

Contributing to Community

Homebuilders—Giving Back To The Community With Compassion And Caring

MNCBIA Supports Students in Annual Building Competition

Maryland-National Capital Building Industry Association (MNCBIA) members helped sponsor students who competed in the Carpentry, Masonry, Cabinetmaking and Teamworks categories in the 11th annual SkillsUSA Olympics held this past February at the Calvert Career Center in Prince Frederick, MD.

Supplying materials for the competition were member companies **84 Lumber**, **Dean Lumber & Supply Co.**, **Liberty Home Builder, Inc.** and **Paragon Properties**. Prizes and gifts were contributed by the **MNCBIA**, **Guy Curley** of Liberty Home Builder and **Jim Bacot** of Brooks Run Builders, who also reprised his role as a judge.

"I cannot emphasize enough our appreciation for the MNCBIA's support," said Larry Ringgold of the Calvert Career Center.

Students in trade programs from St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert counties participated in this regional SkillsUSA event, which challenges their skills in blueprint reading, rough framing, step construction,



roof framing, masonry, plumbing, electric and joinery techniques as well as testing their safety and organizational skills. Winning students will participate in State competitions, and those winners will represent Maryland in the 47th annual national SkillsUSA contest in Kansas City, MO, this June.

SkillsUSA is a national organization providing training programs to more than 300,000 high school and college students in technical, skilled and service occupations. ❖

Special Acknowledgement Given to Ted Smart



At MNCBIA's January Installation dinner meeting, **Ted Smart** was given special recognition for his service as President of **Home Builders Care Foundation (HBCF)** for the past three years (2008, 2009, 2010). In his comments, 2011 HBCF president Hugh Carroll noted, *"As we all know, it's been a tough three years for the industry and it certainly has been tough for Ted personally. Yet through it all, Ted has persevered and has served graciously as a hands-on leader dedicated to the mission of community service, which is Home Builders Care. At every public speaking opportunity, Ted humbly relayed the message that builders still care about our communities and are still finding ways to give—a message our elected officials need to hear especially from someone as sincere as Ted."*

Under Ted's tenure, the Montgomery County men's shelter addition was completed and in our industry's honor, re-named the Home Builders Care Assessment Center. Two once abandoned apartment buildings were completely renovated and now provide 20 units of permanent supportive homes to once homeless women and families. And a run-down single family home has been transformed into a welcoming place of refuge for victims of torture seeking political asylum in the United States. ❖

COMMUNITY BUILDERS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
& THE HOME BUILDERS CARE FOUNDATION



Spring Issue 2011
Vol. 8, No. 1

The Acclaimed Seal of Excellence is Awarded to Home Builders Care Foundation

On March 2, the Home Builders Care Foundation (HBCF) was awarded the prestigious *Seal of Excellence* from the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations (MANO). The Seal is earned by a non-profit organization that meets numerous stringent benchmarks of the Standards of Excellence program, a comprehensive ethical and accountability code for non-profit organizations.

Based on fundamental values—such as honesty, integrity, fairness, respect, trust, compassion, responsibility, and accountability—the Standards describe how non-profits should act to be ethical and be accountable in their program operations, governance, human resources, financial management and fundraising.

Patti B. Kane, HBCF Director commented, *"It is a tremendous honor to earn the Seal of Excellence from the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations. Throughout the 27-year history of our organization, Home Builders Care Foundation has been committed to helping the homeless and others at risk in our communities by utilizing the building industry's specialized*



HBCF President, Hugh Carroll (center) receives the Excellence Award from Amy Coates Madsen, Program Director and Darryl A. Jones Sr., CEO, Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations.

construction skills. Our completed projects have helped shelter and support many of our most vulnerable neighbors. And while we have received recognitions for a number of our projects, the Seal of Excellence stands out as a significant mark of distinction. This honor validates our integrity. It tells our community partners and donors—we know what we're doing. You can trust us to do good work." ❖



Daffodil House Moves Towards Completion Thanks to HomeAid DC

In late 2008, Building Futures, a nonprofit group in Washington DC, purchased a multifamily property in the Columbia Heights neighborhood with 32 efficiency units requiring rehabilitation. Since that time, that organization has been slowly making renovations in order to create 30 new units of affordable supportive housing for low-income families living with disabilities, including HIV/AIDS who were homeless or precariously housed. Nearly half of the units are now occupied today. In 2010, the project received a major boost from HomeAid Washington DC, who stepped in to help with the required accessibility improvements at the building's entrance and on the first floor. This final piece of construction is now getting underway! ❖

Creating Homes

Homebuilders—Responsive, Responsible And Respected

Ribbon Cutting at TASSC Survivor Home

The new transitional home owned and operated by Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition International (TASSC) officially opened this past December. The new home provides supportive housing for torture survivors on their journey towards healing. TASSC's new property was donated by the Robert L. Edwards Living Trust,



Sara Carlson and Ted Smart help cut the ribbon with torture survivors and TASSC staff.



of which MNCBIA member **Ian Cohen**, President of Knollwood Development is Trustee. **Sara Carlson**, the daughter of Robert L. Edwards, and a partner at Knollwood, was on hand to help dedicate the home. MNCBIA member **Sunrise Home Builders LLC** served as builder captain and helped transform the once vacant and dilapidated structure. The project also received key support from **Shelters Plus**, a private foundation started by the late developer **John Smart** and his family. ✪

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To donate to Home Builders Care visit www.hbcf.org.



Building Neighborhoods

Homebuilders—Creating Neighborhoods With Purpose and Vision

Home Builders Care Foundation Honors Five for Community Service

In January, the Home Builders Care Foundation presented its annual *Community Service Awards*. Five individuals were recognized for their contributions and commitment to helping shelter and support others in need. HBCF's 2011 President **Hugh Carroll** of Insurance Associates, presented the awards.

John Devlin, P.E, Vice President and Managing Director at Aon Risk Solutions and **John T. Stovall**, AIA, Principal at Stovall Smith Neyman and Associates each received a *Tom Sawyer Award* for lending their specialized expertise to the design and pre-construction development of a project for Sasha Bruce Youthworks in the District. The project to improve fire safety at Sasha Bruce's flagship shelter for homeless, abused, and runaway youth was needed to help to increase the shelter's bed capacity by 50 percent. Mr. Devlin and Mr. Stovall each lent countless hours and expertise to review the 1940's structure, assess options for remedying the situation within budget, building code, and program restraints, and direct the process to obtain the necessary approvals from District agencies.

The next award was presented to **Billy Mehaffey**, President of Mehaffey & Associates PC. For the past four years, Mr. Mehaffey has donated his time and skills to the site plan development for Leah's House, a shelter for homeless women and children in St. Mary's County. Billy's guidance, perseverance and patience have helped carry the small non-profit through multiple changes and site plan approvals in their quest to construct a multi-building campus to care for its clients and their families. Upon learning of Mr. Mehaffey's honor, the Reverend Marguerite Morris, founder of Leah's House commented, "*The Leah's House Shelter employees and families offer our sincere congratulations to Billy Mehaffey. He has indeed been a long time supporter of our efforts and we could not have made it this far without him. We appreciate his humbleness and tireless efforts in assisting us in the furtherance of our mission, to provide for the less fortunate in and around the state of Maryland.*"



L to R: John Stovall, Patti Kane, Emily Vaias, Hugh Carroll, Billy Mehaffey and John Devlin.

Emily J. Vaias, a Partner with Linowes & Blocher LLP, was the recipient of the final *Tom Sawyer Award*. For more than six years, Ms. Vaias was instrumental in the creation of new Montgomery County home for Aunt Hattie's Place. Aunt Hattie's Place is a Baltimore-based non-profit dedicated to providing safe, nurturing, and long-term homes for abused, abandoned, and neglected children in foster care. Aunt Hattie's new supportive home, dedicated this past spring, now provides long-term housing for boys ages 12-19. Ms. Vaias has been part of the project team from conception through dedication and continues to be active. When asked to comment, Aunt Hattie referred to Emily as an angel and said, "*she never once hinted of giving up on the project nor did she slow down providing her firm's resources during the entire six-year building process.*"

A final award of the night was the *Directors Award*, presented in surprise to Patti B. Kane, the Director of the Home Builders Care Foundation. Ms. Kane was recognized for her dedication and years of service as the sole employee of the non-profit organization.

The cooperation, dedication and spirit of our 2010 Community Service Award winners are excellent examples of why the Home Builders Care program succeeds in helping to end homelessness by improving the lives of poor and homeless individuals and families in our communities. ✪