

Community



builders

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Home Builders Association of
St. Louis and Eastern Missouri

HBA Mission Statement:

To help create a region in which the association promotes and protects the viability of the building industry by serving its members, who strive to meet the housing needs of all Americans.

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St. Louis Building Community Lends a Hand to Help Family of Shawn Hornbeck

Home Donated by HBA Builder Member McBride & Son Homes Completed in Only Five Weeks



In February, construction workers from all over St. Louis put in 1,000 man hours, worth \$30,000, in one day to raise the roof of the Hornbeck/Akers new home.

The St. Louis building and building products communities rallied to help the family of Shawn Hornbeck, the young man who was returned to his family after being abducted nearly four years ago. When **John Eilermann, Jr.**, CEO of HBA builder member **McBride & Son**

Homes, announced that his company's employees would donate a four bedroom, two bathroom home with three car garage and Shawn Hornbeck Foundation office space to the family, the company was inundated with offers to help.

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The Home Builders Charitable Foundation (HBCF) Donates \$10,000 to Northside Team Ministry



The Home Builders Charitable Foundation, the HBA's charitable arm, is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing housing assistance to people or organizations with special shelter needs. ■



Home Builders Charitable Foundation (HBCF) President **Harold Burkemper** of **First Construction of St. Charles** (left) and 2007 HBA President **Matt Belcher** of **Belcher Homes** (right) presented a \$10,000 donation to **Charles Tyler**, executive director of North Side Team Ministry, on behalf of the Home Builders Charitable Foundation. The funds will be used to help renovate six rental units that house families in a clean and safe environment. For more than 35 years, North Side Team Ministry has served the North St. Louis Water Tower Community with youth programs, housing and emergency assistance. The organization's self-help programs are designed to give area residents the skills, confidence and encouragement to function better in today's hectic world.

Mandated Fire Sprinklers are Not the Answer for Residential Construction

“Nice but not necessary” is a term coined by a report years ago which noted that many nice ideas are proposed to be funded by requiring new fees to be paid each time a new home is built. Currently, a powerful lobby that will financially benefit, is advocating that all single family, two-family and town homes be required to have fire sprinklers installed. A group that writes a model building code is considering this idea in a May meeting. Such a cost might average \$4,800 per home. *The Wall Street Journal* reported that for every \$1,000 increase in home prices thousands of potential home buyers would be priced out of the market.

The HBA believes that 1) fire sprinklers are cost prohibitive 2) fire sprinklers in residences are not any safer than hard-wired, battery backed-up smoke detectors 3) insurance costs are increased and 4) fire sprinkler systems will age. Fire sprinklers require consistent, reliable maintenance and inspections. If not properly maintained, the system can provide a false sense of security.

Smoke detectors are the true answer for protecting the public, and we encourage all local governments to make sure its citizens are aware of the importance of smoke detectors and of replacing smoke detector batteries on a regular basis. ■



The crew from HBA associate member **Builder's Bloc** put in the foundation of the Hornbeck/Akers house.

On January 23 at the McBride & Son Homes office in Chesterfield, Missouri, **Shari Frazier**, Shawn Hornbeck's aunt and long time business associate of McBride & Son

Homes, accepted the company's gift on behalf of the Akers family at a press conference. "Since the miraculous return of my nephew on January 12, the Akers family has once again been blessed with an outpouring of support and encouragement from the community," said Frazier, an employee with HBA associate member **Mattingly Lumber & Millwork, Inc.**

On a Saturday in early February, St. Louis area tradespeople donated more than 1,000 man hours, worth \$30,000, to raise the roof on a new home on the property of Craig and Pam Akers, the parents of Hornbeck. Because of the donated

time, skills and products, the house was completed in only 44 days.

"We'd like to thank these businesses and individuals for their contributions. We are proud to be a part of a community that is so generous with its resources," said Eilermann. "We know the road to recovery will be long for Shawn and his family, and we hope the new house will allow them to focus on their future together without worrying about housing or a mortgage. We also hope to support the continued mission of the Shawn Hornbeck Foundation to help reunite missing children with their families." ■

HBA Members Among Contributors to the Hornbeck/Akers House

Many companies supplied money, labor and materials in the building of the Hornbeck/Akers home. The following is a list of HBA member companies that contributed to the build:

A. Waldbart & Sons Nursery
Advantage Fence Company
Albern Co. Plumbing
Alside Supply Center
Ambassador Floor Company
Ameren
American Crane Rental
Arch City Drywall Co.
Automatic Rain, Inc.
Beam of St. Louis
Beck/Allen Cabinetry
Bobcat of St. Louis
Brake Landscaping & Lawncare
Budrovich Excavating & Grading
Builder's Bloc
Bylo Brothers Inc.
Certainteed
Colt Industries
Doug Nichols Masonry Inc.
Erosion Drainage Products
Fenster Steel Corporation
Ferrell Gas
Florissant Ornamental Iron Works
Forshaw of St. Louis

Gene Boston Excavating, Inc.
Gil Schroeder Farms
Glantz & Associates Architects
Gravel Shooters, Inc.
Hallmark Building Supplies
Hallmark Stone Company
Hemmer Concrete, Inc.
Innovative Home Products, Inc.
Jaffe Lighting
John Bender, Inc.
Legacy Painting LLC
Lennox Industries
J. Bathe Electric Company
Mack Maclain & Associates
Malones' Landscaping LLC
Mattingly Lumber & Millwork Inc.
McLaren Grading & Hauling
Metro Lighting
Miller Masonry
Moen
Morgan-Wightman Supply
Company
Multi-Link Home Systems
NewSpace

Overhead Garage Door
P&A Drywall Supply
PestShield
Presto Roofing Co., Inc.
Quality Waterproofing
Rainbow Painting Company
Sterling Engineering
Stolwyk & Ferrenback, Inc.
Superior Home Products
Thermal Concepts, Inc.
W.T. Leonard & Associates
Wehde Landscaping & Sod Farm
Welsch Heating & Cooling Co.
Whirlpool Corporation
Wirth Landscaping ■



Builder Highlights

Flooring Industry Council Donates Nearly \$7,000 to Lutheran Family and Children's Services



Mike Grigaitis

Mike Grigaitis, president of the Flooring Industry Council of St. Louis, an HBA member, presented a \$6,985 donation to Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri. The money was raised at the Council's annual golf outing. Lutheran Family aids families, children and individuals by providing adoption, counseling,

education and resources to assist with their physical and emotional needs.

Electrical Connection Completes Wiring for Habitat for Humanity St. Louis Homes Damaged by Last Summer's Storms

The St. Louis Electrical Connection (SLEC) began wiring Habitat for Humanity St. Louis homes, located in the 2700 block of Coleman Avenue and the 2700 block of Bacon Street, on August 19, exactly one month after storms cut power to more than 500,000 St. Louisans and caused second-story damage to some of the Habitat homes. All told, the partnership of **IBEW Local #1** and **NECA-St. Louis Chapter** donated \$120,000 in materials and services to the project. Work was completed in November. In the past few years SLEC has wired more than 80 homes for Habitat for Humanity.

HBA Builder Roeser Construction Helps Raise \$20,000 for a Friend in Need



Cindy Roeser

Past and present employees of HBA builder member **Roeser Construction** united in a very special effort to help the family of a friend and former coworker. Grant Hoepfner, who worked for Roeser for 18 years, was diagnosed with lymphoma and prostate cancer. With months of treatment facing Hoepfner, friends and family used Roeser Construction as a vessel to promote a fund raiser for him. Along with generous donations from area restaurants, building suppliers and many others, the event was full of activities including a silent auction, barbecue and a washers' tournament. All together, this small group of union employees raised more than \$20,000 for the Hoepfner family.

HBA Builders Donate Signs for Wentzville School District's South Campus

HBA builder members **Whittaker Homes**, **Vantage Homes** and **Taylor-Morley Homes** donated \$15,000 for three connected electronic signs for Boone Trail Elementary, South Middle School and Timberland High School in exchange for an entrance to the builders' Stone Meadows subdivision that runs through the campus. The sign will unite the three schools which even share the same mascot, the Wolves.

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