

The Threshold

The board of directors unanimously chose “The Threshold” as the title for our newsletter. The winning submission by Paul Brown of Albany, NH seems most apropos for this spring edition as spring itself signifies a “new beginning” for many. The entry of a Habitat house for a selected family also represents a new beginning for that family as they cross over the threshold into their new home. Threshold is also a level to be accomplished for something to happen, such as attaining 300 hours sweat equity as criteria for a mortgage. Congratulations to Paul and many thanks to all who took the time and interest to submit their suggestions.

It Pays Off!!

About two years ago the MWV Habitat board of directors made the decision to “Go Green” with the next house to be built. Solar panels and radiant floor heating were proposed for the house to be built in Sokokis Pines, Tamworth. Debate centered around increased cost of construction versus decreased energy costs. It was fortuitous that Habitat selected a family that strongly embraced going green. Evan Shangraw, was quoted in our Fall/Winter 2015 newsletter, citing several reasons for his family’s enthusiasm: “...to be energy independent should be the goal of almost every household in America! The less resources we use as a society the better for us and the planet. Second is the cost. The initial investment is definitely worth the long term pay out. It will give our family relief in the future from heavy electric bills.” The Shangraws shared their energy cost for the past month of February: propane - \$60.00; electricity - \$11.23!!!





It Won't Be Much Longer...

So sayeth the eternal optimist. However, board members on various committees are already in the planning phase for starting back up on the second house, Lot #41 in Sokokis Pines, Tamworth. Barbara Reilly, Women Build coordinator, has been taking applications from those who wish to participate in Women Build Day, May 13.

Talmira Hill, Homeowner

Support Committee, has been working with Greg Tuttle, new home owner, to ensure he is on track to attain the

necessary sweat equity hours. Roger Aubrey, Construction Committee, has ordered and received materials for the radiant heat flooring system. Bill Beck, Fund Raising and Grant Request Committee is putting together requisite grant requests to offset construction costs. Sam Johnson, who heads up the Home Furnishings Sales has established Jun 2/3 for the first sale and is lining up dates for furniture pick ups and related advertising. Trust us, the snow will melt, frost will leave the ground, Robins will be back and road bans will be lifted.



For the eighth year the MWV Habitat has been chosen to host a Lowe's sponsored Women Build Day. This year the event is scheduled for Saturday, May 13th at our new house site located on Lot 41, Silver Pine Lane, Sokokis Pines, Tamworth, NH. There are ten affiliates in NH and only two in the state share the honor of participating in this

nation wide event. Already the allocation of 40 volunteers has been filled. Habitat and Lowe's have enjoyed a long-standing relationship and once again Lowe's will host a Build Clinic. This "learn to" will be held at Lowe's, Thursday evening, April 18 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at their N. Conway store. Lowe's will set up stations to teach volunteers how to frame windows, walls and doors. New this year will be additional stations to include insulation products that are commonly used for doors, walls and windows.



The WhiteMountain Home Builders & Remodelers Association will hold the 11th Annual Honey Do Auction, Saturday April 8, 2017, 5pm to 8:30pm at the Red Jacket Mountain View Resort. Last year the Honey Do auction donated \$7500 to MWV Habitat from proceeds raised at the event. For tickets, contact Scott Emond, president of Home Builder's Association, at Scott.Emond@installed.net or (603) 235-2228 to get your tickets for a great meal and an evening of fun that will benefit MWV Habitat.



Keeping Pace

Anthony Ruddy and Roger Aubrey, Construction Committee, will be attending the JLC LIVE Residential Construction Show in Providence RI, March 23–25. Journal of Light Construction LIVE is considered the premier regional industry event for residential construction. It features the top manufacturers, distributors, and suppliers in the industry and provides attendees the opportunity to view the latest building products and services. Habitat's mission is to build simple, decent houses. Keeping pace with the latest construction materials, equipment and techniques ensures that Habitat houses are also of the highest quality.

Habitat Purchases Unit Back

This past fall, Nick and Stephanie Swan, Unit #2 homeowners on North Road in Conway, notified Habitat of their intent to sell their home. The Swans expressed the need for a house that could accommodate their growing family. Because the house was only two years old and in excellent shape, Habitat agreed to purchase it back recognizing that there would be another family in need and would not have to wait a year for construction. The application process was opened and after a period of evaluations, a family comprised of a mother and three children was chosen. Readers will get to meet the family in the next edition of the newsletter.

How To Get Ahead

Each Habitat Affiliate has a Homeowner Support Committee whose mission is as the name implies. Part of the support provided to a new conditionally approved applicant is presentation of a pre-purchase homebuyer education class that is part of the core sweat equity program. Understanding mortgages and deeds, financial literacy, escrow accounts, and consequences of default are deemed absolutely necessary for the new homeowner.



This is how a prospective homebuyer gets AHEAD, both literally and figuratively. Founded in 2002 and headquartered in Littleton, NH, the mission of AHEAD (Affordable Housing Education and Development) is "To develop and provide quality affordable rental housing, financial education, and home ownership opportunities that strengthen the families and communities of Northern New Hampshire."

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Message From the Board

When we reflect upon the articles in this spring edition of our second electronic newsletter, it seems apparent that the common theme running throughout is a "new beginning." Announcement of The Threshold as the winning title for our newsletter is as the name implies, a new beginning. The "It Pays Off" article also reflects a new beginning as the decision to go with solar and radiant floor heating at 253 Silver Pine represented a new construction philosophy. Not without debate, as the issues of increased construction costs passed on to the new homeowner versus energy savings were discussed at considerable length. A February propane-heating bill of \$60.00 and electricity bill of \$11.23 was a testimonial to the wisdom of the concept of "going green." A generous \$16,000

grant from the McIninch Foundation to make that happen is recognition that saving our environment is strongly embraced by forward thinking decision makers such as those at McIninch. A new beginning was also signaled in February with the selection of a family of a mother with three children for the recent availability of Unit #2 at the North Road complex. Although starting back up on the house on Lot #41 in Sokokis Pines when the weather breaks and the road bans are lifted won't signal a new beginning; but it will certainly seem like it after the long winter!

We Need Your Feedback

What would you like to see; maybe more photos; perhaps thumbnail bios of our volunteers, or stories about our families, Habitat history, how you can help – we welcome your ideas. Email feedback to office@mww-habitat.org

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