



Habitat for Humanity®

Allegheny Valley

Winter/Spring

2018
Newsletter

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225 Freeport Street, New Kensington, PA 15068

Phone: 724-594-1051

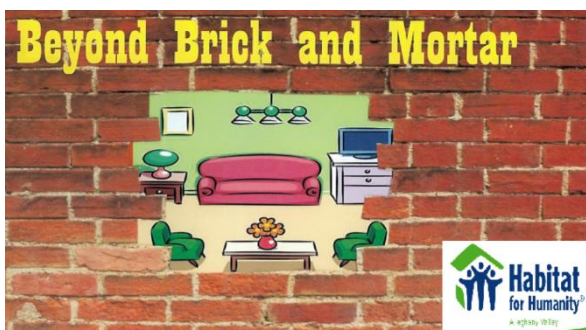
Website: www.habitatav.org

Beyond Brick & Mortar Campaign

Due to the generous and overwhelming support of corporate and individual donors supporting our mission to serve the Allegheny Valley, we at Habitat for Humanity Allegheny Valley and our ReStore have been compelled to further expand our services to more holistically address and support the disadvantaged families & homeowners in our region.

The "Beyond Brick & Mortar" initiative is established to partner with local non-profit and faith-based agencies in the region to better connect and mobilize access of resources to disadvantaged homeowners and families in need of home furnishings and décor accessories. As we enter the 2018 calendar year, we are determined to more holistically service "the family unit" and believe that the established partnership initiative will best serve to reach those in most need while mitigating the drain of resources available from other local non-profit agencies in the region.

Habitat for Humanity Allegheny Valley has established the "Beyond Brick & Mortar" campaign with various non-profit and faith-based entities to provide access to home furnishings and décor accessories to homeowners and families in need. The partnering service agencies will assist the vetting process and make recommendations for some of the most vulnerable families and residents in need of support and will direct them to the ReStore, which has dedicated a wing of the building to provide pre-selected home decor. For more information, visit www.habitatav.org



Welcome our New Construction Lead

Scott Reider spent two tour of duties serving his country in the United States Marine Corp. Now, Scott views his call to duty to help revitalize the Allegheny Valley. The stars recently aligned as Habitat for Humanity Allegheny Valley sought a qualified construction lead dedicated to serve the community by uplifting passionate volunteers to help build and revitalize neighborhoods. Scott not only brings his diverse leadership background, but a plethora of skill sets in residential construction.

As the new construction lead, Scott will be immediately deployed into action to help assist with the completion of two homes in New Kensington, and will work throughout the summer months in various home builds & community projects.

This summer plans to host volunteer crews from the University of Pittsburgh, Curtiss Wright Corp., American Eagle Outfitters, and 200 volunteers for a neighborhood revitalization project with Alvarez & Marsal, a consulting firm out of New York City.

Spring & Summer Plans

This year when developing the 2018 strategic plan, the board of directors wanted to place continued focus in family-centric develop that would help revitalize and strengthen communities in the Allegheny Valley. On tap projects for this summer include the completion of two homedZ builds in New Kensington, the continuation of our Brush with Kindness & Strokes of Change home repair program, along with a S.T.E.A.M. initiative for local youth titled, "Put down the Books, Pick up the Hammer."

Additionally, the organization has connected with global consulting firm Alvarez & Marsal and engage their employees into a community revitalization project to serve the Village of Natrona and plans to host over 200 volunteers during the week of June 4th in efforts to strengthen the community's parks and public historical entities.

Alvarez & Marsal has selected to serve the Allegheny Valley due to its rich in history, culture, and people. Previous years employment engagement weeks at Alvarez & Marsal included boot camp training at West Point Academy. This year, the group will embark upon efforts to assist in redefining the community paradigm of Natrona. Stay tuned!

Put Down the Books, Pick up a Hammer

Building off the success of its partnership last summer with Plum Library, Habitat has established its Put Down the Hammer, Pick up the books. This initiative is dedicated to serve area you to provide youth S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) workshops

This year workshops will take place both on remote build sites, as well as at the ReStore, and will directly engage the children to better understand the dynamics of community development and serving vulnerable populations in our shared community.

Additionally, efforts will be placed to directly allow the children to participate in repurposing build materials that will be connected to the home build projects. Executive Director, John Tamiggi, stated "Donated materials such as doors, cabinetry, and fixtures all have the opportunity to be restored and brought back to life."

The program is designed to not only allow the children to engage in interactive learning environments, but also provides opportunity for mentorships to cultivate tomorrow's leaders. The program will commence during the month on June and continue throughout the summer. Visit www.habitatav.org for more details.

Board member Diana Biordi assisting in a S.T.E.A.M. class



Did you know? ReStore GO!

Did you know the Habitat for Humanity ReStore receives its merchandise almost exclusively through generous donations of the general public and local private business and corporation? Such donated merchandise is sold back to the general public at a significant discount, which then in turn, is channeled back to the home construction build projects throughout the Allegheny Valley.

Yet, with over 7k square feet of retail space, it takes a substantial support crew comprised of paid staff and volunteers to coordinate and organize the daily donation drops. ReStore Manager, Valerie Chiusano stated, "It's a blessing to see the local community groups, especially some of the special needs groups, and participate with such great excitement to help the community. They find much purpose and meaning in their works with us."

Some of the more vulnerable segments of the population, including Family Services of Western Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh Cares, and Poly-teacher, dedicate weekly efforts to assist and serve. "It's great to not only see the dedicated work by these groups, but to also see the connections and friendship that are form within the community", states Executive Director, John Tamiggi.

The ReStore is always seeking groups and individual volunteers to help support the organization's efforts. If interested, visit the website at www.habitatav.org, call 724.337.8347, or stop in the ReStore for details.



Family Services of SWPA volunteer day

ReStore Special

Come check this month's ReStore special, currently in stock beautiful European Beechwood panels that can be used for hardwood flooring or wall panels. European Beechwood is a very solid and durable close-grain hardwood. When compared to North American hardwood species, only Hickory has higher strength properties.

European Beech is used for many industrial applications like flooring, pulleys, workbenches, chairs and more. These panels have no added chemicals and are great for those who desire natural build approach. **Spring Sale- one pallet \$400.00**



Upcoming Fundraiser Event Down Home Derby

The first annual "Down Home Derby" fundraiser is the only Kentucky Derby fundraising event in the area. The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, May 5th, 2018, the date of the Kentucky Derby, on the beautiful grounds of the River Forest Country Club.

Our event will celebrate the annual *Run for the Roses* with Southern style appetizers, cash bar, horse photo station, friendly "wagers", raffles, a silent auction – and the Kentucky Derby, of course - all to benefit Habitat for Humanity Allegheny Valley. Guests will enjoy the Southern ambiance of the event. Ladies may wear their finest hats and gents their finest bow ties!

Proceeds from Down Home Derby will support the work of Habitat for Humanity Allegheny Valley – working in partnership with people in need to build and renovate simple, decent, affordable housing.

Ticket costs are \$75 per guest and available corporate sponsorship packages are available. For more information please www.dhderby.com or contact 724.594.1051.

Scott's Construction Corner

Construction Manager Scott Reider provides some insightful homeownership tips for this spring maintenance.



- Examine roof shingles to see if any were lost or damaged during winter.
- Check connections of all gutters and downspouts.
- Low areas in the yard or next to the foundation should be filled with compacted soil.
- Inspect and seal concrete cracks.
- Remove firewood stored near the home. Firewood should be stored at least 18 inches off the ground at least 2 feet from the structure.
- Check outside hose faucets for freeze damage and conduct annual AC unit maintenance and repair.



Down Home Derby

Saturday, May 5, 2018

4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Derby Post Time - 6:46 p.m.

River Forest Country Club

130 Club House Drive

Freeport, PA 16229

www.riverforestgolf.com

(Four exits past the Pittsburgh Mills exit on Route 28)

Celebrate the Run for the Roses with Southern style appetizers, cash bar, friendly "wagers" and a silent auction - all to benefit Habitat for Humanity Allegheny Valley. Ladies may wear their finest hats and gents their finest bow ties.

Prizes will be given!

Tickets: \$75.00 per person

(Tickets must be purchased in advanced. Tickets will not be issued.)

RSVP by April 30.

Call **724.594.1051** or visit www.dhderby.com

Win, Place and Show your support for HFHAV!

Homeowner's Financial Literacy

Stay tuned for our upcoming homeowner financial literacy program hosted by Habitat for Humanity Board President Rich Kulbacki

Tip of the day:

"Check your credit reports from each credit bureau (there are three) annually using annualcreditreport.com.

Consumers are provided one free annual credit check. Even if your credit card company offers credit monitoring or reporting, it's a good idea to check your actual reports through this site to get your official reports."



Community Partners

Special thanks to the following groups who have dedicated resources to support our collective community endeavors!

ALVAREZ & MARSAL
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
WOODFOREST BANK
VERE INC.
MOLYNEAUX
LOWES
LEEDS POLYCONCEPTS
DOUNUT CONNECTION NEW KENSINGTON
ST. SCHOLASTIC SCHOOL
STAPLES NEW KENSINGTON
THERMO TWIN WINDOW COMPANY
TURN KEY CLEAN-OUTS & ESTATES
AEROTECH
BUSY BEAVER
HOME RENOVATIONS BY WEIGAND



Interested in volunteering?

Come volunteer with us! Whether on the construction home build sites or at our ReStore, we love volunteers that assist us in the achievement of our mission! Come join us today! Visit www.habitatav.org for more details!



Like us on Facebook --- <https://www.facebook.com/HabitatForHumanityAlleghenyValley/>

"We hope our efforts will raise not only walls but awareness of the power we each have to create significant and substantive change."

*President
Jimmy Carter*

