



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New \$285,000 home up for grabs!

Hattiesburg, MS— For the seventh year in a row, some lucky person will be the winner of a new home for only \$100. Raffle tickets in the seventh annual Home Sweet Home Raffle, sponsored by the Greater Hattiesburg Home Builders Association and Leaf River Cellulose to benefit United Way, went on sale today.

Ticket sales will continue until the Greater Hattiesburg Home Builders' Home and Products Show scheduled for February 27-March 1 at the Lake Terrace Convention Center. All proceeds from the raffle will benefit United Way of Southeast Mississippi.

Along with the Greater Hattiesburg Home Builders, Leaf River Cellulose is once again a major sponsor of this year's raffle. Leaf River Cellulose, a division of Georgia-Pacific Cellulose, has generously donated \$70,000 to help United Way cover its costs of the raffle. This will allow more of the raffle proceeds to go directly to United Way and its 21 local agencies. Leaf River Cellulose presented the \$70,000 check at today's official ribbon-cutting at the home.

Dana Smith with DRS Construction is the lead builder of this year's raffle home, which is located in Legacy subdivision in Oak Grove. Summer Sammons of Anderson Design Center is the home's interior designer. Other members of the Greater Hattiesburg Home Builders Association have offered services or materials at donated or discounted costs.

This year's home features three bedrooms, two and one-half bathrooms, a two-car garage and 2,331 square feet of heated living space. It also has an upstairs bonus room. Another special feature of the home is its screened-in porch which opens to a patio.

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United Way Holds 7th Annual Home Raffle

Anyone interested in viewing the home will have the opportunity during open house weekends, which will be held January 17-18; January 31-February 1; February 7-8; February 14-15; February 21-22; and February 28-March 1. On those Saturdays, the home will be open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., and on those Sundays, the home will be open from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. There will also be open houses held during the weekdays of February 23-27, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. There is no charge to tour the home, and tickets will be on sale during the open houses.

There are several other ways to purchase tickets in the Home Sweet Home Raffle. Ticket order applications may be mailed along with a check or credit card information to United Way of Southeast Mississippi; P.O. Box 1648; Hattiesburg, MS 39403-1648. Applications will be available around Hattiesburg and can be downloaded from www.unitedwaysems.org. Mailed applications must be postmarked by Feb. 23, 2009.

Tickets may be purchased online with Visa or MasterCard at www.unitedwaysems.org. Online orders must be placed by 5 p.m. on Feb. 27, 2009. Tickets may also be purchased with credit card by calling 601-545-7141 or by faxing an application to 601-545-8872 by 5 p.m. on Feb. 27, 2009.

Tickets may also be purchased at the United Way office at 210 W. Front Street in Historic Downtown Hattiesburg and at select locations of BancorpSouth, Citizens Bank, Citizens National Bank, Community Bank, The First, Grand Bank, PriorityOne Bank and Trustmark National Bank by 5 p.m. on Feb. 27. Please contact the participating banks to find a bank location near you.

Tickets will be sold during the Greater Hattiesburg Home Builders Association Home and Products Show, which will be held Feb. 27-March 1 at the Hattiesburg Lake Terrace Convention Center. The last day to purchase a ticket will be March 1 at the Home and Products Show or open house. Only 5,000 tickets will be sold.

The winning raffle ticket will be drawn March 9, 2009, at 6 p.m. on location at 336 Legacy Boulevard in Hattiesburg. The winner does not have to be present to win.

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Runner-up prizes in the raffle include a home computer donated by Owens Business Machines, a gift card donated by Best Buy and a gift card donated by Ashley Furniture Home Store.

Directions to the home: From Highway 98, turn south on Old Highway 11. Travel 2.5 miles and turn left on Legacy Blvd. into Legacy subdivision. Travel .2 miles. The raffle home is the last home on the right.

For more information, call the United Way office at 601-545-7141 or visit www.unitedwaysems.org.

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