

## Credit Unions Put Finishing Touches on Specially Adapted Home

*Columbia* – Missouri credit unions put the finishing touches on a specially adapted home for Army Staff Sergeant (SSG) Robert Canine on June 19, as part of a credit union volunteer day for the first Homes for Our Troops project in Missouri. More than 40 credit union staff, family and friends volunteered to landscape the lot. Volunteers rolled sod and planted trees, bushes and flowers.

“My wife likes to garden and her brother is serving in Afghanistan, so this hits close to home,” says Bill Mustain, Employment Security Credit Union. “We’re happy to support this cause.”

Missouri credit unions sponsored the project for Homes for Our Troops, raising \$100,000 to help build the home for SSG Canine and his family. A native of Mexico, Missouri, Canine lost both of his legs below the knee while serving in Iraq. The home is specially adapted to his needs.

Credit unions participating in the June 19 volunteer day included Anheuser-Busch Employees’ Credit Union (St. Louis), Employment Security Credit Union (Jefferson City), River Region Credit Union (Jefferson City), Rolla Federal Credit Union, United Credit Union (Mexico) and the Missouri Credit Union Association.

“Missouri credit unions are so grateful to Robert for his sacrifice, and we feel privileged to work with Homes for Our Troops to make this family’s home a reality,” says Rosie Holub, Missouri Credit Union Association president/CEO. “The hard work is worth it, and we are anxious to see the Canine family settled in their new home so they can move forward with their lives.”

Credit unions extend a special thank you to the University of Missouri’s Campus Facilities-Landscape Services for the 10 volunteers they sent to assist with the project. Donating plant materials or cash for the HFOT project house landscaping were Vintage Hill Nursery, EC. Piotter & Sons Nursery, Home Depot, Kevin Steward and top soil provider Fred Overton, Rost Landscaping, Karlan and Louis Seville, and Charles Paxton and Pete Miller.

Missouri credit unions and Homes for Our Troops will present the keys to the home to SSG Canine, his wife, Jennifer, and their son, Sebastian at the Key Ceremony, which takes place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 26, at 5500 Saddle Ridge Dr., Columbia, MO 63205. The Canine family, representatives from Homes for Our Troops and Missouri credit unions, volunteers and legislators will be on hand.

Missouri credit unions plan to build another specially adapted home with Homes for Our Troops in Missouri, and fundraising efforts continue across the state. For more information about the Columbia effort, visit [www.homesforourtroops.org/site/PageServer?pagename=RobertCanine](http://www.homesforourtroops.org/site/PageServer?pagename=RobertCanine) <<http://www.homesforourtroops.org/site/PageServer?pagename=RobertCanine>> . To learn more about Homes for Our Troops, visit [www.homesforourtroops.org](http://www.homesforourtroops.org) <<http://www.homesforourtroops.org>> .

*The Missouri Credit Union Association is the trade association representing the state’s credit unions and more than 1.3 million credit union members. Credit unions are not-for-profit financial*

*cooperatives that exist to serve their members, not to make a profit. For more information on Missouri credit unions or the Missouri Credit Union Association, visit [www.mcua.org](http://www.mcua.org) <<http://www.mcua.org/>> .*

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