

# Frostburg Lions commit to Habitat

BY THE CUMBERLAND TIMES-NEWS

FROSTBURG — The Frostburg Lions Club recently committed to helping the Allegany County Habitat for Humanity with its first construction project this summer.

The Lions purchased two square feet of the new house and will provide lunch on at least one occasion to the construction crew. Work on the house, to be located in the Creaptown area, should begin in June.

Cathy Miller, habitat director said, "Houses are built by volunteers who donate their time and energy." Construction materials and professional construction oversight is also donated.

"Even with donations, it still takes a lot of money to build a house," said Lonaconing resident Miller. "So we sell each square foot of the new house."

"Our houses have to meet the same construction standards," she said. "We'll have an onsite contractor to supervise all work." The house that will be built this summer will be approximately 1,000 square feet.

Lions Clubs International Foundation and local Lions Clubs have partnered with Habitat for Humanity since 1999, building some 1,000 homes worldwide. Lions Clubs have provided over \$12 million to help construct homes for people with disabilities.

Funding through LCIF, local

Lions Clubs and Lions themselves have enabled families in the United States and throughout the world to have a decent and healthy place in which to live.

"We have spent several years developing the program in Allegany county," said Miller. "We are now a 100 percent affiliate of Habitat for Humanity." Individuals can now apply for homes through the group, and will begin taking applications at their Frostburg office.

Needy families go through a selection process, much like they would in normal banking channels, but with much different criteria.

Once a family has been selected, work is begun on their house. Each family must provide 300 hours of labor in the construction of their home. They agree to repay an interest free mortgage on the property. These funds, along with donations, and square footage sales of each home, provide a revolving mortgage fund, that eventually will be self supporting.

"What better way to help build our communities?" said Frostburg Lions President Bill Munck. "Home owners will be paying taxes, working, placing children in schools and will have pride in themselves."

For more information about buying a square foot in the first habitat home, or about the Habitat for Humanity home program, call 301-463-5704.

# Frostburg Lions Club gears up for third Coats for Kids Drive

FOR THE CUMBERLAND TIMES-NEWS

**FROSTBURG** — The Frostburg Lions Club will conduct the third annual Coats for Kids (and adults) drive on Oct. 30 at the Hotel Gunter and First United Bank, Frostburg. Coats will be collected at both locations from 9 a.m. to noon.

The coat collection program, begun three years ago by the Frostburg Lions, has netted some 650 coats for the Salvation Army, the benefactor of the drive. Coats for all are collected.

"This is a great program," said club president Bill Munck. "No child should be cold at the bus stop."

Donations should be clean and in good repair. Cash contributions are also accepted, and all funds will go directly to the Salvation Army for coat purchases.

Garments will be delivered to the Salvation Army in Cumberland for free distribution to those in need this winter. Last year the coat drive happened right at a cold snap, and the Salvation Army had run out of



Standing with some of the more than 300 coats collected in the Coats for Kids drive last year, from the left, are Lions Cindy Powers, Joe Mills, Tina Gormley, Pat Gormley and Bill Munck.

coats. More than 300 coats were collected.

Winter outdoor drives are conducted by other Lions Clubs including the Hagerstown Lions, who have collected nearly \$1 million in used coats for free distribution in that area. At \$20 a coat, the value of last year's collection

by the Frostburg Lions would be \$6,000.

Coats can be dropped off at the Gunter Hotel on Main Street, and at First United Bank, state Route 36, Frostburg.

For more information about the Coats for Kids Program, call 301-687-0212.