

# **Habitat for Humanity®** of Coastal Fairfield County



*Core Volunteer Betty McPherson (5th from left) celebrating her 90th Birthday with Habitat staff and friends.*

## Habitat CFC's January 2017 Newsletter



Dear Friends,

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." I have seen this quote attributed to Sir Winston Churchill, but I share it today because it epitomizes Betty McPherson. I was grateful for the opportunity last week to join with others and help Betty celebrate her 90th birthday. Betty has made Habitat for Humanity a part of her life for almost 30 years, and even her big birthday didn't stop her. She was here at the Habitat CFC office that day – not for the surprise celebration that she didn't know we were planning – but because it was Wednesday and that's the day every week that Betty spends volunteering with us.

Betty told us that she started volunteering with Habitat CFC in 1988 – and she remembers helping to build a house on Clinton Avenue in Bridgeport – apparently only the second home built by our organization. Betty worked on build sites for quite a number of years, as she said, "hammering nails" before deciding that it was time to shift her efforts into our office.

Betty understands the importance of a stable, decent home for every family. She recognizes the value of volunteers, partner families, donors and others coming together to build simple, energy efficient, high quality homes. Betty has seen the positive impact we have on neighborhoods, when a hard working family has the opportunity to purchase the home they helped build, at a price they can afford, with a zero interest mortgage.

Every Wednesday when Betty is done with her "work" for the day, she says, "See you next week - weather permitting." We are thrilled and grateful that Betty continues to share the life she is making with Habitat CFC. Happy Birthday, Betty! We hope to have you here every Wednesday for another 30 years – weather permitting!

Sincerely,

*Stuart D. Adelberg*

**Stuart D. Adelberg**  
Chief Executive Officer

[Donate now](#)

## news

### *12th Women Build House Dedicated to Rosanna Dotel and her Family*



*The Dotels receiving a quilt handmade just for them by CT Piecemakers Quilt Guild. There will still be time for the family to use it this winter as they will move into their new home in just a few short weeks!*

In January we dedicated **Habitat CFC's 12th Women Build house** to **Rosanna Dotel** and her three children.

The 12th Women Build home is also in honor of longtime Habitat CFC core volunteer Beverly Eckert. Beverly's husband was killed on September 11, 2001. Following his death, Beverly channeled her pain and anguish into helping others and serving her community. In 2009, Beverly and several other 9/11 family members met with President Obama to advocate for airline safety. Just a few days later, she was killed in a plane crash. Beverly is remembered not only as a 9/11 widow but as a selfless and irreplaceable Habitat volunteer.

The family will move into their new home on Davenport Street in just a few weeks. "I am excited to become a Habitat CFC homeowner and especially proud to be buying the 12th Women Build home that has been built in Beverly Eckert's honor," said Rosanna.



*Andrea Stone, Chair of HabitatCFC's Women Build program, addresses the crowd.*

For more photos of the dedication, visit [here](#). To learn more about Women Build, visit [here](#).

## *PALMco Energy Provides One Year Free Energy to the Pamphile Family!*



Habitat CFC supporter, [PALMco Energy](#), will be supplying Habitat CFC's Pamphile family with one year of free electricity and natural gas supply. Last November, PALMco Energy team members participated in a Corporate Build Day and couldn't forget the experience.

"Our team came out to Connecticut to volunteer on a Habitat build site and we were so moved by the experience we knew we needed to do something more. It was a natural fit for us to donate a year's supply of energy to a Habitat home. The communities in which we serve mean so much to us and we are excited to give back and support the Pamphile family as they settle into their first home," said Robert Palmese, President of PALMco Energy. "Habitat CFC is doing wonderful work by helping first time homeownership become an affordable choice for hardworking families and we are so proud to continue our partnership with Habitat by providing new homeowners, the Pamphile family, with a year's worth of free electricity and natural gas supply."

"We are absolutely speechless. Words cannot describe how much we truly appreciate PALMco's kindness and how much it will help our family," said Wesley Pamphile. "So we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. One act of kindness can make a world of difference."

To learn more about Corporate Build Days, check [here](#).

---

### ***Habitat CFC, LISC and AmeriCorps Working Towards Long-Term Solutions***

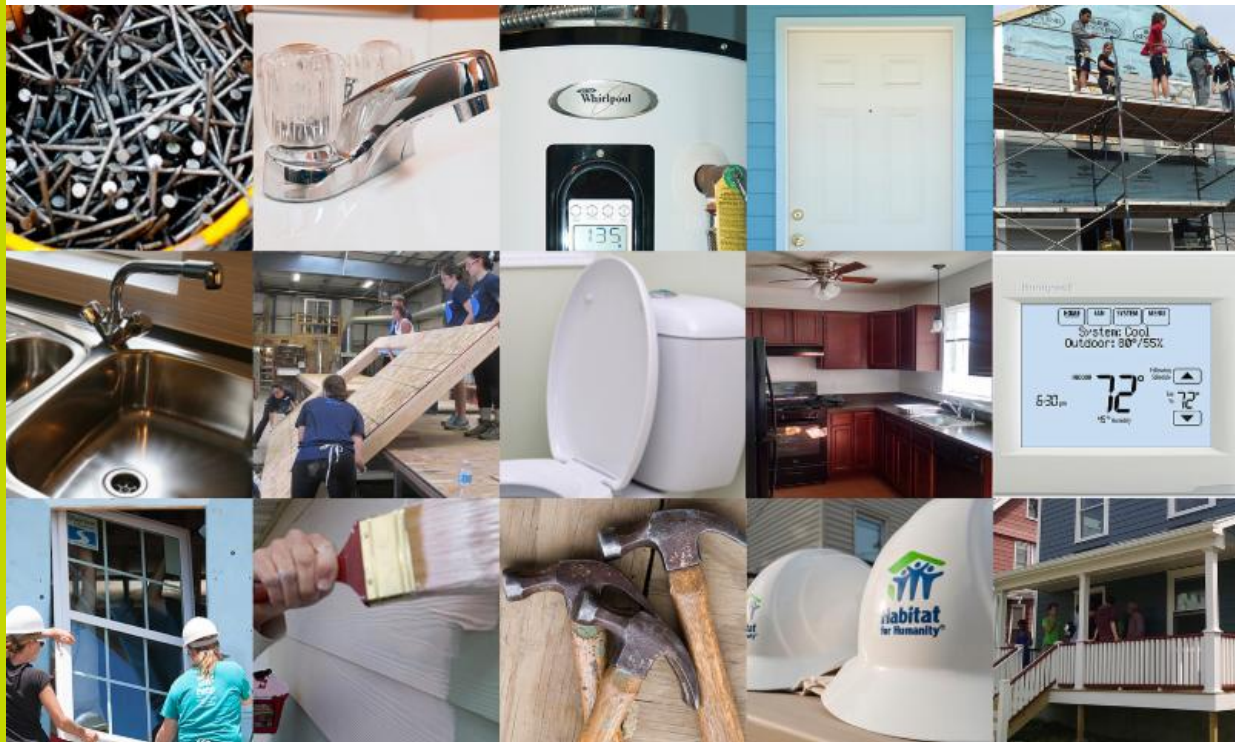
**Matt Bewley**, our **Systems VISTA**, has been attending Habitat CFC mortgage signings, new applicant orientations and staff meetings to learn how the organization functions and to better understand the challenges Habitat CFC staff faces. Matt's goal over the next nine months is to map out the many steps that go into creating an affordable home ownership opportunity and help the staff identify possible ways to streamline processes, eliminate duplicate efforts and hopefully shorten the time it takes to acquire properties, build homes, select partner families, secure funding, educate homeowners, recruit and schedule volunteers, and every other step leading to a home sale. "We already know that Habitat CFC builds quality homes and has a track record of homeowner success. But when all the pieces of the organization fit together and are operating as efficiently as possible, it will be easier for Habitat CFC to build even more homes for hard-working, low-income families," said Matt.





It seems fitting that two of Habitat CFC's long-term partners, the **Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)** and **AmeriCorps** have helped make Matt's position possible. Habitat CFC received a grant from LISC to partially fund the position and AmeriCorps has provided the VISTA project structure from which he works. "Habitat CFC, LISC and AmeriCorps are all about long-term solutions and this project is the ultimate long-term solution. The outcome will make Habitat CFC's work easier and more impactful for years to come!" said Matt.

### *Gifts That Make a Difference...*



Make a donation by purchasing items such as **Home Essentials**, **Tools** and **Construction Materials**. By doing so, you will help Habitat CFC build more homes for families in need in Fairfield County.



### Window

**Price: \$100**

When you install a new window in a Habitat home, you're providing the opening to a brighter future. It's more than a window, it's a symbol of opportunity and hope. Provide a window today and give the gift of a better tomorrow to a family in need.

[Order Now](#)



### Hammers (3)

**Price: \$50**

Hammers are the music makers of a Habitat build. Their sound rings out a message of hope, opportunity and a life being changed. As they pass through the hands of the thousands of volunteers and partner families building homes, they are literally hammering out poverty housing.

[Order Now](#)

[Select from more items](#)

## events

**Habitat for Humanity**  
of Coastal Fairfield County

# Havana nights

## 2017 Benefit

Saturday, February 25, 2017  
6:30 - 11:00 p.m.

**FAIRFIELD THEATRE COMPANY**  
WAREHOUSE  
70 Sanford Street,  
Fairfield, CT (Valet Parking)

cocktails dinner dancing  
silent auction

Featuring the Pasofino Social Club playing live Latin music.

## Habitat CFC's 2017 Benefit

Saturday, February 25, 2017

6:30-11:00 p.m.

**FAIRFIELD THEATRE COMPANY WAREHOUSE**  
70 Sanford Street, Fairfield, CT (Valet Parking)

Join us for Havana Nights. You won't want to miss our largest party of the year with full bar and mojito cocktails, Cuban cuisine seated dinner by OnTheMarc, dancing, silent auction and the Pasofino Social Club playing live Latin music! We held our benefit at the Fairfield Theatre Company Warehouse last year and our guests had so much fun that we've decided to come back! The location is steps away from Metro North's



"Fairfield" train station (not Fairfield Metro station), or drive and drop your car at the door with complimentary valet parking.

[View Invitation](#)

More Info or to Register Now



## Youth United's Hoops for Habitat

**Saturday, April 1, 2017**  
**9:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.**

On **Saturday, April 1, 2017** Habitat CFC will hold our **8th Annual "Hoops for Habitat" basketball-scoring competition**, clinic and fundraising event to benefit Habitat CFC. This fun event will be held at the **McGivney Center, 338 Stillman Street in Bridgeport**. The event is sponsored by Youth United, a program for young people age 5-22, that helps support the home-building projects of Habitat CFC. Participants of the scoring contest will be divided into four divisions: elementary school (grades 1-5), middle school (grades 6-8), high school (grades 9-12) and college. Each contestant will have a limited amount of time to make as many baskets as possible. Prizes will be awarded to the top scorer in each division. Former NBA players will run the basketball clinics.

**So start practicing. Registration will be posted [here](#) soon!**



## It's Hammer Time!

Join us for a *Ladies Only Competition* to raise funds for Women Build's 13<sup>th</sup> Home



### Thursday, May 11

5 - 8:30 PM  
Eastern Greenwich Civic Center

[www.habitatcfc.org/SNI2017](http://www.habitatcfc.org/SNI2017)

@HabitatCFCWomenBuild

## "She Nailed It!" Social and Competition

Thursday, May 11, 2017

5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

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

Featuring Appetizers, Desserts, Beer and Wine

Habitat CFC's Women Build is gearing up for the 2nd Annual **"She Nailed It!" Social and Competition**. Funds raised from the event will support the building of the 13th Women Build home in Fairfield County.

For information on **how to form a team**, **purchase spectator tickets** and **register** (open Feb 11) click [here](#).

## Come See What Treasures You Can Find at the ReStore



1785 Stratford Avenue, Stratford  
Just off exit 31 I-95  
(store entrance is on Honeyspot Rd.)

### ReStore Hours:

Tuesday-Friday 10am to 6pm  
Saturday 9am to 4pm,  
Closed Sunday and Monday

**Multiple rooms covering over 40,000 sq. ft displaying construction items, appliances and home furnishings all for sale at discount prices!**

To stay up to-date on the ReStore happenings and daily inventory updates, check the ReStore Facebook page [here](#).

The ReStore accepts donations of furniture, appliances and home remodeling goods from companies and individuals. Call 203-383-4358 or email: [donate@restorecfc.org](mailto:donate@restorecfc.org) if you need a pick up.



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