

Community Builders

An ePublication of the Maryland-National Capital Building Industry Association
& the Home Builders Care Foundation

Giving Back to Our Community

Spring 2013



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Home Builders Care Foundation Completes Upgrades at Stepping Stones Shelter

Lunch & Open House Scheduled for May 22 at Noon



time and has a total capacity of 29 beds. In 2012 alone, the shelter served 29 families and 101 individuals.

With so many family members moving through the grand farmhouse, it is no surprise that the well-worn flooring was in need of attention. The flooring upgrades look amazing!

The May 22 event is free. Tours of the shelter will be available, and light refreshments will be served. [RSVPs are needed by May 17.](#)

Stepping Stones Shelter will host an open house and business networking lunch at its 100-year old historic farmhouse in Rockville that serves as Stepping Stones Shelter. The event will be used to thank the Home Builders Care Foundation and our industry partners, who have made possible the replacement of the hardwood floors in the shelter.

Stepping Stones has provided emergency shelter services for homeless families since 1979. Located in a historic farmhouse built 101 years ago, the shelter houses up to six homeless families with children at a



MNCBIA's Professional Women in Building Council hosts Clothing Drive

A big thank you goes out to all of the men and women who donated gently used, "job interview ready" men's and women's business attire to PWB's Career Clothing and Accessories Drive. Clothes were donated to low-income clients at A Wider Circle's new Center for Professional Development in Silver Spring.

The majority of clothes were donated at the Home Builders Care Foundation's April 25th Bull & Oyster Roast. At the event, a box truck from A Wider Circle was filled with two full clotheslines of men's and women's suits, dresses, dress shirts, and business casual wear, as well as about 50 bags of clothing, shoes and accessories.

Patty Pescrille-Brockmeyer of Ruppert Landscape helped plan the drive. Additionally, she and **Peggy White** of Axiom Engineering and Design helped coordinate the collection of clothing donations from MNCBIA members not able to attend the Bull & Oyster Roast.



"It gave me great pleasure in being the PWB Chairperson for the Clothing Drive", commented Patty Pescrille-Brockmeyer. "Thank you for the opportunity to be involved in such a positive group. I believe as Mother Teresa once said – 'It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.' Without the 70 men and women that donated to this drive, we would not have been successful."

Home Builders Care Founder Bob Mitchell Honored at Bull & Oyster Roast



Home Builders Care kicked off its 30-year anniversary celebration with a special fundraising and networking event on April 25 - their first annual Community Builders Bull & Oyster Roast. Close to 250 friends of the nonprofit organization and 36 sponsors joined in the Roast on the grounds of the **Ruppert Companies'** beautiful LEED-certified corporate headquarter campus in Laytonsville, MD.

At the roast, HBCF honored its founder **Robert L. Mitchell** who as President of the Suburban Maryland Building Industry Association (now MNCBIA), started the charitable construction program via the association's public relations committee in 1980. Operation Tom Sawyer stemmed from Mr. Mitchell's belief that

homebuilders have a responsibility to serve the needs of growing communities and make every home a part of that community. His dedication to the principle of community service is at the core of the Home Builders Care Foundation.

The Bull & Oyster Roast took place on sun-filled spring evening and featured pit-meats, an oyster bar, plenty of beverages, music, and memorable tributes to Mr. Mitchell from Montgomery County government officials, the National Association of Home Builders, and representatives from Congressman Steny Hoyer's office. Photos of the event can be viewed online via [Amberlea Photography](#).



A special thanks is owed to our **Event Sponsors** who helped make this first annual event a success.

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HBCF Selected as a Help the Homeless Program Beneficiary



The Home Builders Care Foundation (HBCF) was selected once again as an official beneficiary of Fannie Mae's 2013 Help the Homeless (HTH) Program. For the past 13 years, HBCF has earned vital funding from HTH to help maintain and expand its charitable construction program impacting shelter and supportive housing for vulnerable individuals and families.

Similar to last year's program, beneficiaries of the HTH program will be tasked to host a handful of community events to raise funds and awareness about their efforts to end homelessness. Each beneficiary must meet the requirement of registering a total of 250 online paid participants for their events. One hundred percent of all event registration fees (\$30 for adults/\$20 for youth under age) will go directly to HBCF. Bonus matching funds are only available to beneficiaries who meet all program goals.

Watch our calendar and MNCBIA's eNews for upcoming HTH Community Event information!

Industry Members Honored for Community Work

At the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH)'s Celebrating Partnerships Gala in March, **Richard Pettit**, Pettit Companies, was honored with MCCH's 2013 Distinguished Service Award. Mr. Pettit is an MNCBIA Past President and is Vice Chair of the MCCH Board of Directors.

Robert G. Brewer, Jr., Lerch, Early & Brewer, was recognized at a special Honors Reception in April by Rebuilding Together (RT) Montgomery County as its 2013 RT Honors Award Recipient. Mr. Brewer currently serves on RT's Advisory Council.

At the AFP Fundraising Day in Maryland Conference in May, The Maryland Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals honored **Barbara Bozzuto** as its 2013 Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year. Mrs. Bozzuto was nominated by the St. Agnes Hospital Foundation in Baltimore.

Oyster Reefs in the St. Mary's River Get Help from BIA Members

Sponsored by the Leonardtown Rotary Club, and with the help of many partners, a group of sustainable three-dimensional oyster reefs are now thriving in the St. Mary's River. The goal of the project was to restore the Oyster Reefs that dominated the Chesapeake Bay nearly 150 years ago.



Longtime St. Mary's County resident and MNCBIA's 2010 president **Guy Curley of Liberty Homebuilder** was anxious to help. As someone who spends a great deal of time on the river he not only had a personal interest but he also knew the outcome of this project could eventually serve as a model for restoring the bay's oyster population and its water quality.



Guy recruited **Mark McLeod, Bill Mattingly** and **Mike Derby of Dean Lumber and Supply** in Hollywood, MD to deliver 125,200 lbs. (62 tons) of solid concrete retaining wall blocks to the construction staging site on the St. Mary's River. It took Dean Lumber four trips and more than three days to move the blocks from Lexington Park to St. Mary's City, all at no cost to the project. The blocks were used as the substructure for three of the six oyster reefs in phase 1 of the project, (phase 2 will see the construction of an

additional 18 reefs). Once the blocks were in the water nearly 80 tons of concrete rubble was placed on top of the blocks to form the final shape of the reefs, which will become home to thousands of oysters.

The new three dimensional reefs are the first fully three-dimensional reefs to be constructed in the bay since more than 70,000 acres of its historic three-dimensional reefs were destroyed during the latter part of the 19th and early 20th centuries, according to Steven L. King, project manager for the Rotary Club of Leonardtown.

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CONTACT US

Home Builders Care Foundation

Patti B. Kane, Director
1738 Elton Rd., Ste. 200
Silver Spring, MD 20903
Ph: 301-445-5410

www.hbcf.org
pkane@mncbia.org



Maryland-National Capital BIA

Kelly H. Grudziecki, Communications Director
1738 Elton Rd., Ste. 200
Silver Spring, MD 20903
Ph: 301-445-5457

www.mncbia.org
kgrudziecki@mncbia.org

