



HOMEFRONT



BUILDING HOUSES, BUILDING HOPE

SUMMER 2015

Bricks & Sticks / Gathering on the Greens

It's that time of the year again! The 12th Annual Bricks & Sticks Golf Classic, presented by Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County and the Builders Association of Central PA, will be teeing off August 6 & 7, at the Penn State Golf Courses.

Join us beginning Thursday, August 6, at 5:30pm, for the Gathering on the Greens. This free event is open to all supporters of Habitat for Humanity and the Builders Association and includes great food, drink, raffles, and a fun, new putting contest. Come out and join the Builders Association and meet members of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County's Board of Directors.

On Friday, registration and lunch for the golf outing will begin at 11:00am, followed by the shotgun start at 12:30pm. Registration includes green fees, cart, a gift, lunch, and the post-tournament awards banquet. Additional details and registration

fees can be found on our website at habitatgcc.org.

This event helps both the Builders Association of Central PA, a great partner of ours, as well as helps Habitat for Humanity partner with local hardworking families to work towards homeownership together. Last year, the event helped raise nearly \$45,000 to this end and is the single-largest fundraising event that we participate in annually. *Special thanks to CB Flooring and Fulton Bank, this year's Platinum Sponsors.*

We look forward to seeing all of you on August 6 & 7 at the Penn State Golf Courses!



2014 Bricks & Sticks FUN!

HOMEFRONT is an informational newsletter produced for donors, sponsors, volunteers, and friends of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County.

2015-16 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thaddeus J. Will, President
M&T Bank

Doug DeVallance, Vice President
Retired

Les Cutter, Treasurer
Shaner Capital L.P.

Doug Erickson, Secretary
Patton Township

Lisa Riley Brown
*Sustainability Experience Center
Penn State University*

Wanda B. Knight
Penn State University

Sam Komlenic
Penn State Public Broadcasting

Pam Long
Penn State University

Sam McGinley
Northwest Savings Bank

Jason M. Moser
The Nittany Lion Inn

Sylvia Rosa-Ortiz
GIANT Food Stores

Ken Kline Smeltzer
Smeltzer's Omni Services

Emma Stuart
PSU-HFH Student Chapter

Dan Trevino
Penn State University (Retired)

Dan Weiger
Alexander Building Construction Co.

STAFF

Jill Redman, Executive Director
Stephanie Clevenger, ReStore Manager
Allison Albrycht, ReStore Associate
Jason Jones, ReStore Driver
Larry Lucas, Site Supervisor

MISSION STATEMENT

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County (HFHGCC) partners with working families and volunteers to build affordable, quality homes and to provide services that promote successful homeownership.

Thank You and Good Luck to Outgoing Board Members

On behalf of the HFHGCC board and staff, we extend a huge THANK YOU to our outgoing board members Ann Echols and Will West. Their dedication to HFHGCC has truly inspired all of us, and it has been an honor to call you our friends and colleagues during your tenure.

We hope to continue to build on the work you supported at HFHGCC as we set out to help more families achieve their dreams of affordable homeownership in Centre County.

We wish you the best of luck in the future, and invite you to stay connected by volunteering from time to time!

... and Welcome to HFHGCC New Board Members!

HFHGCC recently welcomed four new community members to our Board of Directors.

- **Dan Weiger** – Dan is an Architectural Engineer with extensive experience managing construction projects, most recently with Alexander Building Construction in State College.
- **Ken Kline Smeltzer** – A long-time Habitat supporter, Ken served on an HFH board in California for many years. Locally, Ken works as doing home repair and furniture restoration, and has a strong connection to the faith community.
- **Sylvia Rosa-Ortiz** – Originally from Puerto Rico, Sylvia boasts more than 25 years of Human Resources experience, as well as fundraising and community organizing.
- **Wanda B. Knight, PhD** – Having worked as a Professor within the College of Arts and Architecture at Penn State and served as an Administrative Fellow to the Executive Vice President and Provost at Penn State, Wanda will support HFHGCC in its efforts to connect more deeply with PSU.

HFHGCC ReStore is HIRING!

Working at Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County (HFHGCC) is both fast-paced and rewarding, and the work we do helps others make their lives better. HFHGCC has high expectations of performance among employees and quality programs and services. We look to engage people who will be dedicated to our mission, with a demonstrated work ethic, and skills and experience that will contribute to our work community and benefit our homeowners.

We are currently accepting applications for a **part-time ReStore Sales Associate**. If interested, please check out our [website](#) for application information.



Julia Boling, Ellie Rue and Virginia Braswell

First-grader Fundraises for Windows of Habitat Houses

Kentucky first-grader Ellie Rue has written and illustrated a book that has raised enough money to buy windows for two new Habitat houses in her neighborhood.

Virginia Braswell, executive director of Habitat Owensboro-Daviess County, explains how it all started:

“Julia Boling, a kindergarten teacher at Deer Park Elementary, contacted our office and said her school was doing a unit on shelter. She wondered if they could come see a Habitat house and bring the kids. We closed down construction so there wouldn’t be any safety issues, and here came the school buses, and 90 kids tumbled out.

“They were so excited. Most children have not seen a house being built. Most adults, even.

“Ellie Rue was in Ms. Boling’s class, and she sat down and wrote a book. Her mom and dad printed off 40 copies, stapled them together and took them around for donations.

“A printer here in town wanted to help, so he printed about 2,500 and made up donation jars, and I delivered them all over town. After the newspaper wrote an article about it, another community member wrote a check, and now we have almost \$3,000. It’ll be enough to do windows for two houses.”

We recently spoke to Ellie and her teacher Ms. Boling.

Q: How did the idea come to you?

Ellie: Well, I went to a Habitat house, and I thought about all the people that may need a house. Everyone should have a house.

Q: Any ideas for what you might do next year?

Ms. Boling: Last year, the goal was to buy a door. This year, it became, “We can do even more; let’s try for the windows.” Every class is different, and we try to let it be their idea. We hope they’ll want to challenge the school and the community again next year.

Do you know any kids in Greater Centre County that may want to replicate Ellie’s efforts? Contact HFHGCC at (814) 353-2390, ext 1000.

HFHGCC Supports International Housing Solutions

Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) is a global organization with a vision of creating a world where everyone has a decent place to live. The tithe is a foundational principle of Habitat, based on our biblical roots as an ecumenical Christian ministry and the recognition that our blessings flow from God. Through the Tithe program, Habitat affiliates participate in the global ministry, providing funding and support to Habitat programs around the world.

The U.S. Affiliated Organization Covenant provides that, “in recognition of and commitment to the global nature of Habitat’s mission, each U.S. affiliate is expected to contribute (tithe) at least 10 percent of its undesignated cash contributions to Habitat for Humanity’s international work.” Submitting an annual tithe is a core tenet and one of the requirements for good standing.

Each year, Habitat affiliates collectively tithe millions of dollars to serve families in developing countries where Habitat works. Habitat’s international programs also participate in the tithe. Some programs, such as Habitat Canada and Habitat Great Britain, submit significant tithes. The tithes of developing countries might be small, but they represent not only the sharing of blessings but also the commitment to Habitat’s global ministry.

All of the affiliate tithes – 100 percent – are sent internationally to serve families outside of the United States.

Since 1985, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County has faithfully made its tithe to HFHI. To date, HFHGCC has contributed nearly \$215,000 which has helped to provide 87 housing units – more than doubling our number of families served!

Habitat Tithe builds a WORLD where everyone has a decent place to live.

What is HFHI tithe?

To take at least 10 percent of what we have been blessed with and give it back to God and back to our ministry. Through our Tithe program, Habitat partners are not only eliminating poverty housing from their own communities, but also eliminating poverty housing in communities around the world.

Why do we tithe?

The decision is based on our biblical roots as an ecumenical Christian ministry.

Tithing within Habitat — a global organization that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the face of the earth — ensures that funding reaches the countries that have both a Habitat presence and some of the greatest need.

Tithe then and now

At a home dedication in Zaire in 1979, our founder, Millard Fuller, received the first \$200 tithe, which he used to help launch a new Habitat affiliate in Aguacatan, Guatemala.

From that one donation, the entire Habitat tithe program started.

*In fiscal year
2015, U.S.
affiliates
collectively
tithed
more than
\$13.2 million.*

*That translates
to more than
2,900 families
served
internationally!*





Mark Your Calendars!

--

HFHGCC Upcoming Events

--

Thurs August 6, 5:30pm
Gathering on the Greens
Penn State Golf Courses

Fri August 7, 12:30pm
Bricks & Sticks Golf Classic
Penn State Golf Courses

October - ALL MONTH!
ReStore Sale-A-Bration!
ReStore
1155 Zion Road
Bellefonte

Saturday, Nov 14
10am-2pm
2nd Annual
Centre County Super Fair
Mount Nittany
Middle School

ReStore Round-up

It's summertime and if there's one thing summer brings, besides the seemingly endless amounts of rain we've been experiencing, is home improvement. What better time of year to work outside or throw open the windows and spruce up paint in any room, replace a sink in another, and add a fresh touch to the kitchen with some new (gently used!) cabinets? And what better place to get these items or donate the ones you're replacing than Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County's ReStore, located at 1155 Zion Road in Bellefonte?

Open Wednesday through Saturday, 9am-4pm, the ReStore is a one-stop shop for all of your needs. Stephanie and the staff at the ReStore have been hard at work reorganizing and keeping the ReStore stocked with everything from screws to cabinets and everything in-between. The past year brought the highest sales for any year for the ReStore and these funds help HFHGCC continue our efforts to help hardworking families achieve the dream of homeownership!

Even if you've purchased the items for your improvements and renovations elsewhere, consider donating the replaced items to the ReStore. Renovations are accepted during ReStore's open hours until 3:30PM, with pick-up service also available. The ReStore is also in need of a new truck so that we are able to continue offering this service, so sales of these items will also help with funding to this goal and also continue to help other families realize their own renovations.

ReStore Needs YOU!

HFHGCC ReStore has been busier than ever the last several months, and we need more volunteer help!

We are specifically looking to recruit volunteers for Saturdays, 8:30am to 4pm. Contact ReStore staff - restore@habitatgcc.org or (814) 353-2390, ext 1003 - to schedule your volunteer shift!

Available volunteer opportunities:

Customer Support - Are you a people person? Love quality customer service? We are always in need of folks interested in helping to make the ReStore experience an outstanding one.

Processing & Pricing - Familiar with building materials? Have general knowledge of fair market prices for home improvement items? Help the ReStore by volunteering to process and price donations to ensure an adequate supply of sellable items on the sales floor.

Small Repair - Like to tinker? Can you fix anything? While we ask that all donations be in good, working order, there are times when we get merchandise that might need a little love. Appliances, cabinets, tools and more.

HFHGCC Volunteer Recognized by Kish Bank

Troy Frank, dedicated HFHGCC volunteer, was recently presented with Kish Bank's annual Community Impact Award. PSU Coaches James Franklin and Coquese Washington were on hand to present the annual prestigious award.

The Community Impact Award recognizes a Kish employee who demonstrates an "above and beyond" commitment to support the communities where we live and work, a core mission at Kish. The award takes into consideration a wide range of contributions, including, for example, volunteer efforts, board affiliations, and Community Reinvestment Act activities. Any Kish team member at any level is eligible for the Community Impact Award. The Community Action Teams in each of Kish's three market areas (Mifflin, Huntingdon, and Centre Counties) are charged with nominating candidates for the award. The nominees are reviewed with Kish's Senior Executive Team and the Office of the Chairman.

Troy, an Information Technology pro by day, has worked tirelessly to maintain HFHGCC's computer and phone networks, recommending upgrades as needed and making do when budgets are scarce. *Congrats, Troy! We're incredibly thankful for the volunteer work you do for HFHGCC and proud that Kish recognizes your commitment.*



Pictured L to R: Coquese Washington, Troy Frank, James Franklin

HFHGCC
1155 Zion Rd
Bellefonte, PA 16823

[Addressee]
[Street Address]
[City, ST ZIP Code]