Newsletter

Late Late Spring 2022

Building Houses

Building Lives

Building Hope

Building Community

Time for not just one Dedication, a Double Dedication!

Beth (above) was eager and excited to get to work on paperwork to close on her beautiful highly efficient home (right), it takes a forest to close on a home these days!

It has been a year since our last dedication, so we thought, "Why not have two?!" Join us on Sunday, July 31st to welcome Beth Follensbee and Patricia, Thomas and Sophia Clark - HOME! Throughout the last couple years of challenges both families have remained energetic and upbeat, moving their houses

(Below) Work has begun to start clearing the back half of White Oak Knoll for further development and positioning of the road. Ground will be broken on two new builds over the next couple weeks.



Follensbee & Clark Dedications
Sunday, July 31st
2:30pm

White Oak Knoll Development
106 and 191 Church Farm Road



Inside this issue:

WE LOVE OUR

FROM THE OPEN DESK

COLLEGIATE CHALLENGE 3
MILESTONE, NEWS

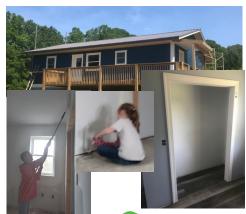
PIPELINE

CELEBRATE WITH US!



(Above) The White Oak Knoll development has really taken shape over the last two years.

along with the ebb & flow of volunteers, weather, supply chain issues, etc etc. The finish line is within reach, help us cross it in style on the 31st! And then join us on August 3rd, check out the back page....



(Above Right) Thomas and Sophia Clark help paint their soon to be home.

See Back Page for Belated 30th Anniversary Celebration, Join Us!



Volunteer Groups January - May

Allegheny College
Blue Green Employees
Covenant Presbyterian
Elk Park UMC lunch crew
lowa State University
Legacy Christian Academy
Ohio State University
Rotary Club of Avery County
Tuesday Quality Team
University of Central Florida
Wednesday FAB Team
Worcester Polytechnic



Thank You to all our volunteers that keep Avery Habitat moving and building and building forward!!!

From the Open Director's Desk

The past seven years have been a blur, quite literally on a few occasions! I have had as many eye surgeries as the years I will have spent behind this desk, yet I would not trade any of it. The sheer number of volunteers and donors that have passed through Gilmer and several of our 53+ builds over the years is staggering. And I have had the pleasure of welcoming so, so many. Though several had the pleasure of welcoming me!

I have had the honor of leading the Rotary Club of Avery County for the past year, I am going to offer a challenge to each of you as I did to each of them. When I joined the club we had 15-16 members and over the years we would get up to 21 and then fall back to 18-19. We held a membership drive earlier this year and membership now stands at 25. I challenged the club to reach 30 members by our 30th Anniversary in September. I am confident they

can do it! My challenge to each of you is to find a way to increase your impact with Avery County Habitat! Whether it be



Picture worth a thousand words

a slightly larger check, or more hours on the build site, or volunteering for a committee, or bringing a new group to Gilmer... My old Habitat analogy was our staff were merely the frame of the car and, at times, the steering wheel, though without an engine (volunteers) and fuel (donors) we were going nowhere. I am proud to say that over the life of Avery Habitat we have certainly gone somewhere! And where Avery Habitat goes in the future is almost limitless with our very loyal engine and fuel! The greatest gift I found in life was the Habitat mission, it is a gift I relish sharing with each and every one of you. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity, it has been a great pleasure!

God Speed, Christon

Collegiate Challenge Milestone, Financial Education and Lowe's News



Worchester Polytechnic became our first May Collegiate Challenge group, they rushed back to PA so two could walk for graduation

Earlier this year the Avery County
Community Room was filled with 8
Partner Families working toward
their Financial Education program
requirement and Sweat Equity to
start construction on their home. Our
pipeline of families is strong! We
appreciate the partnership with
Mayland Community College and
the county!

The Spring Break season of 2022 saw Avery Habitat host five collegiate groups from around the country and the week that saw lowa State and Ohio State at Gilmer marked the 60th and 61st Collegiate Challenge groups over the course of our history. Another two were tacked on before the season was over.



Partner Family Education Program





ISU & OSU on the porch of Build 52 (P Clark)

OUR INTERNATIONAL FAMILIES
SERVED TOTAL HAS REACHED 47
FAMILIES THROUGH OUR TITHE. IN
ADDITION TO THE 51 HOUSES WE
HAVE COMPLETED, WITH 52 & 53
NEARING COMPLETION, THAT
MEANS AVERY COUNTY HABITAT
FOR HUMANITY HAS HELPED BUILD
100 HOUSING UNITS IN NC AND
GUATEMALA! THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS ENDEAVOR!

Thank You Lowe's Home Improvement!



Lowe's Red Vests and Heroes volunteering on a previous build. We value our partnership with Lowe's!

For many years Lowe's has been the sponsor of Women Build Week, this year they changed things up a bit and put a focus on rehab and critical home repair. As we have a few houses in need of a decent rehab we applied and were pleasantly surprised to receive a grant more than 1.5 times the average for affiliates our size, which only had a successful fund rate of 36%. We appreciate the faith Lowe's has shown in the work we do in Avery County!

Partner Family Pipeline

Number of Families we have at each Stage of Partner Family Development

•

4

3

Family Selection Interview

Approved
Building Sweat Equity

11

Approved Building House

Closings in past 12 months
Page 3



Our Belated 30th Anniversary,



Join us for an evening to celebrate, belatedly, our 30th Anniversary, 52 homes built and more than 250 individuals housed in Avery County. Wednesday, August 3rd starting at 6:30pm at Linville Falls Winery. Tickets are \$30/person, \$50/two and include a glass of wine and plenty of food. A night for the future... For tickets, visit or click below:

https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/ AveryCountyHabitatforHumanity/summer-event-2022.html

ReStore Corner

If you have anything you would like to get let go of to make room for new please give the store a call!

Pickups are available, at this time all items must be accessible outside the home or in a garage for pickup.

Call 828-733-2025 to schedule your pickup



Board of Directors:

Brenda Lyerly, *President*Melissa Phillips, *Vice President*Patricia O'Connor Galloway, *Secretary/Treasurer*

Cody Hoilman Carmen Lacey Kim Barnhardt, *Volunteer Liasion*

Staff:

Christon Clark, Executive Director Melanie Burgin, Office & Programs Manager Bruce Benfield, Construction Manager Lisa Kirkpatrick, ReStore Manager

How to Donate Online: Click here!

How to Contact Us:

http://www.averycohfh.org Or send email to info@averycohfh.org Look us up on Facebook!

ReStore:

2170 Millers Gap Hwy, Newland - (828) 733-2025

Office (GPS Address):

57 Taylor Road, Newland - (828) 733-1909

Mailing Address:

PO Box 1016, Newland, NC 28657



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Digital Edition Bonus Section

As you can see from the Partner Family Pipeline on the previous page, the need and demand is pretty significant. Every dollar, every volunteer, every ReStore donor and shopper goes a long way toward increasing the impact of our mission in Avery County.

To make a donation, CLICK HERE

To register as a volunteer, click here



Simple - Decent - Affordable -- Desirable - Accessible - Sustainable