

Hammers and Hope



Stillwater Habitat for Humanity Newsletter

Our Volunteers Are Raising the Roof

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These are exciting times to be involved with Stillwater Habitat for Humanity. The SHfH Office and Restore relocated to 505 E. 18th in January. We began a recycling program in April, had a house dedication in May, and selected our next partner family in June.

The excitement didn't really hit the building committee until it received permission to break ground on House 16. Over the past two years, we have been blessed with a significant donation of underdeveloped land, which will be the site of our next six homes. After nearly a year of land surveys, permits, and meetings, House 16 is underway. The former Project Manager, Stan Waugh, has resigned his duties due to time constraints. He will remain as an active affiliate on a volunteer basis. The building crew will be getting trusses into place, the roof on, and weathering in the house during the next month, Waugh said.

The crew usually works on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. The crew is always on the look out for regular volunteers.

Sara Jones, the intended applicant for this home has already been putting in Sweat Equity hours on the job site. Each family is required to work on his own and /or another Habitat home as part of the partnering process.

Applicants are recommended to the board by the Family Selection committee for a 20 year interest free loan. The recommendation is made based on a variety of qualifiers that include ability to pay, inadequate or substandard housing and a willingness to partner.



HfH builds home for Devine Family

Renda Devine heard about Habitat for Humanity during an elementary school assembly more than a year ago. She remembered the young students reading as many books as they could and donating pledges received from sponsors in the Stillwater community to raise money for the program.

Devine filled out an application soon after hearing about how in the community. She didn't make the qualified family started the process for being discouraged, she said it made her focus on the things she needed to

"They advised me to go to counseling and did all of those buyers class at Stillwater Public Devine said. Both programs are Habitat program.

She reapplied at Stillwater later and succeeded in having Stillwater Habitat for Humanity accomplishment. She and her hours to fulfilling volunteer qualifications.

Although she did not have the typical Habitat opportunity to assist with the construction of her own home, she has done some construction and repair work with remodeling efforts of the recently relocated Stillwater Habitat for Humanity offices at 18th and Fern. She is ready to help build a home for another Habitat family.



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Habitat for Humanity about a year her application approved. As the latest homeowner, Devine is proud of her extended family have devoted many requirements and other program

Salem Group Stitches

The Salem women are proud of their efforts in providing for the needy.

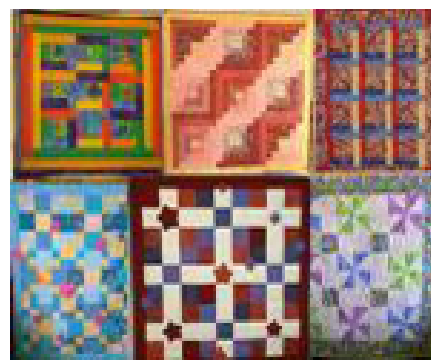
Since the early 1980's regular group of quilters has been providing hand-made items to bring love and a feeling of home to those in need. The group of about 17 regulars gather each Wednesday at Salem Lutheran, 101 S. Duck, to sew, have a cup of coffee and share stories. As the friendships between them grow, so do the number of quilts given away.

Each year, about 86 quilts and 40 baby quilts comfort recipients thanks to the dedicated service of these stitchers. They also have made bibs for nursing homes, padded hangers for the Sheerar Museum, fabric bags for educational materials, and pet blankets for the Humane Society. Donations of material are frequent but batting and backing fabric are usually pur-

chased. "Quilts are sold for \$45-\$50 to fund expenses," Gloria Sandvold said.

The Lutherans present SHfH families with a quilt for each when the family's house is dedicated. The response is unmistakable. "My daughter took hers to camp," Renda Devine, HfH newest homeowner said.

With willing hands and a dedicated heart, each person's talent can be used to make a difference for someone else and the Salem sewers illustrate SHfH volunteerism at its best. Our thanks go out to them for all their faithful work and dedication.



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Distinguished Service Award

Stillwater habitat for Humanity recognized long-time volunteer, John Leonard with the Distinguished Service Award at their November meeting. Leonard has worked with the group in many capacities. he is the only building volunteer who has been on the job site for every home the chapter has built. He is co-chaired the building for nine years.

Leonard never asks anyone to do anything for habitat he wouldn't do himself. he is a model for all who come to volunteer their time and energy. he can also be counted on to patiently help train others.

Leonard is the most consistent, steady, meticulous, hard working, tool sharing volunteer on the building site, those who nominated him for the Distinguished Service Award said.

Habitat for Humanity is a stronger and better organization because of the dedication of John Leonard

The Stillwater Habitat for Humanity chapter holds monthly meetings and the public is welcomed to attend. Schedules for meetings and additional information are also available on the Web site <http://www.stillwater-habitat.org> or by calling 405-377-0403

A Word From Our President

It is a privilege to serve as president in such rewarding times. For me, the most fulfilling moment this year was listening to the daughter of our newest homeowner introduce her family. The words and emotions conveyed by her reinforced my commitment to Stillwater Habitat and our mission.

Stillwater Habitat for Humanity is successful due to the tremendous volunteers and staff who serve in many roles. Elite Repeat continues as a major

contributor with a dedicated group of volunteers. Our recycling program is growing and prospering. Fundraising is progressing with many individual contributions and a major fundraising event by the Boards of Realtors. Our paid employees are all doing outstanding jobs.

“Happiness is a by-product of an effort to make someone else happy.”



Stillwater, Okla

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for Humanity

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