

# Union electricians, contractors come to the aid of family of fallen soldier

VANCOUVER — Nearly two dozen members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 48 volunteered a Saturday to wire a house being built for the family of a Vancouver soldier killed in Iraq.

Jeremiah Johnson, a 2001 graduate of Prairie High School, died Jan. 5, 2007 — 10 days after a Humvee he and two other soldiers were riding in crashed into a canal in Baghdad. All three soldiers of the Army's 3rd Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne),

25th Infantry Division were killed.

Johnson is survived by his wife, Gale, 24, and two children, Isaiah, 6, and Rya, 3.

To help the family, longtime friend and homebuilder Steve Staudinger formed a foundation — "Jeremiah's House — to raise money to build them a home.

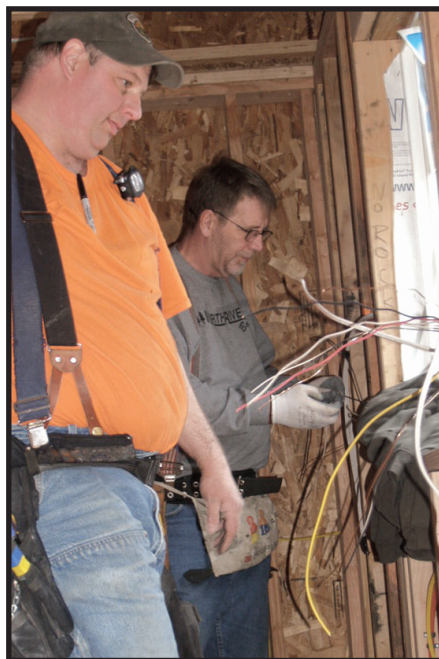
Local 48 learned of the project and word went out for volunteers. "We probably had 100 guys offer to help," said Greg Parson.

"It's what we as union members fight for every day, the American Dream of owning your own home,"

said Terry Reigle, a Local 48 organizer.

Union contractors donated material and within six hours the 1,700 square-foot-home at 2719 125th Court was completely wired. Estimated cost for a wiring project this size was estimated at \$10,000.

"This is a hell of a good Saturday morning for me," said Danny Gibbs, a veteran and Local 48 member. "We should do this for the families of every soldier who doesn't come home."



(ABOVE LEFT) Jeremiah Johnson with his wife, Gale, and children Isaiah and Rya. Johnson was killed while serving in the Army in Iraq.

(BELOW LEFT) Steve Rushing (left) and Danny Gibbs of Capitol Electric help wire home being built for Johnson's family.

The crew of 23 volunteers — 18 journeymen and five apprentices — take a break for a group photo.

## Labor Bowl for MDA April 27

The 19th annual Labor Bowl Challenge to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) will be held Sunday, April 27, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Cascade Lanes, 2700 NE 82nd Ave., Portland. Registration starts at noon.

Money raised from pledges and a silent auction helps provide wheelchairs and braces for youngsters, medical care, research and summer camps.

Pledge packets are available at the Northwest Oregon Labor Council or by calling Tor at MDA at 503-223-3177. For more information, call Kelly Pendell, a member of Letter Carriers Branch 82 and coordinator of the event, at 503-493-5903.

**Danner**  
Rain Forest Boots  
Made in America!

Try a pair on, you'll like them.  
Tough boots for the Northwest.

**AL'S SHOES**  
5811 SE 82nd, Portland 503-771-2130  
Mon-Fri 10-7:30 Sat 10-5:30 Sun 12-6

Michael E. Hardeman, Business Representative  
Sign & Display Local 510



### The bank of local unions

brings 50 years of on-the-job labor experience

provides complete banking services tailored to the Local leadership

guides investments to ensure your money works as hard as you do

offers online access to keep multiple accounts easily organized

gives each and every local union their due.

### Invest in you<sup>®</sup>

#### Labor Management Trust Services

Stephen Heady, Vice President, (503) 450-1270  
Louis Nagy, Vice President, (503) 450-1273

#### Labor Management Deposit Services

Diane Williams, Senior Vice President & Manager, (213) 236-5085  
John Mendoza, Vice President & Relationship Manager, (415) 705-7112

Visit us at [unionbank.com](http://unionbank.com)

**UNION  
BANK OF  
CALIFORNIA**

©2007 Union Bank of California, N.A. Member FDIC