

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FIRST GREEN HABITAT HOME IN LAKE AND SUMTER COUNTIES**  
**Habitat for Humanity and Leadership Lake County Class of 2008 Dedicate First Green Home.**

LEESBURG, Florida (May 28, 2009) - After months of hard work, Habitat for Humanity and the Leadership Lake County Class of 2008 completed the very first ENERGY STAR® rated Habitat home in the Lake-Sumter Chapter.

The home was initiated as a class project by the Leadership Lake County Class of 2008. Their goal was two-fold – to help make home ownership a reality for a deserving family *and* to help the environment by building the chapters first EPA certified ENERGY STAR® home.

“Building housing that is affordable and energy-efficient is a big win for the residents and for the environment,” said Kelly Pisciotta, Development/PR Director for Habitat for Humanity of Lake-Sumter, Florida Inc. “ENERGY STAR® qualified homes are more energy efficient and include additional energy-saving features that typically make them 20–30% more efficient than standard homes. Our home earned a 5-Star rating – an accomplishment we are very proud of.”

The lucky homeowner, Sonya Walker and her family, received the keys to their new Mascotte home during a dedication ceremony on May 6, 2009. Family, friends and sponsors were on-hand to share in the celebration. Americraft was the primary house sponsor and the land was graciously donated by the City of Mascotte. Other contributors included Pringle Homes, Bailey Industries, BES and H and many others who donated valuable time, and energy-efficient products and resources.

Some of the home’s “green” features include:

- Upgraded insulation and well-sealed walls, ceiling, and floors
- ENERGY STAR® rated windows
- Hardi-plank siding
- Upgraded 14 seer air conditioning unit
- Water-saving native and Florida friendly landscaping

**About Leadership Lake County**

The primary mission of Leadership Lake County is to educate participants on the diverse social and economic issues that are shaping the future of Lake County and its’ residents. By raising the levels of awareness, knowledge, and active participation in the county as a whole, the class members are better prepared to lead the county in the future.

**About Habitat for Humanity Lake-Sumter**

Habitat for Humanity Lake-Sumter is a not-for-profit, ecumenical, Christian organization dedicated to building simple, affordable housing for people living in substandard, and often over-crowded conditions beyond their control.

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