

The Many Journeys to the Her/Chue Dedication

Some people travel to the grocery store to pick up food for their families and goodies for Packer-watching parties. Others enjoy fresh air along bike and hiking trails for exercise. Many are getting ready for various hunting seasons while artists and crafters are journeying to fabric stores and fall festivals to pick up supplies and ideas for upcoming holiday projects.

My journey on Sunday, September



Her/Chue Family Closing at their closing.

19, was a short one---from my town of Washington home to pick up good friend Doris Kassera in Eau Claire. We traveled to our destination with newly planted grass seed outside and new carpet inside. It was a privilege to be a guest of a group of hard-working people who really live their values--the Habitat for Humanity group--that helped build a new home in Altoona for Chong Her and Yee Chue and their children Xay, Xeng, Sheyenne, and Holly.

For Chong Her, the journey took a bit longer. Before the dedication ceremony, I had the chance to talk with his brother Solomon who came directly to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, in 1989 when he came to the United States--just in time to start middle school. Solomon told me that Chong applied to come to the United States in 1994. And, in 2007, he and



Family with Kim Yarrington, Family Nurturer at Dedication Ceremony.

his family were granted the opportunity. Now on this sunny day, another part of their journey was beginning thanks to their hard work and that of over 84 people who had given their time on this Habitat for Humanity home. It was particularly heart-warming to hear Xay greeting guests with, "Welcome to my new home" as he handed out programs at their door.

(Continued)

DeLong Family Celebrates Successful Build at Dedication

Last month we celebrated another House Dedication! This time for the Kat DeLong family and their new Habitat home in Chippewa Falls. This house is handicap accessible to assist her sons who have disabilities. There was not a dry eye in the house as we gathered to pray, dedicate, celebrate and hand over the keys to this deserving family. In Kat's own words...

"The dedication of our home on

11/14/2010 left an indelible and permanent mark on our heart. Although our family has gone through many trials and tribulations and been blessed in many ways, I was unprepared for the rush of gratitude and emotion that encompasses dedication and the culmination of a dream. I remember the feel of the keys in my hand, the warmth that I felt from family and friends, new and old, and the overwhelming peacefulness of the moment. I will never

forget some of the special moments of the building, dedication, and (Continued)



Volunteers, Family & Friends.

Her/Chue (Continued)

The dedication ceremony included thanks, prayers, some gifts for the new homeowners including a few quilts made by a group called "Friendly Hugs" who wished them a warm welcome, and the sharing of cake, spring rolls and sticky rice. Chong Her and his family were handed the keys and congratulations for all the effort they have put into their home and into their lives. As he accepted the keys, he said that he hoped he would have the opportunity to help others in his community. Even though he works at Ashley furniture in Whitehall and "journeys" a lot, his smile showed his happiness with his new home.

-Becky Mauch, Excerpt from Senior Review

DeLong Dedication (Continued)

moving process that we went through with Habitat for Humanity holding our hand and hearts the whole time. Habitat for Humanity has given our family more than a home, we have each experienced a special growth through the building and dedication, and we know that no matter what, we are part of a bigger family - Habitat For Humanity."



Mary Scheuermann, Kat's Family Nurturer, was a great help in guiding the new family.



Kat, son Torin and Tom Wouters at dedication ceremony.

Did You Know.....

Though it takes a variety of supplies to build a home from the ground up, there are a few things that are used more than others. Here are the top five: **40** cubic yards of concrete, **467** 2x4s, **118** sheets of sheetrock, **554** feet of baseboard and **37** boxes of screws.

Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity Donors Sept 1st - Dec 1st 2010

Andre, Robert & Jeanne
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Haukeness, Judith & Donald
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Weiss, David
Woletz, Mildred
Wright, Doug & Lochner-Wright, Cheryl
Zeug, Barbara
Honoring:
Mary Eaton's 101st Birthday
In Memory Of:
Dirks, Robert
Howe, Maurice
Timper, Priscilla
Churches:
Hope United Methodist Church
Lake St. United Methodist Church
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
St. John UCC
Trinity Lutheran Church
Unity Christ Center of Eau Claire
Valleybrook Church
Organizations:
Focus on Energy Program
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Sign Up for CVH4H's E-Newsletter



Help Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity stay on the green path by saving on paper and printing costs!

If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, let us know. It's easy; just send an email to info@cvh4h.org with the phrase "Go Green" in the subject line. Include your name and address in the body of the email so we can remove you from the "snail mail" list. That's all you need to do! We will then add you to the CVH4H e-newsletter distribution list.

Garden Bench Project Takes Off

What initially started as a "side project" has now emerged as our newest exciting fundraising activity. Many volunteers have recently put in time at our Training Center constructing and painting these Aldo Leopold - style garden benches, which will be available for purchase at local garden centers or directly from our affiliate as spring approaches. Styles will include "Solid Red," "Patriotic," "Bugs" and "Daisy" (pictured) in adult (48" long) or child (33" long).



Subaru Loves Habitat

We are pleased to announce that Subaru has chosen to include Habitat for Humanity as one of five charities for its third annual "Share the Love" event. For every new vehicle sold or leased until January 3rd, 2011, Subaru will donate \$250 to the charity of the customers' choice. Other charities include ASPCA, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Meals on Wheels and the Ocean Conservancy. Local dealer Chilson Subaru will direct all donations to our local affiliate. CVH4H is thankful for the support of this wonderful program!



Now Donate Online!

Donations are still one of the best ways to support our organization. It is through this continued support that we are able to provide for local families in need. In keeping up with the times, we have made it quicker and easier to donate to CVH4H.



Donations can now be made directly through www.cvh4h.org. Simply click on the button (pictured above) and follow the easy steps. We accept all major credit cards, debit cards and Paypal. This secure method is great for saving time and paper and is still tax - deductible.

Be a "Support Beam"

"Your signature will be a 'beam of hope' for a local Habitat family in need."

Join us in our latest effort to raise money for our 2011 homes! Our "Support Beams" project partners us with local businesses and organizations to help raise funds from the community. The concept is simple and has proven to be successful for other Habitat affiliates.

Look for our Habitat 2 x 4s (beams) at participating organizations. They will be marked by our logo and the name of the participating organization. To participate, one must simply make a donation (no minimum required) and sign the 2 x 4. All proceeds and 2 x 4s will be put into the next two homes, which will be constructed spring/summer of 2011. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to put a piece of yourself into our next homes!



Upcoming Training Center Seminars

Drywall and Texturing
January 11th, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

New Paint Technology and Techniques
February 1st, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Check www.cvh4h.org as dates may change.

Our Mission: Habitat for Humanity works in partnership with God and people everywhere, from all walks of life, to develop communities with people in need by building and renovating houses, so that there are decent houses in decent communities in which every person can experience God's love and can live and grow into all that God intends.

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Volunteer Coordinator: Aaron Stoltman



President's Letter-

"Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." ~ Margaret Mead

When a local Habitat home is built and later dedicated, as we saw twice this year, I am continually inspired and think, "This beautiful, energy efficient home was built for a deserving family mainly by VOLUNTEERS. It's hard to believe!" Then I think about the financial gifts we, as a local chapter, receive on a regular basis from giving individuals and I am again amazed by this generosity. Those that serve on our committees and board of directors are unpaid volunteers that give hours of their time each week. Our partner families give hundreds of sweat equity hours on their own home as well as on other's homes. Many are "paying it forward" by reaching out and helping our future homeowner families. Can a small group of committed people change our local community? Change our world? Yes indeed!

As another year peeks just around the corner, we can already see that it will be quite an exciting year! We plan to build two Chippewa Valley homes for two new partner families in 2011; one in Eau Claire and one in Menomonie. We will have a 20th Anniversary Celebration event for our local chapter this spring. We are hosting regular workshops at our Training Center and we are planning several creative fundraisers this winter and spring. We are pressing on to another great year with Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity, Inc!

You are a huge part in making these wonderful things happen each year! If you are interested in joining any of our construction teams or various committees, contact Tim Haukeness, our Administrative Director, at 715-833-8993 for more information. If you'd like to give financially to see lives changed, gifts may be sent to Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity, 2233 Golf Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701.

Thank you for a fantastic 2010 building season! I'm proud to serve alongside you in this volunteer-based, community-changing organization. I look forward to the year ahead and all that God will do.

Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas season,

Michelle Olson, President
Board of Directors
Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity, Inc.



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