

Williamsburg - White Family

In early May, Habitat for Humanity began construction on a house in Williamsburg. The story of how that house got built is a fascinating one. The South Dundas Council donated the building lot on Schell Street in the Williamsburg subdivision. Plans for a house that would meet the requirements of the township and compliment the size and shape of the lot were developed.

Mark Joldersma and his crew from Joldersma Renovations were retained as General Contractors for the build. Mark expertly led the way, providing guidance and direction for the approximately forty volunteers who gave their time and skill to work on the construction. Local trades people and businesses demonstrated their support of this Habitat for Humanity project by donating or discounting the costs of materials and/or labour. Groups and individuals, some from the area and others from further afield, came to the site to offer assistance. They came out in the early mornings and stayed until almost dark. They gave up weekends to do such things as build stud walls, insulate and install vapour barrier, shop for and prepare lunches, cut and install drywall, cut and install trim, build a deck, paint, paint and paint some more. What is so interesting about this is that these volunteers did not know the White family; had never met them. They came because it was the right thing to do. They came out of kindness and a willingness to lend a hand. Their helping hands contributed a great deal, but their big hearts gave even more.



The White family moved into their new Habitat for Humanity home in early August 2011. This beautiful house will be transformed into a beautiful home once Sophia, Savannah, Jacob, Troy and Amy settle in. Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers, the White children have a solid, safe and decent home to grow up in. Just knowing that warms the hearts of everyone involved and makes all our efforts worthwhile.

Volunteer Spotlight - Angela Johnson

Angela Johnson began volunteering for Habitat Seaway Valley on June 29th of this year. In less than two months, Angela has already donated 200 hours of her time to Habitat for Humanity's cause - a simply astonishing feat! The first task she accomplished as a Habitat volunteer was installing insulation for the Gerald Street site. Angela had heard about Habitat Seaway Valley in the Seaway News, and chose to volunteer for Habitat because she herself always wanted to own a home and could relate to how difficult it is to obtain one. She also wanted to get back into shape by doing physical labour.

Angela credits her abilities as a "jack of all trades and master of none" to her experience as a single mom. She told Habitat that she took the skills she learned raising a child and applied them to the build as she assisted in painting, fixing walls, and much more. During her volunteer experience, Angela became an unofficial coordinator of the volunteers when Mark MacDonell, the site supervisor, was either gone or away for a bit.

(Story continued on next page)

Angela also has epilepsy, but does not let that stop her from volunteering and making a positive impact on the job and the community.

"Everyone should volunteer at least once. You can always learn something new or a new skill to help build or fix your own home," she says. "If a woman at my age and with my disability can do this, anyone can."

The Habitat Difference You Can Make!

Unknown to many people is the fact that Habitat for Humanity is not just in need of volunteers for their builds. Just as importantly, Habitat requires individuals to fill out the labour requirements demanded of their ReStore facilities around the globe. A large portion of funds raised to build houses for those in need comes from profits raised through the sale of products in our Habitat ReStores.

Volunteers of every age, shape and size are required for jobs such as truck driving, cleaning, repairing, packaging, labelling, and customer service. All that is required on your part is a commitment of 4 hours per week. You can help make all the difference in the world for a family in need of a home with this small time commitment. Please think about joining our staff at the Seaway Valley ReStore located in Bonville. It's an experience we're sure you'll find very rewarding. Our ReStore is open Tuesday to Sunday each week, from 9am. to 5pm. and there are plenty of openings available.



For further information on how you can make a difference as a Habitat volunteer simply call the ReStore at 613-932-4481 or drop in at 17335 Myers Road and ask for Manager Ed Lauzon.

Habitat Seaway Valley Searches for Family Partner for their Next Build

North Stormont Township has graciously donated a beautiful lot to Habitat on Church St in Moose Creek, and that is where our next build will take place in 2012.

A Family Information Night was held on Thursday August 18th at the Moose Creek Community Centre with very good attendance. All the information a family needs to apply for a Habitat for Humanity home was given to those in attendance by Family Services Committee Chair, Glen Grant, and his team.

A decision on a Family for this Build should be made by October 11th, 2011 and the Family will then start on their Sweat Equity Hours at the Habitat ReStore.

Check following editions of our newsletter for further information on our Moose Creek Family.

Habitat Seaway Valley Searches for an Executive Director

Habitat for Humanity is looking to hire an Executive Director on a part time basis, working 24 hours per week. Staffing Solutions of Cornwall have taken on the task of advertising and screening applicants on a pro bono basis for Habitat.

The basic qualifications we are looking for are described on the following link:

<http://www.habitatseawayvalley.org/jobposting.html>

Anyone interested who possesses these qualifications are asked to call Staffing Solutions at 613-936-2728.