

moved on, but hundreds at the city's six shelters still need housing.

One hub of activity is Easthaven Southern Baptist Church, a shelter for 110, although for a time it served more than twice that number. Former Cedar Falls resident Merrill Oster initiated the relationship between Prairie Lakes and Easthaven. He learned of Easthaven's challenge from family members at that church. He called friends in the Cedar Valley who were looking for a way to help.

The population in this town of 12,000 has swelled with survivors and relief workers.

Members of the Indiana National Guard, shouldering M16s, are on hand to keep the peace and lend a hand. And then there are the volunteers. Red Cross workers and Christians from Tennessee have moved into Easthaven Baptist Church. And now the Prairie Lakes contingent has arrived.

Prairie Lakes is partnering with Easthaven Baptist Church to help with shelter and a transitional housing project. The Cedar Falls church will send two more teams of volunteers in the next two weeks.

"We kind of answered the call to love people," said Adam Graber, 23, Waterloo.

The warm Mississippi air was thick with humidity and "love bugs" when volunteers started work Wednesday.

Men and women spent hours cutting and raking tall grass at a former trailer home park, preparing the way for 14 travel trailers. The units were purchased by Oster from Ace Fogdall RV.

Oster orchestrated the project Trailers, which will house displaced families, were filled with sheets, pots, pans and other amenities by Prairie Lakes and Cedar Heights Baptist congregations in Cedar Falls in two days.

Kim Oster of Easthaven Baptist, related by marriage to Merrill Oster, said evacuees have brought new life to her church, built specifically eight years ago to serve as a disaster shelter. The joyful but weary servants at Easthaven welcomed help from strangers up north.

"We needed manpower. We really needed people to work," she said.

Trailer lots are rent-free for six months. Organizers hope that is enough time for evacuees to achieve independence. Five homes also are being prepared for family use.

About \$157,000 has been raised toward the \$300,000 project.

On Wednesday, Cedar Valley and Mississippi volunteers began preparations for sewer, water and electricity at the trailer park. At first, workers had trouble locating the existing water line. Some Iowa jaws dropped as a tall and lanky Mississippi man slowly walked back and forth across the grass. Billy Crider strolled with arms outstretched, hands clutching metal sticks that pulled toward an underground line. The former Entergy Corp. employee was retired for more than 5 years when he was called up by his company to help after the hurricane.

Bystander Ron Williamson, a retired area school teacher and volunteer cook at the shelter, vouched for the accuracy of divining rods before ducking away to cook chicken for the evening meal for evacuees and volunteers.

"I love 'em God bless 'em all," Williamson said.

Volunteers are grateful to understanding employers and teachers for letting them serve in the South, and for the sponsorship of their churches.

Sara, 27, and Jerry Steele, 30, of Lytham, England extended a visit with family in Iowa to make the trek south. Delta Airlines let them delay their travel plans without extra fees. Jared Coffin, 14, is missing class at Hoover Middle School in Waterloo. He finished most of his homework on the 16-hour drive south.

"They need people down here to do things like this. They need people to donate clothes. It's just a matter of getting plugged in," Coffin said "We're going to be here for awhile."

Some Cedar Valley volunteers hoped to spend more time in the shelter's kitchen and were surprised to learn more help was available than expected. Some mentioned trekking further south if the need is greater there, added Steve Coffin, 51, of Cedar Falls.

"We're just getting started," said Mark Sherwood, volunteer coordinator from Cedar Falls. "Every day can be different."

Brookhaven experienced tree damage and power outages but was spared the destruction suffered by her southern neighbors.

"We've been inconvenienced, but their lives have changed," said Massingill the mayor. "People are ready to go back to their homes."

But not everyone can.

Despite what the highway signs near Brookhaven say, Kenner, La., evacuees Herbert Lange and his wife, Cynthia, weren't looking for paradise when they arrived at Easthaven Baptist. They just wanted a safe place to wait for the storm to pass and the water to recede so insurance and property issues can be resolved. Housed in a Sunday school room and fed three times a day, the Langes are convinced they have a little piece of heaven.

HONORING BARBARA GRASSLEY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, October is Breast Cancer Month, and I wish to honor my wife, who is an 18-year survivor of breast cancer.

I don't often speak about this, but October is the month to raise money and bring attention to the plight of those who have breast cancer, most often with the idea in mind of adding to research for a cure of breast cancer.

My only opportunity to participate in this, besides a few remarks I make, is the second Saturday of October in Des Moines, IA, they have a 5K to raise money. Sixteen thousand of us participated in that 5K fundraiser in Des Moines, IA. I have nothing to brag about because it took me 28 minutes 6 seconds, but I was glad to have the opportunity to help raise money for the cause.

This morning, I would like to read a speech for my wife Barbara Grassley—today happens to be her 73rd birthday—about her personal challenge with breast cancer. Today is my wife's birthday, and it is fitting that we celebrate her victory over this.

Barbara's story is a familiar one. She had many busy years raising our five children, helping run the family farm, particularly during those years that I was in the State legislature, busy participating in community and church activities, and even at age 50 going back and finishing her BA degree at the University of Northern Iowa. Barbara never worried about her own health. Then one casual visit to do a free cholesterol screening led to a doctor's visit for a physical exam. It was an appointment that changed her life. She was diagnosed with breast cancer. Just 10 days later, she had a modified radical mastectomy at Covenant Hos-

pital in Waterloo. That was 18 years ago.

We are fortunate that her breast cancer was detected early. We know with certainty that early detection can dramatically increase a woman's chance of defeating breast cancer. That is true for women like Barbara who have a family medical history working against them. Parenthetically, I think five out of six of my wife's aunts on her mother's side had breast cancer as well.

The need for routine mammograms cannot be repeated too often. Baseline mammograms and regular screening are key to saving the lives of the thousands of women who develop this disease each year.

As her husband and as a Senator, I follow closely the legislative commitment made to breast cancer research, education, and prevention. I am proud to be cosponsor of the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act. This bill before the HELP Committee would allow the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants to develop centers across the country. These centers will help conduct research on the environmental factors that may be related to breast cancer. I hope the HELP Committee will consider this bill as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we must focus our efforts on finding a cure. In the past week, there have been breakthroughs on cancer research. Every day, we get one step closer to overcoming this disease.

This month is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I hope men and women will take the opportunity to talk to their loved ones about getting a mammogram and preventing breast cancer. I hope we can continue to raise awareness of this disease for the sake of every mother, spouse, sister, daughter, and granddaughter in this world.

I remind people especially of the luck of my wife going to that early detection. She went for just one of these community screenings. She didn't go to the doctor with any idea she would have anything wrong; she just went there and there were some questions raised. Every opportunity you have to take a quick one, if there is something wrong that can lead to the routine mammogram, you should do it because that surely made a difference in my wife's condition at the time. Early detection is so important.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Idaho.

DEFICIT SPENDING AND COST OF KATRINA

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, for the last few minutes, I have listened with great interest to the Senator from Iowa reading a diary of the experience of a dedicated volunteer, obviously, to help out with Katrina victims in Louisiana and Mississippi. I found it most