

HAPPENINGS



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PROFILE OF A FOUNDING FAMILY OF NRV HFH

Billie and Queen Alexander have been much involved in almost every aspect of New River Valley Habitat for Humanity since its founding in 1987. Billie was vice chairperson of the first Board of Directors and was the second chairperson, and has always been on the Board until the present.

Queen worked twenty years for the Montgomery County Public Health Service and Billy served in the Armed Forces for 20 years and worked for Radford Hospital for 17 years. They have a daughter and a son.

In the fall of 1985 they went with a group to hear Millard Fuller speak in Winston-Salem, North Carolina and came back enthusiastic about starting a local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity.

Billie and Queen were constant laborers, along with other Board members and their spouses, building the first house on 16th Street in Radford.

Their strongest memories of their Habitat for Humanity work are the dedications of the first two houses in Radford in 1987. The large crowds and inspiring dedication services made the difficulties of convincing the public of the need for better housing and securing funding seem worth while.

Billie still serves on the Board of Directors and Queen is a constant volunteer in the office of the New River Valley Habitat for Humanity.

Other members of the Board of Directors very much appreciate Billie's good humor and wise counsel.

HOUSES NEAR COMPLETION IN BLACKSBURG

The first two New River Valley Habitat for Humanity houses on Shelor Lane in Blacksburg are nearing completion. House #1 is sponsored by the Blacksburg Interfaith Habitat Group (BIHG) and house #2 is sponsored by the College of Architecture and Urban Studies (CAUS). Hundreds of volunteers have helped build these two houses. The dedication of the BIHG house will occur in early November, so the homeowner will celebrate Thanksgiving in it!

There are two more lots on which houses can be built on Shelor Lane. One of those houses will be built by the Virginia Tech Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. The fourth house is still to be adopted by a sponsor.

Donations of funds of over \$30,000 are needed to finish paying for the four lots.



Recently, an anonymous donor agreed to match the funds NRV Habitat for Humanity collected during the Steppin' Out festival days in Blacksburg.

Send your contributions to:
New River Valley
Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box
570, Christiansburg VA 24073.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

You never know from where the next blessing for Habitat for Humanity will come!

Recently, an anonymous donor agreed to match the funds NRV Habitat for Humanity collected during the Steppin' Out festival days in Blacksburg. Over \$1,100 was received over the two day event, meaning that the total donation to NRV HfH was in excess of \$3,300. These funds will be used to help complete the Blacksburg Habitat for Humanity project...a great blessing indeed!

Rest assured, good deed continue to benefit our affiliate and its present and future homeowners. Telling others about the Habitat for Humanity mission has amazing results, thanks to the good public image Habitat for Humanity enjoys. Donated construction materials, volunteer labor and administrative help all contribute to keeping the housing costs affordable to the homeowner.

Habitat for Humanity is proud to be a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian ministry dedicated to eliminating substandard housing worldwide. Passing along the gospel of Habitat for Humanity to others is a part of fulfilling this mission. The Steppin' Out matching gift is just one of numerous examples of generous giving that could be cited. Putting faith into action to achieve the mission of Habitat for Humanity is worthy in itself. On behalf of all Habitat for Humanity homeowners, thank for all you do.

- Doug Bowman, President

RECENT CONTRIBUTORS TO UNRESTRICTED FUND

- Forthcomers Class-Blacksburg Christian Church
- Century 21 Home Town Realty, Pulaski
- Columbia Montgomery Regional Hospital
- Holston Conference, United Methodist Church
- Blacksburg Presbyterian Church
- Zion Lutheran Church, Floyd
- Triplett Construction Company
- Christiansburg Presbyterian Church
- Sports Car Clinic
- South Main Auto
- Christian Women's Fellowship, Blacksburg Christian Church
- Christ Episcopal Church
- Culpeper Presbyterian Church
- Blacksburg Junior Women's Club
- Gillie's Confectionery
- Radford Christian Church
- Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Blacksburg

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

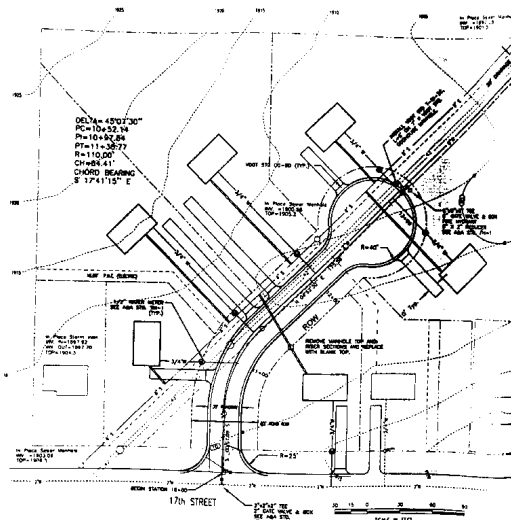
I would like to thank all the volunteers and contributors who have been essential in the construction of NRV HfH houses in the past years. The need for simple decent houses in decent communities for God's people in need is great. It will take people from all walks of life, "building on faith" to meet the needs of those currently living in poverty and/or substandard housing in the New River Valley and worldwide. Habitat for Humanity is a success through the continued support of prayer, community donations, and volunteer labor. There are many ways to become involved with Habitat for Humanity if one is not able or interested in the actual construction of Habitat homes. Volunteers are needed to prepare meals for work crews volunteering on site, prepare meals for special events, fundraising, and committees: Nurturing Committee, Family Selection Committee, Finance/Fundraising Committee and the Building/Site-Selection Committee, and of course community donations are the basis of funding for Habitat for Humanity. If you have any questions please feel free to call **381-4215** or page me at **953-8430** (numerical pager). With your continued support we can build in partnership with God, people from all walks of life and God's people in need. -Terri Fitzwater-Palmore, Executive Director



Volunteers are needed to prepare meals for work crews volunteering on site.

HAMMERS AT WORK

Two of the houses recently built in Radford are on the edge of a seven-acre parcel of land that was donated to New River Valley Habitat for Humanity. A subdivision of seven more houses is being planned for the rest of the parcel.



PROPOSED SUBDIVISION

A subdivision of seven more houses is being planned.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY STATISTICS

The following are statistics for the year 1998

	<u>United States</u>	<u>International (includes US)</u>
Number of affiliates:	1509	1895
Houses built up to 1998:	25,922	71,280
Countries in which houses have been built:		63
Campus chapters of Habitat for Humanity:		567
High school chapter of Habitat for Humanity:		69

Habitat for Humanity International was the 19th largest home builder in the United States in 1998.

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Officers

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Vice President

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Jack Davis; Minnie Dean;

James Hickman

Janet Johnson

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Morris Reece

Warren Stewart

Susan Stroup

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540-381-4215

Web page: <http://civic.bev.net/hfh>

Executive Director: Terri Fitzwater-Palmore, habitat@usit.net

Construction Coordinator: Tom Underwood; Construction Supervisor: James Anderson

Newsletter Editors: L. David Roper & Terri Fitzwater-Palmore

Houses Completed

Radford: 8; Pulaski: 6; Christiansburg: 2

Houses Nearing Completion

Blacksburg: 2; Pearisburg: 1; Pulaski: 1; Radford: 1

Houses Started

Blacksburg: 1

NRV HfH's area encompasses four counties (Floyd, Giles, Montgomery and Pulaski) and the city of Radford.

PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING HOMEOWNERS

- ◆ Call for applications by the Family Selection Committee.
- ◆ Check earned income (25%-50% average income) and credit ratings.
- ◆ Visit applicants in their homes by members of the Family Selection Committee.
- ◆ Vote on eligible applicants by the Family Selection Committee.
- ◆ Vote on recommended home owner by the Board of Directors of NRV HfH.

New River Valley Habitat for Humanity
P.O. Box 570
Christiansburg, Virginia 24073