



**INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME** – Garrett County Habitat for Humanity recently held its first Hall of Fame induction ceremony to honor longtime volunteers, supporters, and board members. “All of the inductees have been instrumental in making Garrett County Habitat for Humanity the thriving affiliate that it is today,” said Brent Stone, GCHFH executive director. “They have shown dedication to Habitat’s mission to provide decent, affordable housing to families in need, and to working to make this affiliate a stronger and more effective representa-

tive of the ideals of Habitat for Humanity.” See story for details. From left are Katherine and Dale Epley (wife and son), who accepted the award on behalf of David Epley; Arlene Schwartz, Jordan DeLaRosa, and Nicki DeLaRosa (mother, step son, and wife), on behalf of Tracy Schwartz; David Custer (son), on behalf of Frank Custer; Ida Maust; Duane Yoder; Sue Kellam (wife), on behalf of John Kellam; and Bill Riley. Not pictured are honorees Sister Catherine Arata and Shirley Brandes, both of whom were unable to attend the induction ceremony. Photo by Gilbert Johnson.

## *Habitat For Humanity Holds Its First Hall Of Fame Induction Ceremony*

Garrett County Habitat for Humanity recently held its first Friends of Garrett County Habitat for Humanity Hall of Fame induction. The ceremony was held at the Oakland Volunteer Fire Department hall. The OVFD donated the use of the facility for the event.

After a celebratory dinner, each inductee was introduced by a current Habitat volunteer and presented with a plaque. Most of the inductees made short remarks and expressed

their appreciation, according to Brent Stone, GCHFH executive director.

This year’s inductees were Sister Catherine Arata, who was one of the driving forces in the local Habitat’s creation; Duane Yoder, who was the first GCHFH president and continual supporter of the affiliate; Ida Maust, an early board member and a longtime volunteer; and Tracy Schwartz, a leader of Rockville United Church’s work camp group, which has been

involved with the local affiliate for more than 25 years.

Also honored were Bill Riley, a longtime volunteer who served as president for more than 10 years; John Kellam, a longtime volunteer, supporter, and board member; Shirley Brandes, an early board member and longtime volunteer; David Epley, an early leader of the Rockville United Church work camp group and “scrubie” maker; and Frank Custer, a longtime supporter, volunteer, and board member.

All of the inductees’ names will be engraved on a plaque that will be displayed permanently at the Garrett

County Habitat for Humanity office. The awards were prepared by Helbig’s Jewelers, which donated part of the cost. Photography for the event was donated by Gilbert Johnson.

The board of directors created the Hall of Fame as means to honor individuals who have made “a significant impact” on GCHFH and its ability to perform its mission.

“All of the people listed above have been instrumental in making Garrett County Habitat for Humanity the thriving affiliate that it is today,” Stone said. “They have all shown dedication to its mission to provide decent, affordable housing to families