



Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree To Build Habitat House in Newburgh!

January 7th, 2010

For 78 years, the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree has been a shining example of the holiday season of giving for millions of people across the country and around the world. Thanks to Tishman Speyer, owners of Rockefeller Center, this tree will live on to be a shining example of giving right here in our local community. After the holidays, the tree will be milled into lumber and donated to Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh, to help build a safe, decent, and affordable home for a working family in need. This is the 4th year that Habitat for Humanity has been gifted with the tree's lumber, and as Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat for Humanity International said, we are all truly "humbled and proud to have an ongoing role in this great tradition."



After the lumber dries and cures for several weeks, it will be used to construct exterior support walls in a Habitat Newburgh new build. Please stay tuned to for project updates!



*Wishing you and your family
a very happy, healthy holiday!*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, January 8 - Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour 11AM

Saturday, January 8 - Homeowner Application Session 10AM & 1PM

Sunday, January 9 - 12th Night Concert at St. Mary's Church, Tuxedo NY 4PM

Tuesday, January 18 - Beat the Winter Blues - Live Mustic at Vinum Cafe 6PM

Saturday, January 22 - Homeowner Application Session 10AM & 1PM

Thursday, January 27 - Homeowner Application Session 6PM

Meet our new Executive Director



Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh is very pleased to announce the appointment of Cathy Collins, Ph.D., as new Executive Director of our affiliate. Cathy comes to Habitat having served over 12 years as Executive Director for innovative non-profits, including The Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill, and was the first Executive Director for the Racial & Cultural Diversity Commission for the City of Little Rock, AR. Cathy has lived in the Hudson Valley for 8 years. Her experience in the Delta region of Arkansas, the hollows of Appalachia, her studies in India, as well as her experience living in the Muslim country of Senegal, West Africa have sensitized her to the realities of poverty housing and inspired her commitment to its elimination. Cathy brings with her a wealth of knowledge in human and organizational systems, race relations, and community development. She has committed her life to being a bridge of understanding across lines of difference - whether they be religious, socio-economic, racial, or just the sisterly squabbles of her two daughters. We are all excited to be working with Cathy, and hope you will join us in welcoming her to the team!

Wednesday, February 2 - Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Tour 11AM

Saturday, February 5 - VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSE!! 9AM - 11AM

[CLICK HERE](#) for info. about these events

Quick Links

[Our Website](#)

[Email Us](#)

[Facebook Page](#) - *Get the latest photos from site!*

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Things are heating up this winter at Habitat!



E. Parmenter Street Revitalization,

Phase 2: Since work began in September, volunteers and contractors have made quick progress with the next 4 houses of what will soon become a 24-house, mixed income neighborhood. The framing and sheathing continue, and trusses were put on the houses earlier this week for roof construction.

6 Federal Street: With insulation and drywall work now finished, and the brick repair and repointing complete, we will next install the flooring and appliances to make this project a reality. We expect these 3 transitional housing units will be ready by March of the new year!



132 Benkard Avenue: Soon to become a 5-bedroom house for the Salazar Family, this 'gut rehab' project now has all interior framing complete, and volunteers

Happy New Year Savings
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 **Habitat for Humanity**
of Greater Newburgh

ReStore

125 Washington Street, Newburgh, 845.565.1789 x201

Shop. Donate. Save.

The Camper Family: A Journey To Freedom



Before Erica Camper came to Habitat, she was paying over \$900 a month for an overcrowded apartment with substandard conditions. She wanted only to give her children a safe and stable place to live. Now, after 7 years as a Habitat homeowner, Erica reflects on the family's struggle, and on all they have been able to achieve.

"I remember working 3 jobs to get my children out of the inner city; I didn't want them to grow up seeing the daily activities of the 'hood' as normal. I remember living in roach-infested, rat-infested, and sometimes even flea-infested apartments of Newburgh. I remember standing on line at the pantry to get a little extra food until I got paid. I just thought, 'Oh God, it's gotta get better'."

The Camper Family was accepted into the Habitat program and completed their 250 sweat equity hours in under two months. When they closed on their 0% interest mortgage the following year, Erica was moved to tears. "Habitat homeownership has afforded my family the privilege of doing some pretty amazing things.

"My oldest daughter Alicia graduated with her second master's degree from Columbia University. My son-in-law is working towards his computer science degree, and he and Alicia just purchased their own home! My daughter Zappora

are working on the exterior siding installation this week.



68 & 72 Benkard Avenue:

Asbestos and lead abatement have been finished in both of these properties, and interior framing of the walls will begin shortly. The single family house at 68 Benkard is the future home of the Burnett Family, and the house at 72 Benkard is the first Habitat Newburgh project that will feature a rental unit for homeowner management.

VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSE

Resolve to Get Involved!

From swinging a hammer on site to greeting customers and organizing donations at the ReStore, helping with a fundraising event to being a partner family advocate, Habitat needs volunteers with all different kinds of skills. Come learn about the many ways YOU can make a tangible difference in our community. Join us for information, conversation, fun, food, and walking tours of sites.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2011
9AM - 11AM, KIMBALL BUILDING
125 WASHINGTON ST., NEWBURGH.**

VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

No matter where your talents lie, you can join us for one of the most rewarding experiences of your life.

is a teacher, and finishing her bachelor's degree, and my youngest son Marcus is working full-time. With owning your own home, there is a sense of pride you take in yourself, and in your community.

"The best part of homeownership is the freedom - not having to be stuck in one place mentally, physically, or spiritually. The freedom that can begin with something as simple as picking what color I want to paint my walls. FREEDOM: *not* to be on government assistance because now I can afford to both eat and live. FREEDOM: to plant flowers, and not settle for weeks.



"Keep doing what you do. There is someone else out there who is waiting to live. THANK YOU."

A Gift From the Heart Builds a House

Your gift today can mean the difference between hopelessness and freedom for a hard-working family, like the Campers, who just needed an opportunity to begin their journey home.

A donation to honor or memorialize someone you love can have meaning for the whole family.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more. [CLICK HERE](#) to make a tax-deductible gift.

Armory Community Center Opens

Phase 1 Complete!



Over 3000 kids, parents, and volunteers gathered over Thanksgiving weekend to celebrate the grand opening of the Newburgh Armory Unity Center. There was fun for all ages, with facepainting, double dutch, zumba, arts and crafts, and free basketball and soccer clinics.

With a grant from the William and Elaine Kaplan Family Foundation, Habitat Newburgh was able to complete the first phase of renovation on this building. Under the leadership of volunteer engineer Chris Hawkins, our affiliate oversaw the renovation of the basketball court, with new floors and backboards, and created handicap accessibility.

Per the grant's specifications, this newly revitalized community space will be used for educational recreation activities by City of Newburgh youth, and will be self-sustaining through the utilization of a business plan designed by Mount St. Mary's College students. Habitat for Humanity was very pleased to participate in the first phase of this important collaborative project, and sees it as a good fit for Habitat International's newly-designed Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative, whereby affiliates complete projects for the benefit of the larger community.



SIGN UP TODAY

Newburgh.VolunteerHub.com

Santa Visits Coffee Break!



Warming the hearts of volunteers working on site yesterday, Santa checked his list and passed out candy to all the good little Habitat elves. Dave McTamane, however, was not on that list. (He got coal.) Better luck next year Dave!

Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

MANY BRANCHES, ONE TREE - November 23, 2010

A unifying service much needed in our often wounded city, "A Gathering of Abraham's Descendants," sponsored by the Greater Newburgh Ministerial Association, was held in honor of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh this year at Calvary Presbyterian Church. Led by representatives from the three Abrahamic religions - Judaism, Christianity, and Islam - this service highlighted the work of Habitat Newburgh, which transcends boundaries. A special thanks to Rev. Deke Spierling for his planning and to all who attended for sharing in this special service of thanks-giving. The offering collected over \$1,590 for Habitat's mission, and 10% will support Habitat International's relief efforts in Haiti. Thank you for your generosity!



Mail to: P.O. Box 1694, Newburgh, NY. 12551

Visit our ReStore & Headquarters: 125 Washington St., Newburgh, NY. 12550

P: (845) 568-6035 / F: (845) 568-5632

www.HabitatNewburgh.org

Please help us spread the word about Habitat Newburgh! To add friends or family to our eNews mailing list, contact the Habitat office, x110.