

460 N. Main Street
Kilmarnock, VA 22482
804-435-3461

# **The Hammer**

WINTER 2024 - NEWS & UPDATES FROM L/NHH

#### **Board President's Message**

Dear Friends,

The Holiday Season is over, and I hope you had a joyous time with friends and family, I did.

The Holiday Season, for Habitat, is a time when individuals, foundations, and the faith community share with us. That sharing takes the form of monetary and product contributions (we turn into money). For those generous gifts, thank you.

Our Habitat Chapter is buzzing right along. We are a small Habitat affiliate when contrasted to others serving a larger population like Hampton Roads or Richmond. We typically build 1 house/year. Our current home should be completed by midsummer. You might look at our website (Inhabitat.org) to see photos of where we are. Today, it looks a lot like a real home.

I would like to write about our Habitat Chapter's financial condition a little. Our funding comes from 3 sources: (1) contributions from the community we serve, (2) ReStore revenue, and (3) loan payments due from our homeowners.

Our expenses are not unlike any other business enterprise: insurance, utilities, staff salaries in the ReStore, rent, etc. etc.

It has taken some time for us to get to where we are: product gifts to the ReStore that are sold generate enough revenue to cover our expenses. This leaves the remaining profit from the ReStore, contributions and loan payments available for our building and home repair activities.

Long story made short – 100% of your contributions go to homes, new construction, or repairs.

The only paid staff we have are ReStore and accounting related. We have 18 volunteer Board members and about 50 volunteer workers that work with us doing a variety of important jobs. Our Board is a working Board with several active Committees

Again, thank you for your support; it enables us to do the work we so enjoy doing.

Eddy Whichard, President

Everyone deserves a decent place to call home, and L/NHH has been helping residents of Lancaster and Northumberland counties do just that since 1996.



#### Progress on Build 22! (more on pg. 3)



#### Board of Directors and Staff

Board of Directors and Staff		
Officers	Directors (cont.)	Staff
Eddy Whichard,	Jim Dullea	Delinda Nelson,
President	Al Ross	Store Manager
Bob Poole,	Barbara McCarthy	· ·
Vice President	Elizabeth Barton	Jennifer Poole Sally Boltz
Lee Wonson,	Edna Davenport	Karen Raham
Treasurer Victoria Gardner,	Sandra Baxter	Kari Gordon
Secretary	Lynnie McCrobie	Peggy
	Alex Mason	
Directors	Christopher Dameron	Hendrickson
Dick Bennett	Ralph Hendrickson	
Frantasia Howard	Rev. Jim Moseley	

Lucia Schoelwer

Pastor Donald Conaway

### **Updates from the ReStore**



The ReStore continues to do great business, generating funds to support our builds and creating community. By the numbers:

FY 21-22 - \$40,100 FY 22-23 - \$99,900

FY 23-24 through Nov. - \$35,500

Based on current trends, we expect \$90,000 for full year ending 6/30/24. We couldn't do it without the customers, the donors, the volunteer donation pickup crew, and our outstanding staff, led by Store Manager Delinda Nelson.



## **Tales from our Shoppers**

For Chloe Price, her fondness for Habitat for Humanity began while building a Habitat home during college in Georgia. Decades later, she and her family bought a home in Lancaster County that was filled with furniture they didn't like. She called our ReStore to arrange a pickup and days later chatted with the pick-up crew chief. It turns out that Chloe and her husband have renovated several of their homes. She is experienced in many aspects of construction and has her own tools. She's especially fond of mudding drywall! It didn't take long for our construction coordinator to add her to the team. We are grateful she thought of us again and look forward to working alongside her on our 22nd home now taking shape in Northumberland County.

### **In Memoriam**

With Rosalynn Carter's passing on November 19, 2023, Habitat for Humanity has lost one of our most ardent and dedicated volunteers. As we join the world in mourning the death of a remarkable leader, we reflect on the life of a woman who used her platform to make a difference for those in need of affordable housing.

She touched many lives through her steadfast support of Habitat's mission and her commitment and crucial support of mental health initiatives. We are strengthened by her example



and comforted by the memory of a life dedicated to helping others.

Several Board members and friends gathered at the ReStore the evening of November 29, 2023 for a candlelight remembrance of former First Lady Rosalynn Carter. Board member Chris Dameron lead us in prayer, and each participant shared snippets about her extraordinary life and decades of commitment to Habitat for Humanity.

# **Updates on Build #22**





#### Thanks to Dick Bennett's drone, we have views from above!







Tiffany Frazier and family performing their "sweat equity" at their future home







### **The Kudos Korner**

Ralph Hendrickson - Volunteer, Builder, Board Member

Ralph Hendrickson has been a volunteer with Lancaster/ Northumberland Habitat since 2017, but his volunteer work began long before that.

Ralph grew up in McLean in Northern Virginia, graduating from Langley High School. His father was an Army officer so like many military kids he had the opportunity to live overseas. He

has great memories of living in London during the mid 1960's

when the British music scene was just taking off.



Donald Mitchell and Ralph, Build #21

During college, Ralph worked construction part time, and soon determined that his interests and talents were more suited to building and took it up full time. With his wife Julie, he started a successful home remodeling business in Northern Virginia and worked there for 40 years. The Hendricksons started visiting the Northern Neck in 2008 and eventually bought land in Heathsville, built a home and moved here full time in 2017.

During his years in Northern Virginia, Ralph volunteered his construction talents with Re-

building Together, a national non-profit with a mission similar to Habitat. He also volunteered with Miriam's Kitchen, a Washington, DC social service organization focusing on feeding and housing the homeless. So it was a natural fit for Ralph to connect with L/NH on arriving in 2017.

Ralph participated in Build #20, managed the construction of Build #21 and is a key member of the Build #22 team.



The crew, Build #22



"I enjoy doing it for the people, and forming a real connection with the homeowners we are directly benefitting", Ralph said. "Our volunteers come from all walks of life, and they enjoy the camaraderie and the fact they are doing something tangible that they can see eventu-

ally become a home.
Our volunteers are the best people in the world".



Bill Otley and Ralph, Build #21

## 44th Annual Kilmarnock Lighted Christmas Parade

Several Board members, ReStore Staff, and family members helped build and rode with the L/N HH entry to the 2023 Kilmarnock Lighted Christmas Parade. In keeping with the theme — "A Nautical Christmas" - our Habitat house was "on the Rivah!" Crab pots formed our Christmas tree, decorated with all manner of sea critters, blue and green lights, and hand made (and lighted, of course) jelly fish. Dolphins could be seen leaping out of the "water." And of course, we played Beach Boys Christmas music!

Learning a lesson from last year, we brought TONS of candy...and it still wasn't enough! More for next year. A delightful, albeit cold, evening was enjoyed by all!















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Habitat 22482@gmail.com
LNHabitat.org

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

- Habitat home build sites No construction experience is necessary. Many first
   -time volunteers have never picked up a hammer!
- Habitat ReStore If you enjoy a fast paced, fun and rewarding retail environment that strives to provide outstanding donor and customer service, then the ReStore would be a great volunteer opportunity for you!
- Donation pickups Help our dedicated crew of volunteers picking up donations from homes and businesses around the NNK.

## **Donation Opportunities**

Lancaster/Northumberland Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. Your donations are tax deductible and 100% of your contributions stay here in Lancaster and Northumberland counties.

- Website: L/NHH website DONATE button (LNHabitat.org/support)
- By mail: Send your checks to the L/NHH, 460 N. Main St., Kilmarnock 22482
- **Shop:** Shop at our ReStore, 460 N. Main St., Kilmarnock
- Planned giving: Your gift through your will, trust, or other account will be your personal legacy of building a world where everyone has a decent place to call home.
- Cars for Homes: We welcome cars, RVs, motorcycles, boats, farm and construction equipment.

### Everyone deserves a decent place to call home,

and LNHH has been helping residents of Lancaster and Northumberland counties do just that since 1996.