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Hagerman Gives Green for Its 100th

The Hagerman Group, Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW), Fort Wayne Habitat for Humanity and the Northeast Indiana Green Build Coalition broke ground on the first environmentally sustainable Habitat for Humanity home in Fort Wayne on Saturday, March 8.

Project sponsor The Hagerman Group is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2008. Giving back to the communities that have contributed to its century of success is of paramount importance to the firm.

“We are thrilled for the opportunity to support the Hagerman IPFW Sustainable Habitat for Humanity House. It is the perfect project for The Hagerman Group to express our commitment to Fort Wayne, to IPFW and to green building as we celebrate our centennial,” says Mark Hagerman, CEO, The Hagerman Group.

The IPFW Hagerman Sustainable Habitat for Humanity House has been designed by students in a construction technology class at IPFW. The house will be built by the same students, along with help from community volunteers, including employees of The Hagerman Group.

Some of the home’s sustainable or “green” components will include a rain garden, geothermal heating and cooling system, walls made of insulated concrete forms (ICFs), solar tubes and windows in the ceiling, paperless drywall, zero-VOC paint, three-pane windows, water-saving fixtures, bamboo kitchen cabinets, stamped-concrete kitchen countertops and native plants used in the landscape. Energy will be conserved and trees will be saved by positioning the house in a manner that will utilize the shade and wind protection provided by the trees, instead of cutting them down. Additionally, all construction waste will be recycled through a local company.

Because many Habitat affiliates across the country and much of the general public are unfamiliar with the sustainable design and construction process, the entire project will be filmed for future use as an educational tool. A DVD will be produced in Fort Wayne for use by Habitat for Humanity groups throughout the United States and for release to public television stations.

The Belloc family, political refugees from Burma and residents of Fort Wayne since 1999, looks forward to the May 31 dedication of their new sustainable home.

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