

Community

Fall 2008

A Publication of the
Home Builders Association of
St. Louis and Eastern Missouri



builders

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.

Contact us:

Home Builders Association
of St. Louis and Eastern
Missouri
10104 Old Olive Street Road
St. Louis, MO 63141

Phone: **314.994.7700**
Fax: **314.432.7185**
Web site: **www.stlhba.com**

For more information about:

Government and Political Issues
Lyzel Krebs x115
KrebsL@hbastl.com

Media Inquiries
Shelly Stengel x138
StengelS@hbastl.com

Community Builders
Tracy Chiesa x131
ChiesaT@hbastl.com

“Good Morning Martirez Family!”

HBA Members Build “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” House and a Surprise Coffee Shop, HBCF Donates \$30,000



The Martirez family's first look at their new home.

What an extraordinary week September 3, 2008, was for the Martirez family of Shrewsbury, Mo. The family was selected to receive a new handicap-accessible home from ABC-TV's “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition.”

The show relies mostly on donated materials and labor, so earlier this year the producers of “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” came to St. Louis to solicit for builders and trade partners. HBA builder member **John Shea** of

Callier Thompson Shea Construction & Design, also known as “Mr. Fix It” on St. Louis radio's KTRS 550 AM, heard about the search for builders through his show's producer and knew he had to help. Shea recruited HBA builder and board member **Dave Dunlap** of **Consolidated Construction Group** to collaborate with the build.

Dawn Martirez was a pediatric cancer nurse who cared for terminally ill children. She never expected to use her medical expertise to care for her own

Continued on page 3



Executive Committee

President: *Dan Barnard*
First Vice President: *Harry Freeman*
Treasurer: *Jim Rolwes*
Secretary: *Sean Flower*
Sgt. At Arms: *Gene Stumpf III*
Associates V.P.: *John Mattingly, Jr.*
Past President: *Tom Hughes*
Executive V.P.: *Pat Sullivan*

Board of Directors

Jerry Aubuchon
Matt Belcher
Bart Berneking
Steve Dickhut
Dave Dunlap
Angie Finks
Ed Griesedieck
Kim Hibbs
Joe Hoette
Debbie Scheid Hogue
Ed Lott
Tim Martin
Chris Matteo
Tim Miller
Tony Pratte
Cindy Roeser
Andrew Rose
Karl Ruhmann
Joe Zanola
Kim Zimmer

Sensible Growth Committee Chair

Harold Burkemper

Executive Vice President

Patrick Sullivan

Staff Vice President for Government Affairs

Lyzel Krebs

Editor

Tracy Chiesa

The Home Builders Association Donates More Than \$27,000 to Local Shelter Organizations



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. ■

Angels' Arms Receives More Than \$17,000 from HBCF



Home Builders Charitable Foundation (HBCF) President **Harold Burkemper** of **First Construction of St. Charles** (left) and 2008 HBA President **Tom Hughes** of **T.R. Hughes** (right) presented a \$17,328 donation to **Bess Wilfong**, executive director and founder of **Angels' Arms**, on behalf of the Home Builders Charitable Foundation. The funds will be used to help renovate a home in Florissant recently acquired by the organization that will house six foster children and two live-in foster parents. **Angels' Arms** provides houses, resources and assistance in living for foster families with an emphasis on keeping sibling groups together.

HBCF Donates to Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles



Home Builders Charitable Foundation (HBCF) President **Harold Burkemper** of **First Construction of St. Charles** (left) and 2008 HBA President **Tom Hughes** of **T.R. Hughes** (right) presented a \$10,000 donation to **Ashlee Johnson**, executive director of **Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County**, and **Kelly Brooks**, resource development coordinator for **Habitat**, on behalf of the HBCF. The funds will go toward the cost of a handicapped-accessible **Habitat** house being built for a single mother of five who also cares for her disabled mother. The standard size and requirements of a **Habitat** home is three bedrooms and one bathroom, but two additional bedrooms and another bathroom are necessary to accommodate the size of the family who will live in the completed home.



Continued from page 1



*The passing of the blueprints – HBA builder member **Dave Dunlap** of **Consolidated Construction Group** handed over the blueprints to HBA builder member **John Shea** of **Callier Thompson Shea Construction & Design**. Dunlap sported a kilt from the “march to the site” – a show feature.*

children beyond the bumps and bruises of a normal childhood. Dawn and her husband, Emmanuel, had their daughter Elle, now 7, and then became pregnant with twins, Evan and Alec, now 4.

During Dawn’s pregnancy with the twins the doctors warned her of severe complications, but Dawn refused to terminate the pregnancy. Evan was born with 9P minus syndrome, an extremely rare genetic disorder affecting an estimated 125 people in the U.S., and Alec has Crouzon Syndrome, another uncommon genetic disorder that is seen in about 16 per million newborns. Both twins suffer from skeletal abnormalities that require extensive corrective facial and cranial surgeries. Evan has physical handicaps and mental retardation and Alec is profoundly hearing impaired.

If you haven’t seen the show, a family’s old home is demolished and a new home is built from the foundation up in four days and 10 hours while the family goes on vacation. On September 4 however, Ty Pennington and the “Extreme Makeover” designers surprised a second St. Louis family – the Maleks.

Sam Malek was born in Cairo, Egypt, with cerebral palsy. He came to St. Louis for treatment when he was 4 years old. Malek, now a 44-year-old married father of two teenage sons, owns More Than Coffee, a drive-through coffee shop, located in Manchester, Mo.

Malek’s mission is to “help challenged people one cup at a time.” Malek does so by employing disabled individuals and letting his customers help decide which charitable organization will be the recipient of the coffee shop’s benevolence each month.



The new “More Than Coffee” shop built for Sam Malek.

Now, Shea and Dunlap and a team of dedicated suppliers, trades people, volunteers, laborers and countless others had to race against time to complete two projects from the ground up. The builders turned to their HBA builder and associate friends for help.

Dozens of HBA builder and associate members contributed time, materials and labor for both builds. **The Home Builders Charitable Foundation, the charitable arm of the HBA, donated \$30,000 for an elevator so the twins can get from the garage to the main level of the house.**



*HBA associate member **Bob Motz** of **RM Supply** contributed all of the drywall, HBA builder member **Dave Dunlap** of **Consolidated Construction Group** and HBA associate member **Arthur Merdian** of **Boland-Merdian Group** donated his firm’s architectural services for both builds.*

“Otherwise known as heroes, our network of partners on this project made it possible for us to forever alter the lives of this special family in our midst. A special thanks to each one for their generosity, guidance and expertise,” said Shea and Dunlap. To view a complete list of HBA trade partners involved in the build please visit www.extreme-homemakeoverstlouis.com and click on “The Team” tab and then on “Partners.”

After a week, the wait was finally over for both families. With the crowd chanting “Move that truck!” Malek finally saw his rundown little coffee stand transformed into an attractive drive-through coffee bar, with new equipment, heating and air conditioning and ADA compliant.



The completed Martirez family home.

On September 10, 2008, all of Shrewsbury heard a crowd of 2,000 or so shout “Move that bus!” as the Martirez family waited patiently for the camera and sound crews to move from one shot to the next. Finally, all of the waiting paid off and the Martirezs saw their new Bungalow style home with four stone and cedar columns and a big front porch, but most important a home that is accessible and safe for the boys. This is the moment the family and fans of the show wait for – the excitement, surprise and tears that makes this reality TV show one of the best. The twins led the family inside, the crowd dispersed, and the camera crews moved inside for another day of filming. You could say it’s over, but its really just begun. Thanks to all the generous HBA members and HBCF for making this happen. ■

Builder Highlights

Four Area Cities Make *Money* Magazine Lists

Four area cities recently won recognition from *Money* magazine – St. Peters, St. Charles and O’Fallon were among the 100 best places to live in the nation and Arnold was listed as one of the most affordable places. Arnold ranked 13 among the 25 most affordable communities with fewer than 50,000 residents. The three St. Charles County cities – St. Peters (60), O’Fallon (68) and St. Charles (82), were on a list of 100 best communities with populations between 50,000 and 300,000.

After 52 Years St. Louis Region “All America City” Again

The St. Louis region was recently named an “All-America City” by the National Civic League (NCL). Each year the NCL honors ten communities for effectively addressing their most critical challenges. The All-America City Award is America’s oldest and most prestigious community recognition award. The St. Louis region was recognized for three projects: Downtown Now!, The River Ring and The Boomerang Press. The NCL is a non-profit, non-partisan, membership organization dedicated to strengthening citizen democracy by transforming democratic institutions.

HBA Associate Member ERA Crown Realty Raises More Than \$10,000 for “Jerry’s Kids”



HBA associate member **Ed Crow** of **ERA Crown Realty** and **Morgan Fritz**, the 2005 MDA National Goodwill Ambassador and St. Peters, Mo. resident, at ERA Crown Realty’s Fourth Annual Golf Tournament benefitting MDA. Fritz, who received a diagnosis of spinal muscular atrophy as a toddler, has become a familiar face at the event. This year the tournament raised more than \$10,000 for the MDA and more than \$35,000 in the four years it has sponsored the tournament. ERA real estate members from across the U.S. organize hundreds of events to benefit MDA each year.

HBA Builder Member Agape Construction Helps Raise \$17,000 for Kirkwood Memorial Fund

Amy O’Brien, communications director for HBA builder member **Agape Construction**, chaired the Kirkwood Honor and Remember Sign campaign. Six hundred signs went up all over the Kirkwood area and more than \$17,000 was raised for the victim’s families of the February 7, 2008 tragedy.

Home Builders Association of St. Louis & Eastern Missouri
10104 Old Olive Street Road, St. Louis, MO 63141

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ST. LOUIS, MO
PERMIT NO. 302

