



BUILDING HOPE

The Warren County Habitat for Humanity Newsletter 2Q/2022

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.



Hope in the Hills of Warren Fulfills 12th Year of Service - On the weekend of May 14-15, we served homeowners at 26 different homes, completing 82 different projects. Even more importantly, we brought 50 volunteers together to serve our neighbors. Some were first time volunteers and recipients.

In our ongoing desire to provide the safest work possible for volunteers and homeowners, we chose to stage our gathering outside, this year gathering on the property of St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Despite some light rain, we were able to gather the group for opening devotions and last minute instructions before sending them out to the homes to work.



Homeowners expressed gratitude and joy in having people serve them in this way. Prayer concerns were shared at some homes, and others commented on the amazing kindness of this program and people who choose to serve in this way. The love of God was shared with our neighbors; our mission for the weekend was fulfilled!

Our Mission Statement: Seeking to put God's love into action, Hope in the Hills of Warren brings youth and adults together to restore homes, community, and hope.



HOPE IN THE HILLS OF WARREN 2022
50 VOLUNTEERS
640 volunteer hours
26 homes
82 tasks completed
(9 critical safety jobs)
in 2 days





Meet Nick Pregenzer and Maggie Stergion, one of our newest Partner Families for Beidleman Road in Franklin Township. Here they are at our table at the Washington Boro GreenFest on June 18th. Welcome to the Family!

WE'RE HIRING!

at the Warren County Habitat for Humanity ReStore!

Truck Driver Position Part-time, \$13 - \$15/hour.

A valid driver’s license and a “clean” driving record for the past three years is required. CDL is not required. The vehicle is an automatic box truck. Driver must be able to lift and load up to fifty pounds.

This position is responsible for the pick-up of merchandise from donors, safely packing the merchandise in the ReStore truck, returning to ReStore and unpacking merchandise. Driver must ensure donors and customers are given excellent customer service at the ReStore.

Please email your resume to: restore@warrenhabitat.org AND to Michael.chobot@warrenhabitat.org.

For more details on these positions, please call 908-835-1980 or visit <https://www.warrenhabitat.org/job-opportunities>

★ **HELP US HELP A** ★
DESERVING VETERAN

PURCHASE A 50/50 RAFFLE TICKET NOW!



PRIZES

- 1ST** 35% OF GROSS SALES
- 2ND** 10% OF GROSS SALES
- 3RD** 5% OF GROSS SALES

\$20/TICKET



TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT WCHFH ReStore & OFFICE LOCATIONS

**384 ROUTE 57 W • 31 BELVIDERE AVE
WASHINGTON, NJ 07882**

BUY YOUR TICKETS ON LINE HERE: <https://app.donorview.com/ZK7j5>

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HOPE**



Warren County Habitat for Humanity Newsletter - 2Q2022 Editor, Lori Jo Jamieson

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Rick Houston receives the keys to his new home from Dave Detrick.

Warren County Habitat for Humanity Dedicates 20th Home to Devoted Navy Veteran

From the West Coast to the East, Navy Veteran Rick Houston has lived his life serving selflessly everywhere he can. On June 18th, he officially became a homeowner with Warren County Habitat for

Humanity. About seventy people: neighbors, friends, family, and members of the Habitat community gathered that morning to celebrate the completion of Rick's home. He was presented with some gifts, a plaque, and most importantly, his official set of house keys, which made for a very heartwarming and emotional ceremony. Afterward, the community got to tour Rick's new home, and he welcomed everyone inside with open arms.

The home, located in Pohatcong Township, NJ, is a modular home from Hackettstown-based company LDM Homes. It was delivered and installed on the foundation on March 29th, 2022. Mr. Houston was present for the event, feeling blessed to observe his new home being put together right before his eyes, eager to assist in any way he could.

From the Navy, to the school system, to the Methodist Church, Rick Houston is truly a jack of all trades. He worked as an electronics technician in the Navy and retired as a Senior Chief Petty Officer after 20 years of service. He earned his Master's degree from Concordia University and became a school principal after teaching for 13 years, and was ordained to serve



as the Associate Pastor of the Fallbrook United Methodist Church. All his motivation comes from gratitude; he is extraordinarily grateful for the life he has been given and the ability to pursue so many of his passions.



“It's an amazing gift, as a Veteran,” Rick stated, regarding the Veterans Build initiative and receiving a Habitat home. “When you enlist in the military, people say you write a check to the US Government for your life. You really don't expect anything in return. This is above and beyond.”

Major donor and sponsor, [MAKO Heating and Air Conditioning](#), provided their services free of charge to Rick Houston's home. Richard Meeh, founder of MAKO, was both very well known among the Warren Habitat community and a Veteran himself. He and his son, Darren, both felt immense respect for Veterans and a sincere passion for serving them. Richard had stated that if Warren Habitat ever built a home for a Veteran, he would want to donate the heating and cooling system for them. Sadly, Richard passed in 2020 and was unable to see the completion of this project. Darren saw his wish through to the end, saying, “I am very humbled to help a Veteran in any way I can. I would like to dedicate this build to my father and to all Veterans alike.”

Warren County Habitat for Humanity is planning on breaking ground soon on what will be their third Veterans Build home, and in the meantime is working with volunteers to finish up a traditional build for their 21st partner family. Warren County Habitat strives toward a time where everyone in Warren County has a decent place to live. It is especially an honor to be able to give back to those who have dedicated their lives to serving our country.

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Brittany.powelson@warrenhabitat.org
Photos by Cathy Miller



Left: **Donna and Steve Stefano** presented Rick with a beautiful US Navy wreath. Above: About seventy people gathered to celebrate the completion of Rick's home on June 18th.

Right: **Kevin McCann** added music to the celebration.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Donald and Lola Burd



Donald and Lola Burd are two of Warren County Habitat’s most cherished volunteers. For almost 15 years, they have worked selflessly and tirelessly to see the organization succeed and grow into what it is today. They first heard that the organization needed assistance in 2008 from their daughter Laura, who worked with current Board President, Donna Detrick. Warren County Habitat was a very small organization at the time, and the Burds saw this as a perfect opportunity to get involved and help those who needed it.

An electrician by trade, Donald first provided his services free of charge at a WCHFH home being built in Butler Park, Washington Township. His wife Lola assisted. Every week, Donald recalled, the family who would later come to own that home visited the site. Their young daughter would run in and out of the house, excitedly shouting to her father, “Daddy, Daddy, look what they did to my room this week!” Since then, the Burds fell in love with Habitat and the mission of making affordable housing accessible for all.

In 2009, the building that now serves as Warren Habitat’s Community Center and administrative offices was donated to the organization by the Central Warren Youth Association. Donald shared that he was responsible for inspecting the electric in the building and writing a letter to the electric company giving his approval. With his connection to his previous employer, SM Electric, he was also able to procure all electrical materials and light fixtures as donations - free of charge to the organization - for the Community Center and each of the 15 houses they worked on.

As they grew with Warren Habitat, the Burds served in many more ways too. They became regulars on the

construction crew, and even participated in outreach events spreading the word about Warren Habitat. Their favorite activity is still volunteering on site, however, as they love meeting the new homeowners and working right in the heart of the mission. “I enjoy it, there’s great camaraderie with the guys and we like busting on each other,” Donald mentioned. “When you get involved in an organization like this, and you look at all the people that are involved and all the different parts of it, you realize there’s still a lot of goodness out there.”

About working alongside his wife, Lola, Donald referred to her as “both my left hand and my right hand.” They have been married and have been an unstoppable team for over 50 years. From the relationships they’ve made here, the heartwarming interactions they’ve had, and getting to experience it all together, Donald and Lola decided to continue their selfless service to the organization for many years to come. ~ *written by Brittany Powelson*



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A Real Life Critical Home Repair Story

For two years, Kathy lived with wind, rain and the elements coming through the brick walls in her bedroom. Her stucco wall was eroding from the rain, and despite her attempts to fix it, Kathy’s wall needed much more work than met the eye.

This made for freezing living conditions whenever the temperature dropped.

“I just didn’t know what to do any-

more... with the pandemic, I wasn’t letting anyone in my house, and it just kept getting worse and worse,” she explained. “I really appreciate [Warren County Habitat’s] help.”

Warren County Habitat for Humanity Receives First of Three-Part Grant from the Investors Foundation to Build Homes and Hope

Since July of 2013, Warren County Habitat for Humanity (Warren Habitat) has been a grateful recipient of donated funds from the Investors Foundation. This month, they received another grant of \$5,000 for their home building program for Warren County families in need. This sum is the first installment of a three-part donation of \$15,000 that will be donated over the next two consecutive years. The grant will help further Warren Habitat’s mission of building homes and hope in Warren County and providing homeowners with strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter.

Investors Foundation quickly grew to be a highly valued supporter of Warren Habitat, not only monetarily, but personally. Two years after Investors’ first monetary donation to Warren Habitat, Sallyann Christie, Branch Manager of Investors Bank, became a Board Member of the affiliate. Since then, she has only become more involved, leading the annual 50/50 raffle, sharing news and information about the organization at the annual Farmer’s Fair, and being elected Board Secretary in October of 2017.

When asked what drew her to the organization, she replied, “I have always been the type of person who truly enjoys helping people no matter how big or small. God has blessed me in my life so if I can help someone else, I’m there. My husband also would attend events with me and soon became a volunteer at the ReStore. Over the years he too lends a hand whenever and wherever needed.” Mark, Sallyann’s husband, became a ReStore Warehouse Associate in April of 2018.

Her favorite experience with Warren Habitat, she says, was participating in her first Women Build event, a fundraiser that empowers women to build on the construction site of a future Habitat home. “It was very rewarding to be able to be a part of the event,” Sallyann recalled, “We all did our part throughout the day. Every time I pass that home, I smile knowing I helped on that day.”

The Investors Foundation has contributed over \$26,000 to Warren County Habitat for Humanity since July of 2013 through various avenues/programs, such as sponsoring their annual Beams and Dreams benefit event and Bowl-a-Thon, Care2Share, and Year End Appeal. Warren County Habitat for Humanity is fortunate to have the support of Investors Foundation, both through funds and through the personal support of Sallyann, her husband Mark, and



Investors Bank representative Sally Christie presents check to Donna Detrick, WCHFH Board President

all their dedicated volunteers. Warren Habitat’s twentieth home, built for and alongside Veteran Rick Houston, was dedicated June 18th, with their 21st home soon to follow. These builds would not be possible without the amazing volunteers who have selflessly given their time, and support from large organizations such as Investors Foundation, and for that, Warren County Habitat for Humanity is eternally grateful.

About Investors Bank

Investors Bank, headquartered in Short Hills, New Jersey, is a full-service community bank that has been serving customers since 1926. With over \$27 billion in assets and a network of more than 150 retail branches, Investors Bank delivers personalized services and products tailored to the needs of its customers. Investors Bank’s services include complete deposit, loan and cash management products for consumers and businesses. Investors Bank. Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender.

About the Investors Foundation

Investors Bank created the Investors Foundation in 2005 to support the communities Investors Bank serves. Investors Foundation supports initiatives in the arts, youth development, health and human services, education and affordable housing. The Investors Foundation works to improve the lives of its neighbors and communities across the bank’s footprint. For more information, please visit <https://www.myinvestorsbank.com/Community/Investors-Foundation>.

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A Dream Is Coming True - Thanks to Our Volunteers!





Shop. Donate. Volunteer.

384 Rt. 57, Washington, NJ 07882
908-835-1980

ReStore Shopping Hours:

(Closed Sunday & Monday)

**Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
& Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Donations Drop-off Hours:

(Closed Sunday & Monday)

Tuesday through Saturday 9:30- 2:00

No appointment necessary, just drive around back. We will help you unload!

Or, to schedule a truck pickup,
call 908-835-1980

Have a donation in mind but not sure if we'll accept it? Please email photos to: donations@warrenhabitat.org.



ReStore Volunteers require no special skills and may fit their hours to their own schedule. Walk-ins are welcome!

Positions Include: General help, retail store activities including loading and unloading merchandise, refurbishment, staging, cashier, floor rep, and maintenance/janitorial. For more information, please call 908-835-1980.



Upcycling Contest 2022

What is "upcycling?" It's the art of taking used goods to produce something unique, and often better than the original. For example, many of our Habitat shoppers upcycle merchandise found at our stores.

Who Can Enter? You must be a Rewards Member, age 18 years of age or older. It's easy and free to join!

How Do I Enter? First, purchase item(s) at our Habitat ReStore and create a completely different item, with a completely different purpose. Then take one photo of the original item(s) and another of your completed project. Email your two photos by **Wednesday, August 31, 2022** to Annette.beam@warrenhabitat.org. **PRIZES ARE AS FOLLOWS:**



1st Place: \$25 Gift Certificate to The ReStore

2nd Place: \$15 Gift Certificate to The ReStore

3rd Place: \$10 Gift Certificate to The ReStore

How Do I Win? Three winners will be determined by fan voting on our Facebook page from September 6th through 12th. If you have any questions, please email

Annette.beam@warrenhabitat.org.



*A wonderful team from **Morgan Properties** gave us a huge hand at our ReStore recently. Thank you for organizing the last of the tons of area rugs we had donated to us. It was a joy working with you all.*



ReStore's Annette Beam and her daughter, Isabella Beam, both got the chance to wear the cool hat and read Dr. Seuss books to kids on National Reading Day back in March.



[Click Here to Visit Us on Facebook!](#)

Three Reasons to Join Our Rewards Member Program!

1. For every \$200 spent get \$5 off your next purchase.
2. Receive notifications of upcoming sales via email.
3. Receive 10%, 15% or 20% off all purchases every 3rd Thursday of the month.

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This Quarter's Rewards Member Discount Days Are:

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*Must be a rewards member to receive discount.

Rewards Member Discount Day is always the 3rd Thursday of every month. Not redeemable for cash. Must be used at time of purchase.

Beams & Dreams

2022

Raise Your Voice with Eric Kearns,
Vocal Impressionist!



An Evening of Dining and Giving Back

Enjoy a dazzling evening of making a difference, a delectable meal, high quality entertainment and of course, chances to

WIN BIG!

Saturday, October 8th,
2022 at 6:00PM

Hawk Pointe Golf Club,
Washington, NJ

Buy your Tickets and
Sponsorships here:

<https://app.donorview.com/RMI1P>



Warren County
Habitat
for Humanity®

GOLF TOURNAMENT

HARKERS HOLLOW GOLF CLUB

950 UNIONTOWN RD PHILLIPSBURG, NJ 08865

AUGUST 22, 2022

For more information, go to www.warrenhabitat.org/golf

[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS & SPONSORSHIPS](#)

18 Holes
Lunch

\$150 One
player

\$550 Foursome

Call Now

(908) 835-1300

Registration 8 am

Shotgun start 9 am

Wings & Rewards 2 pm



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