

09/18/2007

Winner moving in

By: Jenny May

JMay@News-Herald.com



Barbara Murphy, seen here sitting in the Dream House, hopes to make it her permanent address in October. County YMCA.

"Approximately 68,000 tickets were sold this year," Swanger said. "Of the 13 previous Dream House winners, nine elected to keep the house while the others chose the \$200,000 cash option."

This year's contest netted \$275,000 for the Lake County YMCA, Executive Director Steve Hunneke said.

The money will be split equally among the YMCA's four branches: Central YMCA in Painesville, East End YMCA in Madison, West End YMCA in Willoughby and the Outdoor Family Center in Perry.

Murphy, who is retired but works part time as a party booker at Scores Fun Center in Painesville, has entered the Dream House drawing for the past six years.

"I'd like to thank the YMCA for the opportunity to even be talking about this," she said. "They are amazing."

Woman picks YMCA Dream House over cash

Although it was a tough decision, the 2007 Lake County YMCA Dream House winner says the house is just too good to pass up. Barbara Murphy, who won the house in the Melrose Farms subdivision in Willoughby on Aug. 19, had the option of keeping it or taking a \$200,000 cash option.

"It came down to where we had to make the decision," Murphy said of she and her husband Kerry. "One day it was this and the other it was that but in the end we couldn't say no to the house. It's a beautiful house - how often do you have that chance?"

Murphy said she and her husband plan to move into the 3,300 square-foot home, which is valued at \$475,000, in early October.

Nearly 45,000 visitors toured the home, which was constructed by George Davis' ProBuilt Homes and decorated by a design team led by Susan Tierney of Tiffany's Design Studio.

Most visitors were from Lake County and surrounding areas, although some came from as far as Washington, Alabama and New Jersey, said Peggy Swanger, development director for the Lake

Advertisement

