

The Bulletin



"Kiwaniis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world - one child and one community at a time."

April 14, 2008

Impacting Lives - "Packing Parachutes" for People We May Never Know

E.J. THOMAS, CEO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – GREATER COLUMBUS

In 1987, 20 individuals gathered together with the intention of supporting working families in Columbus who, despite their hard efforts, would never be able to afford a home of their own. Today, more than 5,000 volunteers from across our community contribute thousands of hours and dollars to support the programs and mission of Habitat each year. Since 1987, Habitat, as an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, has collaborated with more than 193 families who now enjoy and own their own home, with the added benefit of breaking the cycle of poverty in their family members' lives.

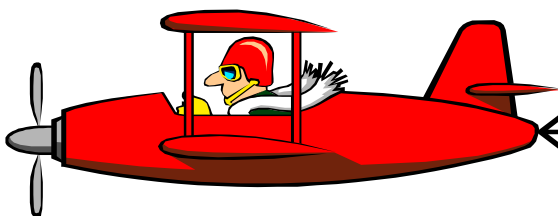


Habitat, as a nonprofit, ecumenical, Christian housing ministry, seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from our community and the world and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat, like affiliates worldwide, offers the opportunity of homeownership to families unable to obtain conventional financing—generally, those whose income is 30-50% of the area's median income. Prospective Habitat homeowner families make a \$500 down payment and contribute 200 to 250 hours of "sweat equity."

Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat builds simple, decent, affordable houses with the help of the homeowner (partner) families. Habitat houses are sold to partner families at no profit, financed with 0% interest loans. Homeowners' monthly mortgage payments are used to build still more Habitat houses. In addition to donations of land, money and materials for construction, Habitat's ReStore, the affiliate's retail center specializing in affordable new and used building supplies, creates a sustainable income. Net revenues offset 100% of the affiliate's administrative costs.

E.J. Thomas serves in the role of the affiliate's chief executive and is responsible for the oversight and operation of Ohio's second-largest Habitat organization in terms of the number of homes constructed per year. Requisite to this effort are:

continued on next page



THANK YOU, PERRY FISHER, THANK YOU, ALAN WEILER & OPEN,
FOR PROVIDING THE INVOCATION FOR GREETING TODAY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 21	Marsha Ryan, CEO Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation
April 21	10-W Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Washington Country Club Washington Court House
April 28	The Honorable Yvette McGee Brown, President The Center for Child & Family Advocacy

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

This Monday	Next Monday
Drug, Alcohol & Mental Health	Environment & Agriculture
International Relations	Young Children Priority One
Sponsored Youth	Boost
Senior Citizens	Music & Arts
	Spiritual Aims
Prospective New Members Meeting, 11:15 a.m.	Membership
	InterClub

Menu for Today: Roasted Turkey Breast, House Salad

- Significant resource development;
- Volunteer recruitment and training;
- Actual construction of the homes;
- Family services, for the function of qualifying and working with selected Families to ensure their success;
- Mortgage handling, which the affiliate accomplishes in-house;
- Public relations; and,
- Operation of a retail construction supply store, the inventory of which is donated from a variety of sources that generates an average of over \$50k in income per month.

In addition, E.J. chairs the State Support Organization of Habitat for Humanity Ohio, an organization that assists the 72 affiliates in the state by way of Statehouse advocacy efforts, and individualized training of affiliate staff in best practices.

Concurrently, he is Chairman of the Ohio Unemployment Compensation Review Commission, with responsibility for some 30 attorneys who are the Commission's Hearing Officers and an administrative support staff of 27 professionals. Each year, the Commission considers 25,000+ cases brought by both employers and employees. The Commission is the independent appeals forum for cases related to disputed unemployment claims.

E.J. Thomas concluded his tenure as State Representative for the 27th District in north Columbus in 1999, having been elected a total of eight terms. He specialized in state fiscal policy, serving as Chairman of both the Ways & Means and Finance & Appropriations Committees. In the latter role, he was directly responsible for legislative approval of five budgets totaling \$44 billion. Col. Thomas recently retired from the USAF and the Ohio Air National Guard after 32 years in the military, during which time he was an instructor pilot and Director of Operations for the state's 5,000+ member force.

He has been active in the central Ohio community, serving on various boards such as the Columbus Zoo, the local Cancer Society and the Columbus Symphony Orchestra (CSO). E.J. was co-founder of the CSO's successful "Picnic with the Pops" summer series.

E.J. is the father of two adult children, Eddie and Alicia, and Rose, who is now 7 years of age.

A 'Thank You' from St. Vincent's Family Center ...



Dear Kiwanis Club of Columbus,

On behalf of St. Vincent Family Centers, I'd like to thank the Drug, Alcohol and Mental Health Committee and the Youth Opportunity Committee for your commitment to our new event, Les Jouets de l'Esprit. As a Patron, Kiwanis Club of Columbus is receiving significant exposure for their sponsorship.

St. Vincent Family Centers is a premier provider of mental health services to children and their families in Central Ohio. We serve the youngest, most vulnerable, most difficult-to-treat children in our community with specialized programs and a broad array of care options. Your gift has made it possible for us to leverage additional dollars which will ensure that no child is left un-served that needs our help.

As a Patron, The Kiwanis Club of Columbus is entitled to 10 tickets to the event. I would like to invite you and a guest to come see the artwork and participate in this exciting new event. It will take place on April 25, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Thom's on Grandview. Please make your reservation to Susan Black today at sblack@svfc.org or 614-252-0731. Thank you, Kiwanis!

Homeless Committee Meeting Date Changed ...

Unfortunately, the Chair of the committee, Holly Goodstein-Stokes, will be out of town this Monday. The Homeless Committee meeting will be held on Monday, April 21st instead of this Monday, April 14th.

Also, a great big "thank you" goes out to Nancy Whetstone and her husband, Dan, for also volunteering along with Rita and Mike Edwards for this weekend Canteen Heart to Heart. We are still in need of 4 volunteers for next months Canteen on May 25th. Please let Holly know if you can help out on that date.

NEED NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Please don't forget that we have \$100 grocery cards for Giant Eagle and \$5 grocery cards for Kroger!



**David F.
Pritchard, PE**

*Water Resources
Project Engineer*



BURGESS & NIPLE

5085 Reed Road
Columbus, OH 43220

(P) 614. 459.2050 x294

(F) 614. 451.1385

dpritchard@burnip.com

www.burgessnipple.com

Fil Line
Cell

614.563.9240

ROI Realty Services, Inc.

555 South Front Street, Suite 350
Columbus, Ohio 43215

TEL 614.221.2500

FAX 614.221.5676

www.roirealty.com

fil@roirealty.com



THE BULLETIN (UPS 089-970) is published weekly except for the week when a legal holiday is on Monday
 Periodicals Postage Paid at Columbus, Ohio
 POSTMASTER: Please Send Address Changes To:
 The Bulletin, 197 E. Broad Street, Suite 203, Columbus, OH 43215

Loralee Buttler, Editor
 Loralee Buttler, Director of Member Services
 Phone: 233-6644 Fax: 233-6645
 e-mail: office@columbuskiwanis.org
 website: www.columbuskiwanis.org
 Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.



Birthdays

April 14	Fred Miller Sr.
April 16	Dan McCormick
April 20	Kristen Sydney

OFFICERS

Sam Vogel	President
Ken Keller	Past President
Scott Lindsey	President-Elect
Fred Miller II	Treasurer
Paul Bohlman	Secretary

TRUSTEES

2008	2009
Larry Icenogle	Jean Evans
David Keller	Mike Haemmerle
Kathleen Roberts	Scott Lindsey
Misty Singer-Mahefkey	Fred Miller II
	Jeff Rayis

PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – GREATER COLUMBUS

E.J. THOMAS, CEO

AT THE ATHLETIC CLUB OF COLUMBUS

Ohio's largest Kiwanis Club
 meets Mondays at noon