

# Habitat NEWS

## Farm to Table Dinner Party: \$65,000 Raised!



On Saturday, May 1, Habitat for Humanity hosted its first ever Farm to Table Dinner Party: At Home Edition! Chef Paris prepared 274 meals which were handed out at the sold-out event along with goody bags from title sponsor, **Shannon Kennedy, Broker, Hodge & Kittrell Sotheby's International Realty**. Between ticket sales, sponsorships, an online silent auction featuring over 35 items and bundles, and a Peloton raffle (won by Lisa Jones!), the event raised over \$65,000! Thank you to additional sponsors Pinnacle Financial Partners, PNC, and Wegmans.

Thank you for building a world where everyone has a decent place to live.  
**We couldn't do it without you!**





*"All the volunteers reported the same thing: it was hard work but they want to do it again!"*

# A day spent raising walls and funds with Habitat

With the weather getting warmer and COVID-19 restrictions loosening, events and build shifts are back at Habitat. May 1 was an especially busy day with two exciting events: the first on site Women Build volunteer shifts of 2021 and our first ever Farm to Table Dinner Party: At Home Edition. One Habitat supporter, Sheila Burgard, saw both of these events as opportunities to bring her pod together for some in-person fun to support a good cause.

Sheila first became involved with Habitat when her son Eddie was hired as a Site Supervisor in the fall of 2019. One of her first volunteer shifts was with Women Build. She was immediately hooked and joined the planning committee shortly after that. As a committee member, Sheila was tasked with assisting with volunteer recruitment. She immediately turned to her own friends and family as potential volunteers on site. On May 1, thirteen of Sheila's friends and family, including some of her sisters (two of whom traveled from Pennsylvania to build!), neighbors, co-workers and daughter-in-law and family gathered for a day of framing and raising walls on the home being built under Eddie's supervision.

"I have six sisters and no brothers, and besides being psyched about Women 'anything,' we haven't seen each other for a year. So when I threw this idea out there, they jumped at the chance to be together and build something that would help a family," said Sheila.

To round out the day, the whole group gathered at Sheila's home to enjoy dinner prepared by Chef Paris Mishoe, which she picked up from the grab and go Farm to Table Dinner Party: At Home Edition event, Habitat's spring fundraiser.

"We had a great time on Saturday. All the volunteers reported the same thing: it was hard work but they want to do it again!"

**Thank you, Sheila and your pod, for your support of Habitat for Humanity!**



**Sheila and her son, Habitat Site Supervisor Eddie**



# The home that keeps on giving

While Habitat builds homes for people to live and grow in, life plans change and families sometimes need to move and sell their homes. Renne first bought her Habitat home in 2007 and has recently gone through the process of moving and selling her home with her husband Charles.

While Habitat has no ownership of the home's mortgage after the homebuyers close on it, Habitat does retain the right of first refusal, meaning if a homeowner wants to sell their home, Habitat first has the opportunity to buy it back. In most cases, Habitat does choose to buy back the home. The home is repurchased at its current market value, allowing the homeowners to take advantage of any appreciation that has occurred. Habitat then resells the home, providing another qualifying family with an affordable home.

"We got to buy an affordable home. Once we partnered with Habitat, we got to help build other people's homes and they got to build ours. We really built a bond with those people."

Renne's Habitat home is in the Fairview neighborhood in Hillsborough. She partnered with Carol Woods to fund and build the home and enjoyed building her home alongside future neighbors. Once they moved in, it didn't take long for her to get involved. Renne became President of the Homeowners Association, helped start a community garden and food bank, and planned various block parties for her neighbors to get to know each other.

While they have enjoyed living in their Habitat home, they are ready to downsize and move closer to family. The equity they've built in their Habitat home over the last 14 years is enabling them to buy a new home that is a better fit for their current life stage.

While they are moving out of the neighborhood, they will still be in the area and plan to stay involved with the community. "This is a home that is going to last. When we move, someone else will have this. The next family will feel the love that was built here," said Renne!



Renne



*Soon, a new family will move into an affordable Habitat home just like this one thanks to the Repurchase Program*

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Matthew Henrickson

Matt first came to Orange Habitat as a Site Supervisor in May of 2016 and has worked his way up as our Construction Manager. Matt has been all over, living at one time in places from Ohio, South Carolina, and Alaska and traveling to places like China, Mexico, and on several Habitat Global Village trips including Honduras and Guatemala.



Matthew Henrickson

### Favorite bands/musicians:

Pearl Jam, Rebelution, Stevi Ray Vaughn, BB King, Joe Bonamassa, Mos Def, Talib Kwali, MF Doom, Ozomatli, Jurassic 5, Metallica, The Beatles, almost any Classical music.

**When am I the happiest:** I am happy if I am on any body of water, but the happiest at the beach or on the ocean.

**Best summer job:** I worked as a deckhand on a charter fishing boat in Alaska after my junior year in college and then again right after I graduated. I also worked on a commercial longliner there amongst other things while living on the beach with several other fisherpeople for those two summers.

**Which living person do you admire most:** There is a woman named Rose who lives just outside Port-au-Prince, Haiti whom I met when I was there in 2003. She grew up in Haiti then moved to Miami and was working as a nanny and housekeeper for a wealthy couple. This couple provided her a nice condo and car as well as paid her a decent salary. She was unhappy despite all of this, sold everything, moved back to Haiti not knowing what she wanted to do. She ended up meeting and taking in two orphan boys and eventually quite a few other children. She started a school, church, and orphanage when she realized these children didn't have any of that. She is one of the most driven and faithful people I have ever met in my life. She lives day to day, sometimes not knowing how she will eat but believing that somehow, she will make it happen, and works harder than I can ever imagine.

**Getting involved with Habitat:** I grew up volunteering with Habitat with my dad. I think I was three years old the first job site I "worked" on carrying 2x4s with homebuyers' kids. After graduating college, I was working at restaurants waiting tables and found out that the Construction Manager in Columbia, South Carolina (whom I had gotten to know through volunteering there on spring and fall break trips) needed help and he asked if I wanted a job to which I responded, "give me three weeks." At that point in my life, I was 25, kind of knew how to use power tools, and had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. That was ten and a half years ago; I spent five and a half years working with Central South Carolina Habitat and just celebrated my fifth year here at Orange Habitat in May.

# Support Habitat through AmazonSmile!

**Amazon has donated over \$100 million in funds to nonprofits through its AmazonSmile program.**

To participate, all you have to do is visit [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and select Habitat for Humanity of Orange County in Chapel Hill, NC as your charity of choice. The site and selection are no different from [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), but when you purchase through the link, Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to your selected charity.

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.



## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS! Community Shifts are Open!

**With COVID-19 restrictions loosening, we are excited to welcome individuals 16 and older to volunteer on our site through Community Volunteer shifts!**

Shifts are from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a lunch break. Volunteers must register at least 24 hours in advance. Visit [www.orangehabitat.volunteerhub.com](http://www.orangehabitat.volunteerhub.com) to sign up and <https://www.orangehabitat.org/covid19/on-site-protocols-update> read the most updated COVID policies including our mask requirements.

Current opportunities to build are at **Odie Street in Hillsborough and Cobb Street in Carrboro.** No experience is necessary; we will teach you and provide all tools and safety equipment.

**Questions? Contact** [volunteer@orangehabitat.org](mailto:volunteer@orangehabitat.org).



**Contact Us and Stay Connected!**

919-932-7077 | [info@orangehabitat.org](mailto:info@orangehabitat.org) | [www.orangehabitat.org](http://www.orangehabitat.org) |    [@orangehabitat](https://www.instagram.com/orangehabitat)