

“One More” Habitat House to be constructed

BY GUS SCHOTT

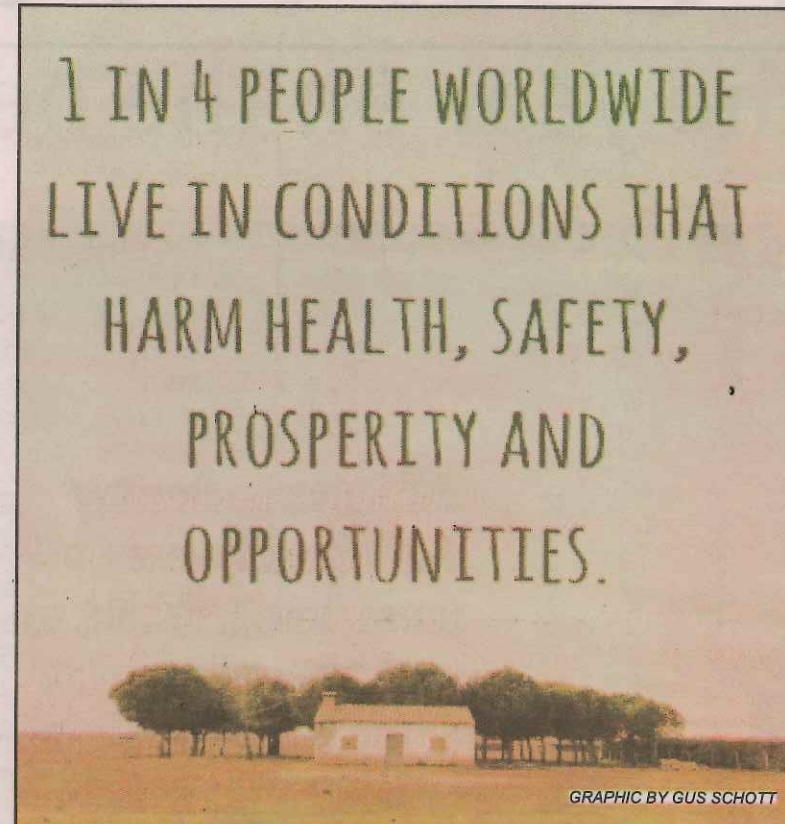
On May 31, 2016, the lives of many West Lafayette community members were changed forever when Christian Thomas Burns was killed in a car accident. Christian was a son, a brother, a teammate, a classmate and a friend to all, and he lived by the phrase “One More.”

Inspired by the One More phrase made of masking tape above his lifting bench at home, Christian was always determined to do one more rep. Others have been determined these past six and a half months to do their own one more, whether it be running one more sprint, doing one more math problem or making one more friend.

Now there is one more opportunity to be a part of something that is bigger than all of us. In honor of Christian, his friends, family members, teammates and classmates are coming together along with the rest of the West Lafayette community and the Lafayette Habitat for Humanity to construct two habitat houses for two families in need (one in Tippecanoe County and one in Haiti).

“The Habitat House embodies who Christian was as a person,” teammate Matt Marley ‘16 said. “Not only was he hardworking, but he cared a lot about others.”

Habitat for Humanity’s mission statement is to provide affordable housing for less fortunate families that would struggle to have a house without their help. The cost to construct one house in the local community and one house in a third-world coun-



GRAPHIC BY GUS SCHOTT

raised before the houses are built.

“This is the kind of effort that will perpetuate Christian’s memory in a permanent way,” Christian’s dad, Eric Burns, said.

So you might be asking how you can get involved. The first thing to do is join one of the teams. To join a team, contact Marti Burns, Christian’s mom, via email or cell phone (both provided in the box at the top of the right side of the page).

The next big step in this project is the fundraising. Participants are encouraged to participate in the Walk/Run-Athon that will take place on Sunday, Jan. 22, at Lambert Fieldhouse on the Purdue Campus from noon to 4 p.m.

Team members are asked to work to raise money for this event by asking for donations

the house.

When all is said and done, the house will be dedicated in Christian’s name during a religious ceremony by the priest of the Saint Thomas Aquinas Church and given to Doug and Betsy Shaw (two Lafayette natives) and their 1-year-old daughter, Lola.

The final blessing day will be May 31, 2017. This date marks the one-year anniversary of Christian’s death, and all are welcome to come and celebrate the completion of the project in honor of his life.

It is known by many that the life of a West Lafayette High School student is full of many responsibilities and commitments, but if you can go to one more sports practice, one more shift at work or one more tutoring session, you can find the time to support this one more cause that is bigger than us all.

“It stands for who Christian was as a person, and it is important for us as a school and a community to get around this idea and make sure we help out as much as possible,” Marley said.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Marti Burns

Email:
mhburns@purdue.edu

Cell Phone:
765-714-1872

Potential Teams to Join

West Lafayette Boys Sports

West Lafayette Girls Sports

West Lafayette Cross Country and Track

West Lafayette Music Programs

West Lafayette Super Fans and Student Body



GRAPHIC BY SARAH BURNS

ONE MORE: This graphic was designed by Sarah Burns, Christian’s sister. The design for the words

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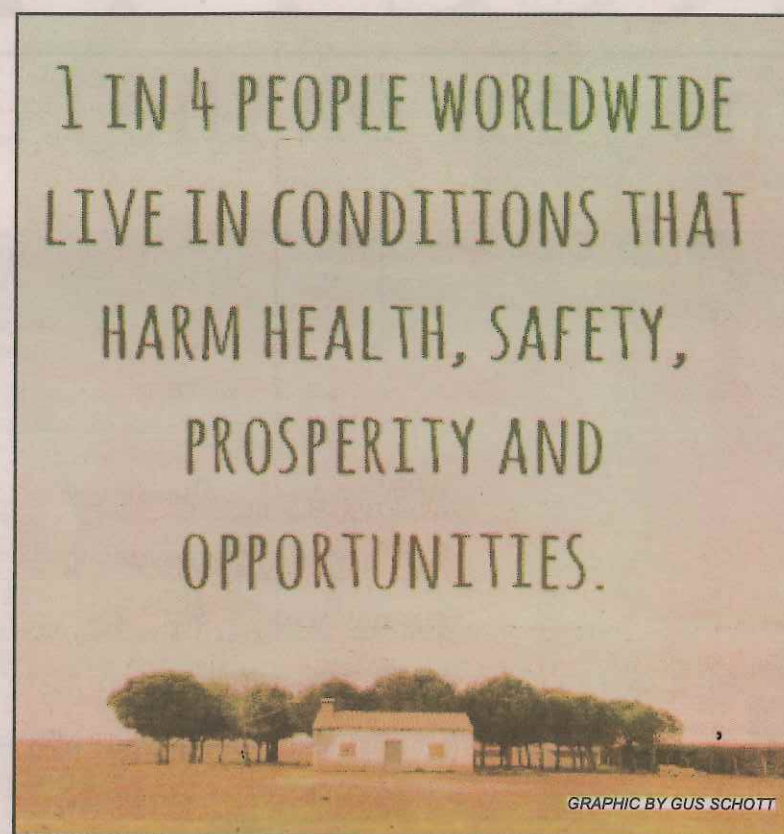
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Habitat for Humanity's mission statement is to provide affordable housing for less fortunate families that would struggle to have a house without their help. The cost to construct one house in the local community and one house in a third-world country is \$55,000, which must be



raised before the houses are built.

"This is the kind of effort that will perpetuate Christian's memory in a permanent way," Christian's dad, Eric Burns, said.

So you might be asking how you can get involved. The first thing to do is join one of the teams. To join a team, contact Marti Burns, Christian's mom, via email or cell phone (both provided in the box at the top of the right side of the page).

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Team members are asked to work to raise money for this event by asking for donations

from friends and family. Every dollar donated to the Walk/Run-Athon goes directly toward the project goal of \$55,000.

After all the money is raised, each team will be designated a Build Day in April or May to go and work on the construction of

the house.

When all is said and done, the house will be dedicated in Christian's name during a religious ceremony by the priest of the Saint Thomas Aquinas Church and given to Doug and Betsy Shaw (two Lafayette natives) and their 1-year-old daughter, Lola.

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ONE MORE: This graphic was designed by Sarah Burns, Christian's sister. The design for the words "ONE MORE" was inspired by the ONE MORE created by masking tape in Christian's house.