



*SDSBS paralegal Debbie Knapp presents keys to her family's home to the new owner and her children.*

### **SDSBS paralegal Debbie Knapp and family recognized by Habitat for Humanity for their generous donation of family home**

SDSBS paralegal **Debbie Knapp** was recognized in September 2010 for her donation of her family home to Habitat for Humanity. "Habitat" is a non-profit organization dedicated to the elimination of sub-standard housing by building or rehabilitating simple, decent, safe, and affordable houses for low-income, hardworking qualified families in partnership with community volunteers, and local organizations.

More than fifty years ago, Debbie and her family lived in the three-bedroom/one-bath home on Date Palm Drive, Lake Park, Florida. Her father, Phillip R. Scott, had been a U. S. Air Force pilot during World War II. His B24 plane was shot down over Austria. He managed to survive several days adrift at sea until he was rescued and taken to a small island off the coast of Italy – the sole survivor of the incident. Eventually, he received a medal for his bravery and an honorable discharge. He returned to his family stateside and began a second career at Pratt & Whitney in Connecticut, later transferring to the Palm Beach Gardens plant and into a new home in Lake Park, Florida.

The Knapp and Scott families wanted to give back to their community and to the Town of Lake Park, and decided to donate their family home so that another family could benefit from the experience of having their own home. The new homeowners are Jomekeyia McNeil and her three sons, Ramon, 9; Dakota, 5; and Tarvarus, 4. They are thrilled with the opportunity to build fond memories in a house that already has 50 years of wonderful family memories. ♦

[www.habitatpbc.org](http://www.habitatpbc.org)

## **Accolades**



### **Greg Barnhart elected chair of Fourth District Court of Appeal's Judicial Nominating Commission**

**Greg Barnhart** was unanimously elected chair of the Fourth District Court of Appeal's Judicial Nominating Commission. Members of the Commission are appointed by the governor of Florida. The Commission conducts formal interviews of judges and lawyers, selecting applicants to send to the governor as nominees for appointment to the Fourth District Court of Appeal. The Court's jurisdiction covers Florida from Vero Beach south to Fort Lauderdale and west to Lake Okeechobee. Florida is one of the few states that use this selection process to ensure that the governor has access to a list of the most talented people available for nomination. Mr. Barnhart was appointed to the Court by Governor Crist after being recommended by the Board of Governors of the Florida Bar. ♦



### **Jim Gustafson selected for membership to American Board of Trial Advocates**

In October 2010, Jim Gustafson was admitted to membership in the American Board of Trial Advocates. ABOTA's mission is to elevate the standards of integrity, honor, and courtesy within the legal profession. The organization aids in educating and training trial lawyers, preserving our jury system, and improving procedures within the present trial court system. ♦