



**Habitat
for Humanity®**
Allegheny Valley

**Spring
2023**

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Training Workshop Back in Full Force

Hard to think of a better way to kick off our build season than to have an Eagle Scout Project from Boy Scout Troop 215 come and help build out our educational training workshop. For the several weekends in February, dedicated volunteers, led by Edward Counihan, joined efforts to prep and develop our new and improved educational training workshop that will once again house a curriculum focused on home construction and repair, along with a variety of S.T.E.A.M. projects catered to our local youth populations.



In previous years, we utilized passionate volunteers that desired to share their skill sets with vulnerable populations here in the Allegheny Valley and provide hands-on subject matters that include toilet repair, vinyl flooring installation, sink replacement, and various other home repairs. This year we seek to continue these efforts while also targeting our local youth population to conduct S.T.E.M. training for at-risk youth. These efforts will complement our Brush with Kindness home repair initiative that is targeting elderly residents and disadvantaged families in the New Kensington region as many of these participants will bring their learned skill sets to the home repair site.

The Inspiration of Jimmy Carter

The news of our nation's 39th president, Mr. Jimmy Carter, being placed in hospice care, has provided an opportunity for our crew and staff to reflect on the impact Jimmy has left on us all. While it is often believed Jimmy Carter was the founder of Habitat for Humanity, this is a misnomer, as the organization was founded in 1976 by Millard and Linda Fuller. Jimmy began serving as a build volunteer and ambassador of goodwill in 1984. Yet, during this time, the overall impact and legacy he left on communities across the globe will continue to resonate far into the distant future.

Executive Director, John Tamiggi stated, "For us, Jimmy was a continual shining star example of a servant leader, as he continually demonstrated time and again his selfless nature and endless desire to help others." In his efforts, Jimmy and his wife, Rosalynn, took part in 157 home builds, including Habitat's 100,000th house in Harlem, and then its 100,001st house in Plains, Georgia, Carter's hometown. We continue to find comfort in these moments and reflect on the legacy and inspiration of Jimmy and his endless desire to share the promise of hope by strengthening our neighborhoods and communities with decent and affordable homes.



Veterans Village Update

As a new year commence, we continued to hit the ground running with our Veterans Village initiative. Representative Jill Cooper has helped our team align the support of Senator Joe Pittman and Congressman Guy Reschenthaler to further develop inroads to create equitable housing and wrap-around support services for our vulnerable veteran and underserved populations. As we continue to further develop capital, strategy, and design, our team has been now introduced to Penn State New Kensington and its Digital Foundry, to explore partnerships to share participants to better address structural unemployment that exists in our community and create access to robotic and emerging technology for all.

We and our partners at Zion Community Network, a charitable arm of the Church of God in Christ are also excited to announce we have aligned with the build team of Allie-Kiski Veterans Foundation and Pittsburgh Housing Development association to support expertise and overall efficiency of our home build project.



New ReStore Manager- Meet Auberie



We are excited to announce we have hired a new ReStore manager, Ms. Aubrie Newcomb. Ms. Newcomb holds over a decade of retail experience, is a lifelong resident of the region, and also attends Grace Community

Presbyterian Church with Glenn Nordmark, one of our most decorated and accomplished volunteers. Aubrie has expressed her excitement and enthusiasm to serve her community and continue to generate revenue support to our build activities by further enhancing and strengthening ReStore operations. As we are proud to introduce Aubrie as part of our team, we had a moment to ask her a few questions about what drove her to become a part of an amazing charitable team here at Habitat.

What excited you most about becoming part of Habitat for Humanity?

Working in corporate structures throughout my career, I greatly to become part of an organization that impacts and meaning for my community. It has been a blessing to transition into such a role and become part of a vibrant and impactful team serving my hometown.

As a lifelong resident of the Allegheny Valley, what do you envision being some of the biggest future impacts Habitat can have on our region?

Seeing more of the diverse community, and understanding the unique needs, I envision we continue to grow our mission, especially in the wake of the pandemic, and provide decent and affordable housing for all.

So what is the coolest thing you have seen come into the ReStore since you started?

I'd say hands down the World War II military helmet!

Ukraine Support Update

So we last reported to you that through the assistance of Lowes Home Improvement and students at Point Park University, we raffled off Christmas trees that generated over \$1,000 to help support an orphanage in western Ukraine. Through the endless support and assistance of Father Yaroslav, pastor of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Church in Arnold, we have continued to maintain dialogue with the orphanage and learned the funds were safely transferred and have helped repair the roofing structure at the orphanage.

These repairs will enable the orphanage to now focus on additional internal repairs that need to be completed, including work on the boiler units. While our mission focus is primarily focused on serving the Allegheny Valley, we found it a privilege to serve the children of Ukraine by providing support for roof repairs along with sharing messages of hope and support. We desire to continue relationships into the future with the orphanage and its children and to see them grow in a safe and healthy environment. Currently, we are in collaborative efforts with St. Vladimir Ukrainian Church to create an Easter raffle that will continue to benefit the orphanage and their efforts to replace a boiler system. Please stay tuned to more details on our website at www.habitatav.org.



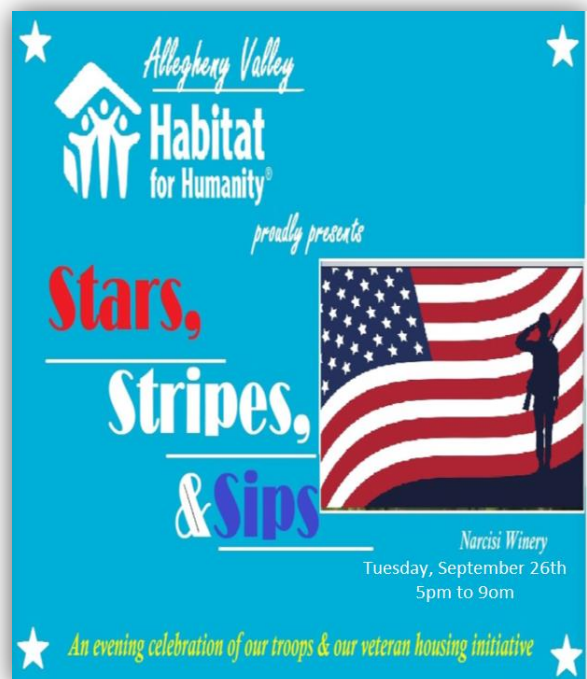
Children of the 645 m² of the preschool educational institution (orphanage) "Snowdrop" in the Lviv Region

Annual Fundraising Gala

And we're back! We are excited to announce that our annual fundraising gala will be hosted once again at Narcisi Winery to support our local veteran population and our veteran housing village hosted in New Kensington. "Stars, Stripes & Sips" will continue to reflect our gratitude for those who have served from our region to coincide with a celebration of our upcoming veteran village build initiative.

The gala will feature heavy hors d'oeuvre, live entertainment, games, and raffles along with a reflection of those that served and spotlight on what is ahead for our veteran community right here in the Allegheny Valley!

Currently, we are seeking corporate sponsorship to help create further success for this year's gala event. If you are interested in sponsoring this year's gala event, please contact john@habitatav.org or telephone us at 724.594.1051. For those interested in attending the event as a guest, we will soon provide information and ticket pricing and availability on our website at www.habitatav.org.



Chris's Construction Corner *Construction Manager Chris Andrig provides some insightful homeownership tips for this spring maintenance.*



1. Keep trees and bushes trimmed at least 6 inches away from your house to help prevent mildew and peeling paint.
2. If you have a deck that needs sealing, you'll need to wait until after the oak tree pollen is done falling and the morning dew has stopped. Schedule your work after Memorial Day.
3. Install screens on your gutters. Leaky gutters are a big source of peeling paint and rotten trim.
4. Replacement windows are great for improving energy efficiency. However, if new windows are out of your budget, new storm windows will offer you protection from extreme temperatures.
5. Make sure your leaders are running away from the house, and down a hill. Bad placement can flood your basement.
6. If you have plantings around your house, schedule your painting job for the early spring or late fall. Painters need to lay down tarps which can damage budding plants.
7. Replace rotted wood with composite trim so that it will never rot again.

Homeowner's Financial Literacy

Stay tuned for our upcoming homeowner financial literacy tips by Habitat for Humanity Board Treasurer Rich Kulbacki

Tip of the day:

1. **Earn.** Understand your pay and benefits to make the most out of what you earn. Take advantage of your workplace benefits and your company's match policy for your 401(k) account.



Interested in volunteering?

Come volunteer with us! Whether on the construction home build sites or at our ReStore, we love volunteers that assist us in the achievement of our mission! Come join us today! Visit www.habitatav.org for more details!



Come meet Henry, our passionate volunteer that served over two decades for Habitat and his hardware corner at the ReStore located at 225 Freeport St., New Kensington! We are open Tuesday – Saturday
10am to 4pm.



Community Partners

Special thanks to the following groups who have dedicated resources to support over the last few months for our collective community endeavors!

**RODDEN ELECTRIC
WINDOW NATION
LOWES HOME IMPROVEMENT
B&T TRUCKING
MOLYNEAUX
CHICORA HARDWARE
FIRST ENERGY
CARDELLO ELECTRIC
STAPLES NEW KENSINGTON
BUSY BEAVER
LONGWOOD OF OAKMONT
VERE INC.
BOY SCOUT TROOP 215**