



A Newsletter for Friends of Habitat CFC

## November 2015

### Greetings!

I know we're in November because the trees are almost bare and it's dark long before I leave the office, but the afternoon sunshine and high temperatures bely the calendar - making it feel like it's still summer. To some, this weather is a gift enabling a lighter jacket and an afternoon walk. To Habitat CFC, it's a welcome opportunity to keep working outside - finish an excavation, pour one more foundation, complete the siding and other work that will eventually cede to harsh winter weather.



Everything that we do at Habitat CFC is driven by a desire to help people realize the dream of home ownership and provide a safe, stable, affordable and decent place for their families to live. The effort begins with the acquisition of a suitable property, identification and qualification of a deserving family. A lot is cleared and a foundation poured while families go through their required educational programs. Before you know it - dozens of volunteers descend on the property, alongside our future homeowners, engaging in all aspects of the construction under the tutelage of our skilled project managers and the guidance of our dedicated core volunteers.

As families approach the completion of their 500 hours of sweat equity and the property that began as an empty or blighted lot begins to take shape and look like a home, the legal and financial processes begin. At this point, the excitement and pressure mounts. All of us want to see the purchase completed and a family move in and begin their new lives as soon as possible. You can help speed up the process for a hard working family by joining us. More hands make for quicker progress on our new homes. Call our office at 203-333-2642 or visit <http://www.habitatcfc.org/volunteer> for information on volunteering. As our neighbor, the late Paul Newman said, "Helping is its own reward. It's surprising how it just feels right." I promise you won't be disappointed.

Sincerely,

Stuart D. Adelberg

## News

### Celebrity Chefs and Fantastic Food Made Gourmet Tasting a Hit!



Our Women Build program's 7th Annual Gourmet Tasting, held in October, set a new record for funds raised! A full house of attendees enjoyed culinary samplings provided by local restaurants, caterers and chefs in Aitoro's state of the art kitchens in its Norwalk showroom.

The Gourmet Tasting featured fantastic food selections from the following culinary hosts: A Dash of Salt (Weston/Norwalk), Avellino's (Fairfield), Garden Catering (Greenwich), New Level Academy (Bridgeport), Tazza Osteria (Fairfield), La Paella (Norwalk), Norm Bloom and Son's Cops Island Oysters (Norwalk), and The Crafty Monk (Bridgeport). And Celebrity Chef and Food Network's "Chopped" Champion, Silvia Baldini, was on hand providing a cooking demonstration.

The event was sponsored by Aitoro Appliances, UBS, the Elizabeth and Joseph Massoud Family Foundation, Home Serve USA, Hemingway Custom Cabinetry, ARC Document Solutions, Manhattan Equipment Rental and many individual donors. Thank you to our sponsors for helping us make the night so successful!



Women Build is a Habitat for Humanity program that enables women to become involved in their communities to raise funds and build safe, affordable homes for hard-working Fairfield County families. All proceeds from the evening will benefit Habitat CFC's 12th Women Build home to be built in 2016. Women Build 12 will be built in memory of long-time Habitat volunteer and devoted 9/11 activist, Beverly Eckert. To see more photos from the event check [here](#).

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### ***An Unexpected Gift***

You never know what will happen when you bring new people together. At Habitat CFC's recent Gourmet Tasting held at Aitoro Appliances, something happened that was not part of the night's plan....

When Tony Aitoro, owner of Aitoro Appliances and sponsor of the event, found out that one of the culinary hosts for the night, New Level Academy's Recipe for Success International, was in need of a new stove, he stepped forward and promised to provide the Bridgeport based caterer and teacher with a new stove from his store!



Tony Aitoro and Marcella Lawson

Emotions ran high for attendees and for Marcella Lawson, Founder and CEO, because this generous gift will allow New Level Academy to expand its *lifeskills through the culinary arts*

program and offer more classes to community. Marcella can't wait to have the new stove delivered and start cooking!

## Fairfield University Students Continue Pope Francis Build Efforts...



Since we broke ground on the Pope Francis House, Fairfield University students have come out a number of times to work on the project. Many thanks to this group of individual students who came out to build with us on November 4th. Not only did they do a heavy day of work putting up siding on our Pope Francis House, they presented Habitat CFC with \$527 in donations they collected for the Pope Francis build!

The Pope Francis House (George Street, Bridgeport) is partially sponsored by an anonymous donation. The donor has been inspired by Pope Francis's dedication to social justice, equality and peace and has sponsored 58 Pope Francis Habitat houses throughout the country! In Connecticut, we hope to inspire others by inviting volunteers from local churches and schools to participate in the construction of this home as well as to make a donation to the build.

We need your help! Contact Habitat CFC at 203-333-2642 to contribute or email [volunteer@habitatcfc.org](mailto:volunteer@habitatcfc.org) to volunteer!

**No child should grow up without a safe place to call home.**



[Watch Video](#)

At Habitat CFC, we believe that every child needs a place to call home. A place where they can grow up healthy, be safe and learn. Your tax-deductible donation of even as little as \$20 a month could help a family build a more secure future. [Give today!](#)

**RESTORE Shop! Donate Stuff! Volunteer!**



The **Stratford ReStore** is a division of Habitat CFC. The ReStore connects unwanted new and gently used building materials, appliances, furniture, household goods and more with people who can use them. These ReStore purchases support the mission of Habitat of eliminating

substandard housing in Fairfield County.

The ReStore is undergoing a 20,000 sq feet expansion. This will make the Stratford Restore one of the 10 largest ReStores in the Country. There are currently over 900 ReStores operating in the USA and 5 in other countries. Stay tuned for further updates....

### Store Location

1785 Stratford Avenue (Store entrance is on Honeyspot Road)  
Stratford, CT 06615

### Store Hours

Tuesday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Closed Sunday - Monday & Holidays

To donate, call or e-mail the ReStore hotline: 203-383-4358  
donate@restorecfc.org

### Find the ReStore on:

Our Website [ReStore Website](#)  
Facebook: [Stratford Habitat Restore](#)  
Craigslist [ReStore Craigslist](#)

**You never know what you will find at CT's largest combined  
used furniture and building supply showroom...**



#### Corner piece

Price: \$199

[See more](#)



#### Carpet pieces

Price: \$3 each

[See more](#)

## Upcoming Events

### SAVE THE DATE

Join us at the newly opened Fairfield Theatre Company Warehouse in Fairfield, CT  
for Habitat CFC's biggest **Party** of the year!

**Cocktails + Dinner + Silent & Live Auction + Music +  
Dancing**

Saturday, February 27, 2016

6:30 - 11:00 p.m.

[Click here](#) to be added to the Party's mailing list.

## More Ways to Get Involved



[DONATE](#)



[VOLUNTEER](#)



[APPLY](#)

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)



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**Downsizing? Renovating? You Donate, We Pick Up!**



**1785 Stratford Ave., Stratford, CT 06615**

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