

Thirty Years of Generosity

Benefit Homes Project to celebrate 30th anniversary with builder/developer teams, associate donors

As two new builder/developer teams prepare to break ground for construction of their 2010 GHBA Benefit Homes, the ceremonies will mark the 30th anniversary of this successful fundraiser.

Hundreds of Greater Houston Builders Association members have donated millions of dollars worth of materials, labor, services and land over the course of the past 30 years. Each year, two homes are built with these donations, and when the homes are sold, the majority of the proceeds are presented to local charities. In 2009, a record was set with three homes being built for the Project. "Considering the tough economy, this is a testament to the generosity of so many in Houston's building industry," said Kevin Holland, president of the GHBA.

To date, the Project has raised more than \$5 million and will soon surpass the \$6 million mark. Beneficiaries of the 30th anniversary Project are Texas Children's Hospital, the Alzheimer's Association and GHBA's own charity, HomeAid Houston.

Center, Schneider Electric, Allpoints Surveying, Suncoast Post-Tension, Pro-Build, All About Concrete, Allied Concrete, L&S Plumbing, Moen, and Dow Chemical.

Builders such as Chesmar Homes, Gateway Homes, Newmark Homes, Trendmaker Homes and Village Builders have participated more than once. On the developer side, Land Tejas has donated a homesite 13 times and Newland Communities three times.

"Donating a homesite is not as easy as it sounds," said Don Klein, chairman of the Project and president of Chesmar Homes. "Houston is sprawling, but land is still at a premium. When they hand over a lot from their premier communities it is a true measure of the developer's commitment to the GHBA and to helping those less fortunate."

The 2010 Project is being launched by the team of Village Builders/Friendswood Development and Westin Homes/Land Tejas Companies. Village Builders will break ground February 11 in Oakhurst Greens, and Westin Homes is breaking ground in

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Year after year, many of the same vendors, builders and developers come on board to assist in making the Project a success. Some of these vendors include, Schlage, ProStar Roofing, Hoelscher Weatherstripping, Pittsburgh Paint, Honeywell, Perfection Wholesale, Houston Countertops, Master Brick, Maintenance Builder Supply, Lennox, J-Kraft Inc., iLevel, Windrose Land Surveying, 1st Infinity Enterprises, Advanced Glass Block, Wholesale Roofing Supplies, Airteam, Weyerhaeuser, Armstrong Flooring, Texas Fence & Iron, Tamlyn, Champion Windows, Swartz Electric, DPIS Engineering, Stock Millwork, Designer Stone

Discovery at Spring Trails at a later date.

"As the Benefit Homes Project approaches the \$6 million mark, it is evident there are a host of Houston area companies that appreciate the importance of giving back to the community," said Klein. "Without the dedication of these generous individuals and groups, this money would never have been directed to the three worthy organizations. The entire team of vendors, builders and developers who have helped us reach our 30th year should be proud of this amazing commitment and what it has accomplished." ■



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