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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Beyond Birdhouses Raises Funds!

FINDLAY, Ohio (02/21/07) – The 16th Annual Open Arms Auction “Beyond Birdhouses” raised approximately \$35,000 last weekend. Each year the week long display and sales for the “Beyond Birdhouses” event culminates with a live auction held at the Findlay Village Mall. Taking honors for this year’s Joan Browne People’s Choice Award was an Adirondack chair and foot stool built by Keith Duvernay and painted by Tamera Rooney. The highest winning bid was \$1,100, on an autographed Ben Roethlisberger Superbowl Ball. Other items won at an impressive bid were a Vegas Getaway, an Owens Community College Replica, a Castaway Bay Package and a custom made solid gold Von’s necklace.

The Beyond Birdhouses fundraiser offered supporters around 400 items to choose from for purchase, and 50 items for bid this year. The event volunteers, donors and sponsors are critical in making this event a fundraising success. More than 100 volunteers give hundreds of hours toward the planning of this week long event. Donors acquire items for sale and bid throughout the year. Those interested in helping with the planning for the 2008 Beyond Birdhouses please contact Andrew Bixel at 419-420-9261.

Open Arms Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis services is a nonprofit agency supported in part by the Hancock County United Way. Open Arms provides six program services to those living and working in the greater Hancock County community. The six programs include Rape Crisis Services, Child Advocacy, Violence Recovery Project, Outreach Services, the Harmony House Visitation & Exchange program, and Emergency Shelter Services. The 24-hour Crisis Hotline is 419-422-4766.

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