

**Construction News** - We are trying hard to get the Goff family in for Christmas! This is the final home construction resulting from the April 2018 Tornado. The Goff family suffered debilitating injuries as a result of the tornado. Mr. Goff is unable to return to work and one of the children is still unable to return to school.

The business community has truly been a blessing for this family...

Jones Building Systems gave Amherst Habitat special pricing on the roof & floor truss systems. Lynchburg Crane donated their time & equipment to lift trusses while Swissomation employees volunteered their assistance to our regular Habitat volunteer crew.

The metal roofing for this home was donated by God's Pit Crew. Installation was provided by Sean Campbell's Custom Exteriors and Eric Lordhal's EML Exteriors. EML will also be providing and installing the guttering.

Greif sent their electrical team for several fun days to wire the home, with EECO, Electrical Equipment Co., donating most of the electrical components.

Our special church families, Emmanuel United Methodist, Madison Heights Baptist, Randolph Memorial Baptist and Elon Presbyterian, have all blessed this family in many ways.

How can you help? Volunteer! Feed the crews! Monetary or material donations! There is strength in numbers...together we can!



**YEAR END GIVING** - As you consider your year-end giving, please consider Amherst County Habitat. ALL donations go 100% into our building programs. We use our self-financed Mortgages Receivables to pay all of our monthly expenses allowing all grants and gifts to benefit our home buyers AND your money stays local! We have a PayPal link on our website listed below, as well as mailing address.

Amherst Habitat was recently honored by Habitat VA and asked to speak at the Habitat State Affiliate Conference at the Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond, presenting their Disaster Response Program. Habitat International is active in disaster relief but local affiliates have not been previously. With the April 2018 tornado in Elon, Amherst Habitat jumped in with both feet. "Our program was created as we went, with much learned along the way," said Debbie Habel.

Amherst County Habitat became the Construction Manager for the Amherst Disaster Recovery Group working with the County and other non-profits to meet the needs of those affected. One major outcome of the ADRG partnership was the joining of forces between Gleaning for the World and Amherst Habitat. Gleaning, recognizing Habitat as an International organization, asked about setting up joint ventures. Amherst Habitat was able to connect Gleaning with Habitat partners in disaster areas elsewhere allowing Gleaning to more efficiently deliver donated building materials, greatly shortening their turnaround time.

Amherst Habitat was recognized by Habitat International for their disaster involvement. "What an honor to be recognized by Habitat VA and Habitat International for our work. Amherst County Habitat is such a small affiliate when compared to others, it's amazing for our work to have an impact outside of the County", stated Debbie Habel, Executive Director.

Barbara Towler, Board President, Noel De Palma, Board Secretary and Debbie Habel attended and spoke at the conference and have offered assistance to other affiliates through "Yammer", the Habitat International discussion board website.

Many new ideas coming from the conference are being implemented. Stay tuned for changes!

HOME = SECURITY = PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS = GENERATIONAL CHANGE

**Homebuyer's Club** - We recently completed our first Homebuyer's Club and what a success! Taught by Noel De Palma, Board Secretary & Debbie Habel, Executive Director, along with additional Board members, Bea Booker & Leon Parrish, and Nancy Lewis, Family Selection Committee Chair and Robert Habel, Volunteer Construction Lead. The class covered materials from improving credit scores, planning & implementing a household budget to home maintenance. Debbie even led a virtual shopping trip to CVS teaching the future homeowners the value of couponing and store promotional programs! The class was fun and informative and obviously a success with one of the class members raising her credit score from in the 400's to 630! "This is lifechanging", stated Debbie Habel, "Most financial items are tied to your credit score, from interest rates to insurance rates. This was phenomenal, not to mention the friendships & mutual respect established."

The Homebuyer's Club is now the first requirement to even obtaining an application. "This class may very well be the best step our organization has made," stated Noel De Palma. "It will make major impacts on their lives, another example of generational change which is the backbone of Habitat!"

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Next Edition:

⇒ Meet our Board of Directors

⇒ Home Dedication



*"My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, undisturbed places of rest" - Isaiah 32:18*