan and the craft of Mark Bergeron, this dream became a reality. As



Yehundi Self-Medlen, the Family Selection Chair, remarked, the home is the "fruit of that hope."

Lina and Robert show off their new closets during Dedication Day tours.

Special thanks go to the commitment of Habitat for Humanity of the North Shore, all the volunteers, and the families.

-Jacqueline Belliveau '09  
Beverly High School

## **BROOKWOOD STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

**Each year at Brookwood School**, students choose a 'book of the year' as a part of a program entitled One School, One Book. This year, the students chose a book called "The Little House" by Virginia

Lee Burton, which is a book about a small house set in the time period of the Industrial Revolution. Many changes go on around the house but in the end it still remains the same beautiful house it started out as.



*To the  
Brookwood  
students for  
making a  
difference!*

After reading that book, the Brookwood students decided that they wanted to help people all over to have someplace to call home. So they decided to donate money from many school fundraisers to Habitat for Humanity to help them continue their work building homes for people. When the school had a Bingo Night, \$300 was raised from donations at the ice cream bar. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Winter Dance raised \$350, and one Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> graders had a movie night in which they raised \$150. Grades 3-5, or what Brookwood likes to call the Middle School, had a coin drive that raised over \$500, and there was also a private donation of \$20.

In a generous show of appreciation, the Admissions Office also donated \$100 in honor of all the Brookwood families and student council representatives who helped with tours, visitors, and even hosting admissions coffees in their homes. So, in total, Brookwood School raised \$1,420 so people near and far could have somewhere they could rely on, someplace to call home.

—Allegra Larsen  
Grade 8

## **COMMITMENT AND VISION AT THE HEART OF 33 CAMDEN ST**

GE is dedicated to helping solve some of the world's toughest problems not only in business, but also in communities around the globe. Through the application of its technology, its philanthropy, and the volunteer efforts of its employees, GE works to improve the lives of families wherever and whenever there is a need, and because of this mutual interest in families and communities,

Habitat for Humanity North Shore is the happy recipient of GE's generosity.

In 2006, Corinne Johnson, former Area Executive & General Manager of GE's aviation plant in Lynn, Massachusetts, spearheaded an initiative to repurpose several vacant and abandon GE properties. GE identified one special property at 87 Camden Street (formerly 33 Cooper Street) as the perfect site for a single-family home and, to our great joy, contacted Habitat for Humanity North Shore. Through Johnson's efforts, GE donated the double lot to Habitat for Humanity for the development of good, affordable housing. Habitat for Humanity North Shore will begin construction of the 3 bedroom, Energy Star home this month.

Rich Gorham, Communication & Community Relations leader at GE, believes that it was Johnson's background in environmental health and safety that led her to take a strong interest in GE cleanups and the restoration of GE's vacant and abandon properties. Johnson graduated from University of Massachusetts Amherst with a bachelor's degree in environmental health safety and later from Northeastern University with a master's degree in environmental engineering. In addition to her work with Habitat for Humanity, Johnson served on several non-profit boards including Girls Inc. in Lynn and North Shore Medical Center in Salem. She was a founding member of the University of Massachusetts Club in Boston, a member of the GE Women's Network, and an advocate for causes on the North Shore and in her residence town of Andover.



Site is being prepared on Camden Street in Lynn for Habitat volunteers to begin work on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

According to Gorham, philanthropy and volunteerism are core values at GE and encourages volunteerism as a growth experience offering employees opportunities to develop and practice good leadership skills, energizes the workplace, and creates good will. Worldwide, GE employees initiate over 1,400 community projects and log more than 1 million volunteer hours annually with over \$1.4 million in corporate funding supporting their efforts. Gorham said, "When employees are passionate about an activity and their community, volunteerism becomes self-sustaining. The corporation helps with formal structure and necessary funding to support the activities." He added that Johnson elevated GE-Lynn volunteerism to a new level.

Sadly, Ms. Johnson succumbed to cancer in 2008. She remains an inspiration to all that knew her, however, and will be honored for her volunteerism at a groundbreaking ceremony at the Camden Street site on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Drawings of the 3 bedroom, Energy Star home to be built on the site will be available and several GE, city and Habitat for Humanity representatives will join in celebrating her life. All are invited to attend.

-Sharon Lourie  
Habitat Board of Directors



## OLDIES BAND TEAMS UP WITH HABITAT FOR A NIGHT OF FUN!

The band *Profile* likes to make sure everyone is having fun when they are making a difference in their community. Since 2002, Profile has helped raise almost \$200,000 for various charities throughout New England. Join us on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at the Peabody Knights of Columbus for a night of fun from 7:30 – 11:30 pm.

## LYNN PROJECT BEGINS IN JUNE

On Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, Habitat will begin its next project in Lynn. Located on Camden Street, this single family home will be built from the ground up! Join us at 9 am on June 6<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the start of this new project.

### **Your Donation Makes a Difference!**

Help Habitat for Humanity-North Shore make the dream of a home happen for a family this year. Your gift could help buy...

- \$35 = *Roof Shingles*
- \$50 = *Low Flow Toilet*
- \$100 = *Kitchen Sink*
- \$500 = *Siding*
- \$1000 = *Wallboard*
- Other
- Monthly Donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your tax deductible donation to:

**Habitat for Humanity North Shore**  
215 Maple Street – Lynn, Massachusetts 01904

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cars for  
Homes™

### **Donate a car to Habitat for Humanity's car donation program**

By donating a car to Habitat's Cars for Homes™ car donation program, you help [your local Habitat for Humanity affiliate](#) build houses in partnership with families in need of decent, affordable shelter.

It is quick and easy to donate cars, trucks, boats, RVs, motorcycles, or other vehicles—running or not! Plus, when you donate your car, the automobile donation may be eligible for tax deduction purposes. (Consult the IRS or your tax adviser for details.)

[Donate vehicles online](#), or call Cars for Homes™ at

(877) 277-4344 toll-free.



# Save the Date!

Let's Get It Rockin'  
*and*  
Get Habitat Rollin'

Saturday, June 13  
Peabody Knights of  
Columbus

Habitat for Humanity North Shore  
215 Maple Street  
Lynn, MA 01904

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***Fulfilling Dreams, Building Homes***