



# Habitat Happenings

*A newsletter of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Fredericksburg*

Fall 2014

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## Mission Statement

Habitat for Humanity, in partnership with God and with the support of a caring community, works to provide decent, affordable housing for people in need.

### *Holy Ghost Lends Helping Hand on House #15*

June 22 found the Holy Ghost Lutheran Church Service Team brushing up on their painting skills at Habitat for Humanity's House #15.

A congregational project that included thirty youth and adults, as well as Habitat volunteers and the home's new owners, got the majority of the structure painted in three hours that Sunday afternoon.

Other church volunteers prepared lunch and made refreshments, cut down vegetation to allow for easier access for the painters, and also prayed for a few hours, in this case, for no rain.

The house, located at 306 W. Park Street, is across the street from two other Habitat homes built in previous years, forming a small Habitat neighborhood.

The Perez family; Joshua, Roxanne, and children Imigin, Gertrude, and Creek, were selected from



several applicants for the newest Habitat house which is also the organization's first two story build. Due to lot size limitations, the home was built up and not out.

"It was great working side by side with the Perez family," said Pastor Bobby Vitek of Holy Ghost Lutheran Church. "It was an amazing gift we received in being involved in this project."

Like all Habitat homeowners, the Perez family had to meet strict criteria for consideration for the home, including put-

ting in 300 hours of "sweat equity" into their future home.

Working alongside the Lutheran Service Team, the Perez family was able to log in more time in addition to the hours they have already put in after work and on weekends.

"We are so pleased to have the Lutheran Church volunteers helping us out on this home," said Habitat Vice President Kelly Musselman.

"It is truly a blessing that we have such caring individuals in our community who are willing to lend a hand to others in need."

## *Habitat Begins New "Raise the Roof" Campaign*

Many thanks to Hugh Jons of J3 Excavation of Comfort and his crew for help in clearing House #15's lot. Kudos also to Matthew Mabery of Mabery Construction for tools and talent.

Be sure to visit our website at [fbghabitat.org](http://fbghabitat.org) and "like" us at [facebook.com/FredericksburgHabitat](https://www.facebook.com/FredericksburgHabitat) Check out all our great photos on House #15!

Habitat would like to thank Neil Henke and his crew from Superior Services Tree and Gate Company for help in removing a tree from the lot of House #16. Thanks also to the First Baptist and Oak Hills Youth Groups in helping clear the lot of brush and debris.

Habitat is kicking off their annual fundraiser, "Raise the Roof" for Habitat House #16. This summer, Habitat acquired the adjoining lot to Home #15 for construction of their next build.

Once again, the all volunteer Care-A-Vanners will arrive in February to finish out Home #15 and begin work on #16. They will be joined by a local volunteer building crew headed up by Wayne Murphy, Habitat's Building Supervisor.

Letters have been mailed out asking for

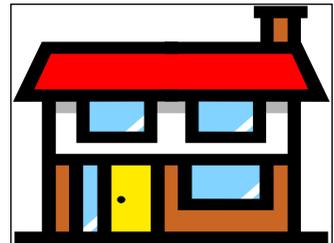
donations from local churches, businesses, clubs, and individuals to help pay for construction costs of House #16 (all labor is volunteer).

Though normally three bedroom, #16 will be a four bedroom, 1.5 bath of about 1100 sq ft. with central heat and air. A storage shed is included but no garage.

Monies donated will help pay for paint, doors, windows, flooring, plumbing fixtures, lighting, lumber- everything that it takes to build a house.

However, it won't be a home until Habitat's family selection committee interviews and selects House #16's newest deserving family from our community.

To donate to "Raise the Roof", check your mail for our letter or use the enclosed envelope in this newsletter. Your kind support is very much appreciated!



Help Habitat  
"Raise the Roof"

### *Habitat Applies for Matching \$25,000 Challenge Grant*

Once again, Habitat has applied for a matching challenge grant from an anonymous area foundation. This grant will go towards the cost of construction of Home #16 at 304 W Park St.

All monies that are raised during Habitat's "Raise the Roof" fundraiser (see above) would be matched dollar for dollar by the grant, doubling the effectiveness of any donation. Last year, Habitat did receive this grant for \$25,000.

"We look toward our community for support for this project and fundraiser," says Habitat VP Kelly Musselman. "We thank you for the impact your generous year end donation will make in another deserving family's life in our town."

### **Abella Home Lights Up House #15**

Thanks to Cindy Maple, Habitat board member and owner of Abella Home, House #15 will "see the light" with donated fixtures and fans from her local store located at 132B E Main St.

We thank Cindy for her kind and generous donation to Habitat!

## Oak Hills Church Labors on Labor Day for New Family

Labor Day weekend found the Oak Hills Church congregation laboring in the heat instead of lounging by the pool.

That Sunday church members lent a hand to Habitat in clearing the lot behind their newest build, House #15, located at 306 W. Park St.

Over 30 people cut down brush, pulled out undergrowth, and chopped weeds at the location.

Working alongside church members, new Habitat homeowners Josh and Roxanne Perez and their children literally provided their "sweat equity" as well, 300 hours of which is required by the organization be-

fore moving in.

The J3 Excavation Company of Comfort, owned by Hugh Jons, provided a skid steer, a dump truck and several employees to haul the brush and debris away.

Matthew Mabery of Mabery Construction in Fredericksburg volunteered his expertise and tools as well.

"It was a another great experience of God's love translated into community effort to help people who are less fortunate than most of us," said Habitat President Larry Berkman.

"The willingness of the workers to toil in the heat of the day was absolutely remarkable."



Habitat Homeowner #15, Roxanne Perez, poses at the site of their new house with daughters Imigin and Gertrude

### 'red' to Raise Funds for Habitat

Owner Mary Ransleben and the ladies at 'red' retail store in Fredericksburg have selected Habitat as one of four local charities to help out this fall. Charities were nominated and voted on by the staff of 'red'.

During the month of November, when a customer shops at 'red', they may donate 10% of their purchases toward Habitat.

Red has helped various Gillespie County charities over the years and Habitat is very grateful to have been selected this year. Red is located at 307 E Main St. in Fredericksburg. Please help support Habitat by spending your green at 'red' this holiday season!

### HFH joins AGM at MPC

Christmas shopping was in full swing at the Memorial Presbyterian Church annual Alternative Gift Market this November. Habitat for Humanity joined the market with a display of pins for sale especially



made and donated to help raise funds for House #16.

Volunteer VP Kelly Musselman was on hand to sell the pins and let folks know about the good work of Habitat in Fredericksburg.

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*You Helped Us “Raise the Roof” for House #15-  
Now It’s Time for #16!*

Thanks to many generous donations from businesses, individuals, churches and clubs, as well as a \$25,000 matching grant from a anonymous Hill Country Foundation, Habitat was able to “Raise the Roof” on House #15 this past year with a total of \$73,000 toward our goal. However, our work is not done yet.

Work begins on House #16, located on the adjoining property, in February of 2015 when our volunteer Care-A-Vanner builders return. This property was recently purchased by Habitat. Once again we must raise funds for construction of this newest home by asking for your help.

The cost of a Habitat home has grown over the years, from \$25,000 for House #1 in 1995 to \$90,000 almost twenty years later for House #16. (Labor is donated).

It is only through the kindness and generosity of our local community that we are able to accomplish the building of these homes for people in need of decent, safe, affordable housing.

Please help us to “Raise the “Roof” on Habitat House #16. Contributions are tax-deductible and very much appreciated!