

## VOLUNTEER

# Brighton High School and McQuaid Jesuit students dedicate home with a Habitat for Humanity Family

## Submitted to The Post

Over 75 students, staff, volunteers, and sponsors celebrated the dedication of the Brighton Community Build on Saturday, May 31 with Flower City Habitat for Humanity (FCHH). The house belongs to the Mayer family, who moved in over the weekend, and was made possible by students and staff at Brighton High School and McQuaid Jesuit High School.

"Sometimes we take the most essential things in our life for granted like our home which provides comfort and stability and we don't actually think

about what our life would be like without a house to live in but in reality there are many people in our own city who struggle with this every day," said Jordan Pares-Kane, graduating Senior at Brighton High School and future Cornell University student. "Even though we may all live in different areas, the suburbs or city, we can all day we live in the greater Rochester area and we are all affected by each other."

The Brighton Community Build project started as a brain-child of a group of passionate seniors at Brighton High School. Through much organizing, fundraising,

and advocacy, they formed the Brighton High School Habitat for Humanity Club. In 2012, the club secured a dollar for dollar match for their fundraising from an anonymous Brighton resident.

In 2013, as an effort to expand support for the home, the club changed the scope of the project to further involve the community - naming the project the Brighton Community Build. They partnered with the McQuaid Jesuit Habitat for Humanity Chapter, and together, reached out to McQuaid Jesuit alumni and Brighton community members to complete

their fundraising goal and build the four bedroom home.

"It's important to give back to your community, but this house has given me a lot too," said Nathaniel Rogalskyj, graduating Senior at McQuaid Jesuit High School and (also) future Cornell University student. "I have learned that hard-work pays off, coordination is important, and having faith that you can do something as big, as important, as this really will pan out."

Jennifer Mayer, the owner of the home, has worked 450 sweat-equity hours on it and will pay a zero-interest mortgage on the house post-closing. In honor of her journey to homeownership, she will be presented with two symbolic keys at the dedication; A hammer, which symbolizes the hard-work she and the volunteers have put into the home building; and a faith book (in this case the Bible) in honor of the faith needed to change one's life circumstances.

"I just want to say thank you to the students who

helped my family and I get to today," said Jennifer Mayers, Brighton Community Build homeowner. "My kids and I are so excited to move in this weekend. It's finally time."

Made possible through the support of community donors, Brighton High School, McQuaid Jesuit, Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation, T. Bell Construction, and The Robert August Family, the Brighton Community Build is the second student-led house at Flower City Habitat for Humanity. The first was with The Harley School completed in April 2007. Another student-led project is being built across the street from 721 Jay Street by Pittsford Mendon High School with support from Get It Straight Orthodontics. Through these student builds, Flower City Habitat hopes to introduce Rochester youth to poverty issues in our city, advocate on behalf of poverty housing issues, and empower them to take action and build decent, affordable housing for low-income families in the

City of Rochester.

About Flower City Habitat for Humanity Flower City Habitat for Humanity, founded in 1984, is a non-denominational Christian housing ministry dedicated to eliminating substandard and poverty housing in Rochester, N.Y. Since 1984, FCHH has built over 200 homes, and is one of the largest Habitat affiliates in the northeastern U.S. Visit: [www.rochesterhabitat.org](http://www.rochesterhabitat.org).

About McQuaid Jesuit McQuaid Jesuit, the area's only, all-boys Catholic college prep school for grades 6-12, is committed to fostering the integrated development of a young man's God-given talents: spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally, and aesthetically. While preparing him for further education, his life's work, and social interaction, McQuaid Jesuit reaches beyond these goals to produce a growing love of learning and enthusiasm for life that will enable him to meet ever-changing challenges. Visit: [www.mcquaid.org](http://www.mcquaid.org).

## COTTONE AUCTIONS

120 Court Street, Geneseo, New York 14454 Tel: 585.243.1000

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL MARKETING  
CALL FOR COMPLIMENTARY EVALUATION



An Early Chinese  
Bronze Seated  
Figure of Buddha  
Sold: \$41,000

- Fine Art
- Folkart
- Asian Art
- Jewelry
- Tiffany
- Clocks
- Sculpture
- Art Glass
- Oriental Rugs
- Native American
- Paintings
- Firearms, etc.

Record prices achieved!

OVER 35 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE!

[cottonauctions.com](http://cottonauctions.com)

CAEE3311

## IN BRIEF

### GCC offers food processing class, info day

Genesee Community College will host a Food Processing Info Day from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on July 17 at the college's seven campus locations for prospective students interested in careers in the food industry. The program helps prepare

students for a variety of positions, including quality control technician, packaging specialist, utilities operator, lab clerk, operations manager and regulatory or food control supervisor. The first introductory class, Food Processing Technology, begins on Sept. 23 with the college's 12-week session. The class hours are 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the

college's Batavia campus. The full program involves classroom lectures, science lab experiments and an internship. Students who register and complete the class are eligible to receive a \$500 scholarship to cover the cost of the three-credit course. For more information, visit [genesee.edu/academics/programs/tech/Food](http://genesee.edu/academics/programs/tech/Food).