



# Habitat for Humanity<sup>®</sup>

of Coastal Fairfield County



## Habitat CFC's May 2016 Newsletter



Dear Friends,

Spring weather may evoke thoughts of relaxation, but for Habitat CFC it means working at an even greater pace than any other time of year! Building many houses at one time, supporting a growing number of future homeowners and volunteers, dedicating homes, running events and raising funds while operating a thriving ReStore is both exhausting, yet invigorating. I am grateful and proud of all that our donors and partners, staff, volunteers and future homeowners accomplish every day.

The impetus for engaging the community in the building of quality,affordable, Habitat CFC houses and the eventual selling of these homes belowcost with zero interest loans to hard working families seems so clear to me,that I am surprised when someone, upon learning what we do, simply asks,“Why?” Though I could provide a longlist of reasons – here are a few that speak loudly to me:

- A recent study showed that someone earningminimum wage would need to work over 80 hours a week to afford a simple onebedroom apartment in our state. To renta decent two bedroom apartment requires earnings of \$24.72 an hour, more than 2½ times our state’s minimum wage and well beyond the earnings of many workingfamilies.
- Even the highest quality schools and teachers cannotmake up for the learning challenge created

when close to 30% of inner city families with children move multiple times in a school year in search of safe, affordable housing.

- Half of Connecticut's renters and over one third of homeowners pay more than 30% of their earnings for housing, leaving insufficient funds to keep them warm, fed, clothed and healthy.
- Over the past year, I have met families that have never had the chance to sit together and share a meal because they lack both the space and the funds for a small table and a few chairs.

The positive evidence is also clear – a safe, decent home dramatically improves the health, education, financial security, social and emotional well-being of every member of the family. The impact of a stable home goes well beyond a family and its four walls, extending far into the neighborhood and community. Sometimes it feels like we're running a race with no finishline, but Habitat CFC will never stop running as long as the need exists!

Sincerely,



[donate today](#)

**Stuart D. Adelberg**  
Chief Executive Officer

## who does it take to build a habitat house?



Just as it takes every nail, every board and every gallon of paint to finish a Habitat for Humanity home, it also takes every hour of hard work by future homeowners and volunteers, every ounce of support from generous donors, and every bit of building expertise to guide the construction process.

[watch video](#)

---

**news**



## The Pope Francis House Dedication

Habitat CFC held the Pope Francis House Dedication in May for the future homeowners - the Zepeda Family. The house will be ready for them to move into soon!

The Pope Francis House was the idea of an anonymous donor who provided Habitat CFC with partial funding to build a house in honor of Pope Francis with the hope that it would provide a unifying, celebratory opportunity for both Catholic and non-Catholic volunteers to work together towards a common goal of raising the remaining funds and to help work with Habitat CFC onsite to build the house. The donor, who was motivated by the Pope's commitment to social justice, contributed and initiated Pope Francis Homes in over 40 communities throughout the United States. Numerous local Catholic churches and other faith-based organizations, educational institutions and individuals joined together to make the Habitat CFC Pope Francis House a reality and ready for a family in need of decent, affordable housing. Thanks to everyone who made this opportunity a reality for the Zepedas.

Photos are posted on our Facebook page [here](#).

---

## Habitat Loves Our Volunteers!

We honored three dedicated volunteers at our annual Volunteer Recognition Event on a recent Sunday in Bridgeport. Volunteers are the heart of Habitat CFC and are largely responsible for all of the regional affordable housing organization's accomplishments each year.

Trumbull resident Mize Johnson received the prestigious Jim Lyle Memorial Award given to the person who inspires, motivates and encourages others to volunteer "early and often", in this case by helping worthy families build their own homes. A dedicated Habitat CFC Core Volunteer, for the past 3 years Mize has spent 3-4 days a week building on sites throughout Bridgeport. The award pays tribute to Jim Lyle whose commitment to the mission of Habitat for Humanity inspired many at Wilton Congregational Church, Wilton High School and beyond to get involved with the organization. Habitat CFC has proudly presented this award to 7 recipients over the past 6 years.



Frank and Eileen Bakos from Habitat CFC present Mize Johnson award.



Michael Gallo of Darien and Michael McAlpine of Stamford were recognized as Volunteers of the Year. Both men were regular volunteers on Habitat's construction sites over the past year. In addition, both recipients made valuable contributions to the organization.

"Mike Gallo is a key player always happy to give his time and talent to just about everything that Habitat CFC does. His continued service as a Core construction volunteer would be outstanding on its own, yet Mike added to that this year by joining in our fundraising efforts as a valued, active member of this year's benefit committee," said Stuart Adelberg, Habitat CFC's CEO.

"Mike McAlpine steps up to the plate to do just about anything we ask, from construction work to technical assistance to driving a float in the Columbus Day parade," said Eileen Bakos, Manager of Volunteer Services at Habitat CFC.

To learn how you can volunteer for Habitat CFC, check the volunteer section of our website [here](#).



Eileen Bakos presents Michael Gallo award.



Eileen Bakos presents Michael McAlpine award.



## Women Power in CT

Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County (Habitat CFC) and Lowe's Hero employee volunteers were among more than 80 local volunteers who joined together to address the need for affordable housing in the Bridgeport area as part of Habitat's National Women Build Week, April 30 to May 8, 2016.

Throughout the United States, National Women Build Week brought together more than 17,000 women to build or repair homes alongside 650 families, progressing toward Lowe's and Habitat's goal to help 1,000 families have safe, stable homes by the holidays.

National Women Build Week is a weeklong event created by Habitat for Humanity's Women Build program that challenges women to devote at least one day to help build affordable housing in their local communities. The week also spotlights the homeownership challenges faced by women. Lowe's donated nearly \$2 million to this year's National Women Build Week and each year provides the support of Lowe's Heroes and conducts how-to clinics at stores to teach volunteers construction skills. Since its partnership with Habitat began in 2003, Lowe's has committed more than \$63 million to Habitat for Humanity International and helped more than 5,500 Habitat families improve their living conditions. Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County is proud to have participated in National Women Build Week for the past 10 years.

"We are excited to participate in National Women Build Week," said Eileen Bakos, Volunteer Services Manager at Habitat CFC. "This is a great opportunity for women of all skill levels to come together to help a family in need of better housing."

## Lord & Taylor Picks Habitat for Humanity as Charity Partner throughout Tri-State Area

Thank you Lord & Taylor and thanks to our volunteers for heading to the Trumbull and Stamford Lord & Taylor stores to sell discount coupons during the store's Charity Day! All of the proceeds went to Habitat for Humanity which will help us build more homes for families in need decent, affordable shelter.



## events



**It's Hammer Time!**  
Join Us for a Ladies Only Competition  
to Raise Funds for  
Women Build's 12th Home



**Wednesday, June 15, 2016  
5:00 to 8:30 p.m.**

Eastern Greenwich Civic Center, 90 Harding Rd, Old Greenwich, CT

**Get your team of 4 together and compete to be named the 2016 She Nailed It! Champions.**

Habitat CFC's Women Build will be holding our first ladies only hammering competition – **She Nailed It!** to Raise Funds for Women Build's 12th home in Fairfield County—the future home of the Dotel Family. Women Build is an initiative designed to recruit, educate and empower women to break stereotypes, build, and advocate for affordable housing in Fairfield County. Spectators are welcome to attend!

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Eastern Greenwich Civic Center, 90 Harding Road, Old Greenwich, CT

Featuring Appetizers, Desserts, Beer and Wine

Form a Team!!! More information [here](#).

## SIOR Event at The Fairfield Theatre Co. Benefiting Habitat For Heroes

THE CONNECTICUT CHAPTER OF THE  
SOCIETY OF INDUSTRIAL & OFFICE REALTORS  
Proudly Presents

### Red, White and Blues To benefit Habitat for Humanity CFC's Veterans Build Program



Blues Artist, SaRon Crenshaw  
Opening Act, Jane Lee Hooker


**JUNE 14TH, 2016 at 6:30PM**  
**The FAIRFIELD THEATRE COMPANY**  
**70 SANFORD STREET**  
**FAIRFIELD, CT**

A BENEFIT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR  
Habitat for Heroes, a program of HabitatCFC


PLEASE CONTACT THE BOX OFFICE  
203-259-1036 or [www.fairfieldtheatre.org](http://www.fairfieldtheatre.org)


Ticket price of \$75 includes the pre-  
show Reception & Silent Auction

 **RED WHITE & BLUES!!!** 

 **SIOR CT CHAPTER, SOCIETY OF INDUSTRIAL & OFFICE REALTORS**  
Proudly Presents

Blues Artist  
**SaRon Crenshaw**  
Opening act, Jane Lee Hooker

**JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup>**  
at   
**The FAIRFIELD THEATRE COMPANY**  
**70 SANFORD STREET**  
**FAIRFIELD, CT**

A BENEFIT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR  
  
a program of Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County

**PLEASE CONTACT THE BOX OFFICE, 203-259-1036 or**  
[www.fairfieldtheatre.org](http://www.fairfieldtheatre.org)

Ticket price of \$75 includes the pre-show reception  
Reception & Silent Auction 6:30 PM, Opening Act 7:30 PM  
Jane Lee Hooker at 8:00 PM

## Habitat CFC's 2016 Benefit Annual Golf Outing

SAVE THE DATE for Habitat CFC's 2016 Benefit Annual Golf Outing scheduled for **Thursday, September 22, 2016** at The Country Club of Fairfield. Registration will open soon!

For sponsorship opportunities, contact the Habitat CFC office at (203)333-2642. More info [here](#).

23rd annual benefit golf outing  
Thursday, September 22, 2016

**the country club of fairfield**

Schedule  
10:30am - registration/driving range opens  
11:30am - barbecue luncheon buffet  
12:30pm - shotgun start - best ball  
5:00pm - cocktail reception hot hors d'oeuvres auction and awards

 **Habitat for Humanity**  
of Coastal Fairfield County



# look what's new at the ReStore



We are putting the finishing touches on the expansion of our ReStore at 1785 Stratford Avenue, Stratford. To stay upto-date on the ReStore happenings and daily inventory updates check the Restore Facebook page [here](#).

If you have something to donate, you can drop it off at the store or to schedule a pickup call (203)383-4358 or email [donate@restorecfc.org](mailto:donate@restorecfc.org).

Some current finds...



[Round Glass/ Pewter Metal Table & 4 Rolling Chairs - \\$399](#)



[40 Inch Electric Frigidaire Double Oven Stove - \\$350](#)



[Patio set - \\$499](#)



[Assorted Framed/Signed Art - \\$40-\\$50/each](#)



visit our website

Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County | 203-333-2642

[info@habitatcfc.org](mailto:info@habitatcfc.org) | [www.habitatcfc.org](http://www.habitatcfc.org)

Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County | 1542 Barnum Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06610

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [sadelberg@habitatcfc.org](mailto:sadelberg@habitatcfc.org) in collaboration with



Try it free today