

eBlueprint

Keeping you informed about South County Habitat for Humanity

January 2010

South County Habitat for Humanity

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Celebrate South County Habitat's 20th anniversary!

This year marks the 20th anniversary of South County Habitat, and there are a number of terrific events that will be held throughout the year 2010 to get volunteers together to celebrate. Watch for the news!

You are also invited to help celebrate by sharing your memories with your fellow Habitat volunteers. Here's a sample posting from our new remembrances site on the web:

I like to bowl and a friend of mine asked me if I would go on her team at the Habitat for Humanity Bowl-a-thon. I said yes, so we went, and I was having such a good time with everybody. I was in awe—I always wanted to learn about Habitat. So I went over to the table where the man was sitting and I told him I always wanted to be a volunteer, but I couldn't swing hammers, and he said that was alright.

The next day I got a call from Daphne; she said they needed office volunteers. I've been here for six years now and I love it! It's like a big family. Actually, it's like the family I never had!

Sara Oliver

Please tell us about your experiences with South County Habitat, and maybe even add a recipe, by going to www.southcountyhabitat.org and clicking on the 20th anniversary icon (or you can click on the link included with the email that sent you this issue of eBlueprint). We'd love to hear from you!

Hats off to

Ellen Worrell and Martha Montanaro, lunch coordinators for the ReStore, for recruiting people to provide lunches for our terrific ReStore volunteers! **Many thanks to all those lunch providers, too!**

Citizens Bank for their donation in support of the Autumn Auction.

St. Bernard Church in North Kingstown for donating funds left from their work camp project in which Habitat participated.

Best in Show winners all smiles

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Gingerbread Blitz Build, and congratulations to all the winners. The Best in Show winners are shown below with their beautiful house and their radiant smiles.



Maggie Riccio, Dawn Gleason, and Katharina Makuch receive the "Grand Master Gingerbread House Builder" Certificate from Executive Director Lou Raymond. Missing from the photo are Nicole Lowell and Patricia Roos.

Volunteers needed

PR professional to write press releases and manage media relations.

ReStore volunteers:

Driver Assistants to go out on the ReStore pick-up truck on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m. to noon.

In-store helpers to help organize stock on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Sales help for each store shift on Fridays and Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or noon to 5:00 p.m. Lunch is provided at noon for both shifts.

Thank you for your support!

It's what puts families into homes. It's easy, too. Just mail us your check, or donate securely online at southcountyhabitat.org.

We hope you enjoy getting information about South County Habitat in your email. And thanks for helping us save money on printing and mailing costs! If you do not wish to continue to get *eBlueprint* please email us at schabitat@southcountyhabitat.org.

South County Habitat for Humanity is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, a Christian housing ministry building safe, decent, affordable homes in partnership with people in need worldwide.

ReStore can help you in two ways

The purpose of the ReStore is really two-fold: to keep saleable items out of the trash stream and to sell good merchandise at great prices to support the work of Habitat. The store is always busy on its Friday and Saturday sale days, and items go quickly. We are always looking for more to sell, especially appliances, furniture and building supplies. If you have something to donate, please give us a call.

If your group would like to learn more, we can visit your organization, senior center or other group to talk about how the ReStore works and, specifically, about how our "Seniors Transition Program" can help those who are downsizing to smaller living arrangements.

Please call 401-213-6716 for more information or to schedule a donation pickup.

Your support helps build homes around the world

South County Habitat tithes (gives 10%) of funds we raise locally to Habitat for Humanity International to support homebuilding around the world. To date, we have financed the construction of 70 units of housing worldwide in addition to the 43 that we have built here in Washington County, for a total of 113 homes. Your contributions are appreciated by your neighbors nearby and in many far-away places. Thank you!

Got land?

One of our major challenges is to find land for Habitat homes. If you have some idle property with no plans to use it, please consider a donation or a bargain sale to South County Habitat. You can get a deduction for your charitable contribution, help families find affordable housing and get rid of a property tax bill all at the same time. Call us at 401-213-6711 for more information.

South County Habitat for Humanity LEEDs the way

South County Habitat has long been a leader in elevating construction standards for the area. We were one of the first builders to embrace the Energy Star standards to ensure that our homes would perform above average for energy efficiency, to benefit our homeowners and our world.

We will again set the standard by building all future homes to the United States Green Building Council's (USGBC) LEED for Homes standards. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, a voluntary program that focuses on energy efficiency and sustainable design for residential construction. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. All LEED buildings must meet Energy Star standards for construction, something we already do.

This new standard will ensure healthier, more energy-efficient homes while also emphasizing a sustainable approach to construction. To find out more about LEED, please visit the USGBC website at www.usgbc.org, and look for more information in future *eBlueprint* issues.

Design a home for South County Habitat

South County Habitat for Humanity will be sponsoring a design competition to design three-bedroom and four-bedroom homes following the United States Green Building Council LEED for Homes standards. Anyone is welcome to enter! We will release complete information soon, so check our website at www.southcountyhabitat.org for details and registration requirements.