



Building Friends,

Filling the positions of the Executive Director and Construction Coordinator is challenging at the least. I feel the rewards at the end of long days are worth it. In the day to day hustle and bustle of managing our office staff, volunteers, arranging for materials to be delivered, reaching out to the community, filling out all the necessary paperwork, communicating with Habitat for Humanity International; I am refreshed when I attend a home dedication or meet a new family who is on the way to partnering with us. It is at times like these that it is brought home to me, yet again, what we do and why we do it. It is your prayers, volunteering, support from the business community, and your financial contributions, that assure me I am not alone in this endeavor.

I am thankful that there is a community here in Avery County that feels as I do and supports this ministry. "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builder's labor in vain" Psalm 127:1.

Enclosed is an opportunity to send your Christmas greetings to friends and family and support our mission at Avery County Habitat for Humanity at the same time. Please consider supporting our building efforts providing homes for our partner families.

Building on Faith,
Terry Woodruff, Executive Director

AVERY COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MOVES OFFICE

If you have driven by the Habitat office in Newland you would have noticed that our sign was down. The new office is now in Elk Park, in the Milford Meadows subdivision.

The move was made on the weekend of September 27-28. As a result of careful planning, and the generous contribution of volunteers, the office was open for business Monday morning. A portion of the warehouse at the Gilmer Community Center was remodeled to make room for the new office, and a multi-use room will be used for committee meetings.

Future plans call for building a new ReStore in the Newland area and making space for the office. This will save us the rent for two locations allowing the money to go directly to building homes for partner families. All the proceeds from the ReStore support our home building efforts.

We want the new ReStore to be big enough to carry more building supplies. This will make it of more benefit to families who are remodeling as well as redecorating. Items that might go to the landfill take on a new life in someone's home.

Mortgage Payments

For families that are used to making their house payments at the Newland office you now have three choices:

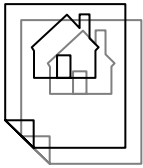
Pay at the ReStore:

123 Montezuma St.
Newland, NC 28657

Mail to: P.O. Box 1016
Newland, NC 28657

Bring it to the Milford Meadows Sub Division (Gilmer Community Center),

151 Friendship Lane.
Elk Park, NC 28622



Construction in Progress

Welcome New Partner Family, The Gwyn's



Chris, Amanda, Marshall & Katherine

Construction is underway on the new home for the Gwyn family. This three bedroom, two-bath home is a passive solar design and should be completed in Summer 2009. The site is located on their own land on Curtis Creek Road in the Heaton community.

Buchanan Home in the Dry

The future home of the Corby, Jessica, Emily, Julie and Kerry is shaping up and they are getting excited! A local contractor took the home from subfloor to "in the dry" in less than a week. Currently volunteers are shingling the roof, constructing the porch and deck, and preparing to install the doors and windows. Their new energy efficient home should be complete by Spring 2009.

Humanity Includes You! Construction Volunteers Needed

**Regular Work Days:
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday
Milford Meadows, Elk Park, NC
Call (828)733-1909**

Munsell Home Dedication

On November 1st, a special service of celebration was held at the new home of Darren, Jessica, Tobias and Jillian Munsell in the Milford Meadows development. The Munsell home represents the twenty fifth house that has been built by Habitat for Humanity in Avery County. The dedication service was attended by nearly forty people. The attendees were made up of friends, family, and volunteers. Contractors and building materials suppliers were also present.

Brother Tom Redish gave the blessing and benediction. Special music was presented by the Munsell children, Toby and Jilly singing, "I'm Blessed"; this alone was a true blessing. Terry Woodruff, Executive Director and Construction Coordinator presented the keys to the new home, and Scott McKinney, Avery County Habitat for Humanity Board President presented a Bible to the family. As a result of their hard work, the new Energy Star Certified home is theirs, a place to raise a family. It is a healthy and comfortable environment; you only have to look out the windows to appreciate the beauty of these hills. Along with hard work by the family to complete this project financial help was needed. Many thanks go to all those who faithfully support the ministry of Avery County Habitat for Humanity. New linens were supplied by Banner Elk Methodist Church. Newland Presbyterian Church supplied a pounding for the family and a reception after the dedication. Thanks to their generosity the Munsell family was able to enter their new home with the cupboard and refrigerator full.





Three New Members

Julie Ann Burk joined our affiliate in early September. She hails from Centerville Indiana. Julie will be assuming the role of construction crew leader. She attended Ball State University and majored in Health Sciences. She left there to pursue a professional certification in massage therapy and is now certified in that field. By her own admission her life was turned around when she volunteered to go to Mississippi on a mission trip. She provided massage therapy for workers who had lost everything in Hurricane Katrina but still kept on rebuilding their lives and houses as best they could. It left her with a hunger for community service that is being satisfied with Avery County Habitat for Humanity.

Jonathan Matthews came to work with our affiliate in mid September. He grew up in Mt Airy, NC and is a recent graduate of UNC/Chapel Hill with a major in Biology. As a young child with health problems Jonathan was privileged to meet many caring and compassionate people. For that reason he has always been aware of giving service to others. While in college, Jonathan went to Panama as part of a group of sixteen students. The programs' purpose, under the auspices of the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission, was to rebuild a church in a rural area. He is no stranger to Habitat for Humanity having worked with others to build a home for a family of five while still in high school. Jonathan will also be working as a construction crew leader.

Brian Yaffe is new to Avery County but he has worked as a VISTA for WAMY Community Action Agency in 1966. He and his wife Florence were assigned to Yancey County where they made lifelong friends. Although they are originally from Philadelphia, coming to Celo, NC is coming home. As a VISTA, Florence started a day care program for handicapped children, that was absorbed into the public school system. Brian worked on rural mass transit and there are still parts of that program in operation. Since leaving in 1968 he has worked for the Society of Friends (Quakers), in New York State and Washington, DC. He did community organizing around anti war and civil liberties issues. Later he and Florence started a business making cotton Afghans that was sold after 25 years. He will work for Avery County HFH as Resource Development Director.



Jonathan Matthews & Julie Burk

Care-A-Vanners

What do you call a Care-A-Vanner who arrives without a "caravan"? We don't know either! All we know is that Mac and Charlotte Selvidge made a commitment to donate time to Avery County Habitat for Humanity and they are people who keep their word. When they made plans they didn't count on hurricane Ike and a gasoline shortage. To save gas they drove their car from Florida, instead their camper. They met their friends Harry and Linda Drivas at the Milford Meadows subdivision. Since they didn't have their camper they made use of the facilities at the Gilmer Community Center.

Care-A-Vanner families tell us that Avery County has one of the best arrangements of any Habitat affiliate. This is due in large part to the Gilmer Community Center and it being right on the construction site. Many other affiliates have you park your camper at one place, and you then have to be driven to the work site. It means that you have to remember to take any change of clothing with you for the day. If a church invites you for dinner and you want to change clothes and wash up you have to do that away from your camper.

Harry, Linda, Mac and Charlotte really came to know the Munsell family and had a wonderful time working on their future home. It was a terrific experience for all involved. By way of thanks Jessica Munsell made everyone a great dinner. They are looking forward to joining their friends the Drivas next year, and donating their time to construction here in Avery County.



Building Houses, Building Hope

**Donate your used furniture,
appliances, household items
and building materials.
All profits go toward home
building efforts.**

**To Schedule A FREE Pickup or to
Volunteer Call (828) 733-2025**

**Open T-F 9:00 to 5:00, Sat 9:00 to 3:00
Credit and debit cards accepted.
130 Montezuma St in Newland
Next door to the Courthouse**

Humanity Includes You!

Volunteers Needed

**ReStore: Tuesday – Saturday
Call (828) 733-2025
Office: Monday – Friday
Call (828) 733-1909**

ReStore Friends,

Everyone at the ReStore wants to thank you all for supporting this part of our ministry. Our net proceeds go to support building homes for deserving families in Avery County. Remember that we need donations to make sales. Think about that when you are cleaning out your attic/garage or remodeling your home. If it can be used in someone's home it is far better than sending it to the landfill. Some of what we accept ranges from furniture, hardware, house- wares, to building supplies. We arrange pickups when needed and delivery is available for a fee. Donations may be tax deductible.

Come and see us,

Lisa Whittington, ReStore Manager

Board of Directors:

Scott McKinney, *President*
James Thatcher, *President Elect*
Carla Chamblee, *Immediate Past President*
Myra Brinkley, *Secretary/Treasurer*

Leslie Carter	Mike Davis
Ellie Ellenburg	Sheryl Esenwein
Peggy Knox	John Robinson
Teri Seegers	Sondra Underwood
Jack Watson	

Staff:

Julie Burk, *AmeriCorps Member*
Melanie Burgin, *Office & Programs Manager*
Andrew Hensley, *ReStore Assistant Manager*
Jonathan Matthews, *AmeriCorps Member*
Lisa Whittington, *ReStore Manager*
Terry Woodruff, *Executive Director*
Brian Yaffe, *VISTA Resource Development*

How to Contact Us:

<http://www.averycofh.org>
or send email to info@averycofh.org

ReStore: 130 Montezuma St, Newland,
next to the Courthouse – (828) 733-2025

Office in the Gilmer Community Center:
151 Friendship Lane, Elk Park – (828) 733-1909



PO Box 1016
Newland, NC 28657

**Non Profit
US Postage
PAID
Newland, NC
Permit No. 50**