

# Waco Community Development

We're putting more neighbors into neighborhoods

April 2007



254-235-7358

1624 Colcord Ave.

www.WacoCDC.org

## MILESTONE HOUSE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

All of the months of hard work are finally paying off. The Milestone House Project is coming to an end, the transformation turning a house once tagged to be torn down into a beautiful home.

Karine and Eddie will soon be moving their children into this beautifully renovated old home and soon we will be planning their "Welcome" party.

Waco Community Development, Compassion Ministry, Synergy Bank and First United Methodist Church are so thankful for all of the donations made to the Milestone House Project.



Drive by to see all of the changes to the Milestone House at 811 N. 13th!



## Calendar

Ways to Get Involved

\*June 9th '07 1-6PM

Homebuyer Education Class. To register call (254) 235-7358. Classes are free.

\*June 14th '07 6-8PM

Financial Literacy Class. Every Thursday beginning April 26th. To register call (254) 235-7358. Classes are free.

\*May 10th '07

Waco Community Development Board of Directors meet.

\*May 21st '07

Volunteer to help get Waco Community Development Newsletter ready for mailing. 9:30 AM at 1624 Colcord. (254) 235-7358.

**"Welcome To The Neighborhood!"**  
Another great celebration was held at 714 N. 11th on April 4, 2007.



## ALWAYS BE WILLING & ABLE TO SERVE

by Mike Stone  
Executive Director

*She hobbles into our office.* A bit scared but determined and smiling. She tells us that she interested in buying a house but is disabled. We talk and learn that she has to walk with a cane most of the time but uses a scooter to help her get around.

WOW, what drive and determination!

We talk more and more then we find out that it takes her two hours each day to get from her apartment over to West Ave. to help tutor kids. WOW, what grit! And, she tutors all of the time, because you see those are "her" kids! She not only works

with them but she cares for them also.

We then talk about a house. She wants to live close to the school because she can be available to tutor more often. Living closer, she won't have to take that long bus ride back and forth. She wants a small house, she does not need that much space.

She just wants a place of her own.

We have an older home we have remodeled, and after talking we figure out that this little house is just what she is looking for *and* meets her budget. Amazing! We want a good homeowner for the block and she wants to be closer in order to serve the kids at West Elementary. The plan is coming together!

Ms. Dutton is all moved in now. Her church has had a ramp built for her house that allows her to bring her scooter inside in order to recharge the battery. There is very little that slows Ms. Dutton down.

After moving in, her Sunday School Class gave her a "Pounding Party." Everyone that came to her house was suppose to bring a gift that measures a "pound" in order to help stock her house with essentials she may need.

What a blessing it was to meet Ms. Dutton, to be encouraged by the determination of others to serve and for us being able to help her achieve her dream of owning her own home.



Issue 13 - 2007

Newsletter of Waco Community Development, a Christian-based organization committed to promoting housing, economic, and community development throughout Waco.

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**Board of Directors:**

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Bill Shirley

Dr. Gaynor Yancey



We're working hard here at Waco Community Development. Here is an update on our current construction projects.



906 N.13th Street is beginning to take shape. The foundation has been poured and the framing is started.



Remodel 1007 N. 14th St.

# Current Projects



1104 N 13th Street will begin very soon. There will be a lot of action going on at the corner of 13th St. & Bosque.

Sullivan # 2 820 N. 16th St. has sold to a wonderful family who will soon be moving in. Looks like another "Welcome" party is just around the corner. Soon Sullivan #3 will begin!



## FOR SALE!



929 N. 14th Street has 1400 Sq. Ft. of living space. 3 Bedrooms/2 Baths/Kitchen with Breakfast Bar/Built-In Appliances/Separate Utility/Ceiling Fans/ High Efficiency Heat & Air Conditioning/Isolated Master Bedroom/Security System



\$78,500

## 2nd Annual Golf Scramble Huge Success!

Another great tournament was held on Friday, April 13, 2007. The 2nd



Annual Golf Scramble was held at the James Connally Municipal Golf Course and despite the ominous weather, we still had 12 teams. The team of Gardner, Smithson, Stewart and Weaver won the tournament with a 12 under for a score of 59.



**WOW! Great Game!**  
The Men's Breakfast Prayer Group of First United Methodist Church Waco provided and prepared lunch for

all of the players and organizers. Thanks guys! We raised over \$5000 due to the contributions of



the Corporate Sponsors, Hole Sponsors, organizers and players. We even had five area pastors play in the tournament. Thanks to everyone who made the tournament such a huge success. Can't wait 'til next year!



# A WORLD OFF TARGET!

by Darrell Abercrombie

One day a man was on his way to spend the day with a good friend who lived on a farm. When he reached the farm, he turned onto a long winding road that led to a farmhouse. On the way, he passed by a barn. As he drove by the barn, he noticed something that amazed and stupefied him. Drawn on the barn were twenty targets. Each target had a hole right through the middle of its bull's-eye. There were no other holes anywhere on the barn. Whoever had been using the barn for target practice was definitely a great shot.

The man could not believe it. He got back in his car, drove up to his friend's farmhouse, and said, "Jack, before we do anything else; I've just got to ask you, "Who in the world did the shooting on the side of your barn?"

Jack said, "Oh, that was me!" His friend replied, "I can't believe anybody can shoot that well! We're talking about twenty targets with twenty dead-center bull's eye shots. You mean to tell me you did that?" It was easy, I shot first and then I drew a big target around the bullet hole.

This story illustrates the situation our society is facing today.

This story illustrates the situation our society is facing today. We do everything we can to give the impression that our lives are on target when in reality all we have done is learn to paint well!

We have sought to camouflage our emptiness and failure with materialism, the scramble for success and significance, and the other pursuits. Some people even try to fill their emptiness through religious activities such as church membership. They have learned how to look, talk, and act like Christians, but all of these things, in and of themselves, are simply "paint jobs" that try to obscure the fact that we are a culture and a people tragically off target. We only have to look at the indicators to see that far too many individuals, families, and churches are missing the mark.

Most individuals, families, churches, and communities want to keep God on the fringes of their lives. There He can be accessible if we have need, but we can keep Him far enough away from the center of our lives that He doesn't start messing with our agendas.

As long as we keep God at a distance He will not take control of our neighborhoods, our churches or our communities, and thus

unrighteousness will rule. He will be close enough for our invocation and benedictions but not part of the anything in between.

What we must do to reverse this downward spiral in our lives is to get involved in your local church. God wants us to live life in the most meaningful, dynamic, and significant way possible. He has a book, the Bible, that will enable individuals, families, churches and society to function properly if we adjust our lives to His Word. Then we will have the Bible that makes better Individuals. Better Individual make better Neighborhoods. Better Neighborhoods make better Communities. Better Communities make better Churches. Better Churches make better Cities. Better Cities make better States. Better States that help shape a better world. Then we become a world on target. You know what the Bible stands for, (Basic Instructions, Before, Leaving, Earth).

**Adapted from: Living All of Life By The Kingdom Agenda**

by Dr. Tony Evans.



**Walker Moore  
Receives Award From  
Baylor University**

Walker Moore, the Community Organizer at Waco Community Development was just awarded with the Outstanding MSW Student award.

In the Community Connection, a Newsletter from Baylor University School of Social Work, Walker Moore is quoted as saying, "It's all in how you look at things." That's one of the most important things Walker Moore, an MSW/Mdiv, learned in his field placement at Waco Community Development.

Moore lives in North Waco in our target area, and when he began he said he saw many things in the same way other "outsiders" did - low income, high crime, single mothers, high school dropouts and a wasteland of failed programs. To many, it might have seemed hopeless. But Walker learned to look at it differently.

Walker's focus is at an apartment complex where he feels that permanent change has to come from the inside. Walker feels his job is to act as a catalyst to help bring the residents together, assist in identifying leaders and help them turn their dreams into reality.

Walker has said, "The residents want what is best for their kids, and I was able to connect them with the resources to help them." He hopes to continue his work here and says, "I'm learning every day, the residents keep on teaching me."

## Who's Behind Waco Community Development?



**Adrain Moore**  
Volunteer  
Coordinator

Waco Community Development is a hands-on way for me to help those that are in need. I have learned in the few weeks that I have worked at Waco Community Development that this is a very dedicated staff. Everyone is doing all they can to get the job done with as little setbacks as possible.

Working here has shown me characteristics about myself that I did not know I had. This is not only a great opportunity for me but also a learning experience regarding non-profit organizations.

I moved to Waco in 2005 after hurricane Katrina. I was here for six months before returning to my hometown of Shreveport, Louisiana.

After living back in Shreveport for a while, I learned about a job offer with MCYC Amercorps and so I returned to Waco in December of 2006.

My position as Volunteer Coordinator at Waco Community Development has given me the opportunity to give back to the community and also provided me the opportunity to attend school.

**\*Welcome to Waco Community Development Adrain!**

### SPECIAL PEOPLE by Abby Sobel

I am looking for people, special people, who have lived interesting lives, performed service to their community and now want to live in our Neighborhood, but need to downsize. People who may now have a fixed income but equity in a home or savings enough that with a "loan" from the city can afford to own their own home.

One special person will hopefully be Mary, who will be moving into our new planned community on 15<sup>th</sup> street. She will sell her home in the country and move to town into a two bedroom home perfect for her needs.

If you are one of these special people or know someone who is, please call me at 235-7358 and let me help you move into a home in our new planned community on 15<sup>th</sup> street.

### DID YOU KNOW

**1909: The Cotton Palace was built, and soon became one of the most popular fairs in the south; in 1913 an estimated 500,000 people viited the site.**

## By the Numbers

### Housing:

New Homeowners	7
New Homes:	18
Renovated:	8

### Opportunities:

Counseled:	265
Active:	139

### Maintenance:

Volunteers:	2,483
Vol. Hours:	15,204
Lots Mowed:	763

### Memorials & Honorariums

Waco Community Development now offers you the ability to support our ministry through the giving of memorials and honorariums. The person/family you wish to remember will be sent a card from Waco Community Development acknowledging the gift. Your memorial or honorarium will be listed in our Waco CDC Newsletter.

### \*Memorial & Honorary Gifts\*

\*Your Memorial or Honorary acknowledgement will be placed in this area of the Waco community Development Newsletter.



1624 Colcord Ave.  
Waco, TX 76707

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## Issue 13 - 2007

### Newsletter from Waco Community Development.

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*We're putting more neighbors into neighborhoods.*

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