

5th Annual Dinner Auction

Lapeer County Habitat 5th Annual Dinner Auction was held Saturday, October 20th. We were very pleased and happy to have as platinum sponsors and hosts, Joe and Diana Romine of the Countryside Banquet Center of Imlay City. Joe, Diana and their great staff welcome Lapeer County Habitat with open arms. The dinner was delicious and plentiful! Everyone at the Countryside Banquet Center makes the evening so enjoyable and relaxing. Thank you Joe, Diana, and your terrific staff.

Our evening started with a great surprise. A very kind donor walked up and gave us a donation of \$1000.00. What a way to start the event. They insisted on buying tickets on top of that!

Next we need to thank our gold sponsors for the second year in a row: Independent Bank, Comerica Bank and Lapeer County Bank and Trust. Without the wonderful support we receive from these fine institutions we would not be able to continue our work, helping the working poor. We are a hand up, not a hand out. Every homeowner makes a payment to us that we recycle into the next house. Next year we plan on building two houses, one in Clifford and one in Elba Township.

Next we need to thank our silver sponsors, Kempf's Imlay City Florist, owners Joi and Ian Kempf. Joi and Ian not only sponsor a table, they donated all the center pieces as well. They sell tickets at their store and they also go door to door to sell tickets for this event. Both Joi and Ian have been there for Habitat since the beginning. Thanks for your support over the last 5 years!

Our bronze table sponsors for the third year (for table sponsors) AAA of Lapeer, Jerry Webb Agent and the Law offices of Catherine Bostick. Both Jerry and Catherine have also been there for Habitat since the beginning. Not only have they supported Habitat financially, they both have served as President. Thanks for all you have done and all you continue to do.

For the second year, we had two bronze table sponsors: the LA View and Church's Lumber Yard of Lapeer. The LA View has been so supportive, not only sponsoring a table, but also sending a photographer to the event and continuously supporting us with newspaper updates. Thanks go to Church's Lumber Yard for sponsoring this event and also our Bike Run in August. Thank you Church's and all your employees for their support.

New bronze table sponsors this year were the Lapeer County Community Credit Union, The Committee to elect Kevin Daley, and Lapeer County Democratic Party. We welcome all these new sponsors! Thank you!

Back again due to popular request was musician and songster Ray Champion. He kindly donates his wonderful dinner show and starts our evening on a relaxing and fun way. Thank you Ray for the wonderful job and your kind support.

Back this year was our first ever Auctioneer, Joe Nolan of Nolan's Farm Equipment. What can we say? Joe is a one man comedy team. He had the crowd in the palm of his hand - teasing, picking on, and making jokes. Many of the guests commended they would come back next year just to watch. Joe's straight man was Bill Marquardt. Bill

generously helped out reading off the auction items as Joe auctioned them off. Many, many of the guests made additional donations because of the fun they had. Thank you gentlemen!

We were so thankful for all the kind businesses that donated items this year. Without their support we couldn't have raised \$13230.00 with a net profit of \$12325.00. These kind businesses were: Dr. Alan Charnley, American Tree Inc., Barbershop Quartet The No Guarantees, Bud & Ruth Rendor, Country Smoke House, Countryside Banquet Center of Imlay City, E. G. Nicks, Equine Gatherings, Gem & Diamond Specialists, Fairfield Inn, Flowers by Carol, Focus Studio of Imlay City, Gail Rogers, Harriet Horvath, Harry's Sport Card's, Hylan & Nancy Marshall, Identities Screen Printing and Embroidery, Jerry Gross, Kempf's Imlay City Florist, Lapeer Cessna Pilot Center, Law offices of Barry Shoults, Lenny Chaltraw, Magpie Oil Change, Millennium Graphics and Printing, Mudslingers, Outback Nails & Tanning, Patrick Schlaud, Pincushion, Pix Arts Council, Steven Teets Party Lite, Suzanne Sculpture and Jewelry Designs, The Garfield Inn of Port Austin, The River's Inn in Lapeer, Thorpe's Animal Hospital-Dr. Tracy Thorpe, Treasure Isle and the Friday night beading ladies, Victor George Chevrolet, Vicki Whitmire and her wonderful baking ladies, Vronch's Photo & Framing, Walmart, The White Horse Inn. Thank You!

Thank you to the kind people who donated desserts for the dinner and the great bakers who baked for the bake sale. The Friday night bead ladies who donated the auction items, and all the door prizes. Thank you for taking the time to help.

I would like to also thank the committee who worked so hard putting this together. You did a terrific job! Thank you!

To top the evening off, the winner of the 50/50 raffle, Mary Marting owner of the Learning Depot in Imlay City. donated the winnings back to Lapeer County Habitat. She just handed it back and said help another family! Wow, we always find angels when we are not looking. Thanks to the Board of Directors, for all of them attending, getting auction items and selling tickets. Thanks again volunteers. Every one of them purchased tickets to the event, and then worked the event!

To the donors, businesses and attendees, the committee thanks you. On behalf of the dinner committee, and my co-chair Marge Bird. I couldn't have done it without you, Marge.

Thank you!
Margaret Schlaud, Event Co-Chair,
Director, Lapeer County Habitat for Humanity