

Family celebrates Christmas in new home built by Habitat

When 5-year-old Mary Daily woke up on Christmas morning, her dearest holiday wish already had come true, because she woke up in her very own bedroom in a brand-new house built by Habitat for Humanity.

Her new home isn't the work of Santa and his elves; rather, it's the result of more than six months of hard work by a dedicated group of local Habitat volunteers, as well as her parents, who put in more than 600 hours of labor on the construction of the home. The house is the fifth to be built by Habitat in Wyoming County.

The Daily family, which includes parents John and Pat Daily, and daughters Mary and Alyssa, 7, recently celebrated the completion of their home at a dedication ceremony attended by the volunteers, donors and friends who helped make the house possible.

"For us, this is really a dream come true," Pat Daily told the assembled group, her eyes filling with tears. "Our children will have a wonderful place to grow up, and this wouldn't have been possible if weren't for all of you. This is going to be the best Christmas ever!"

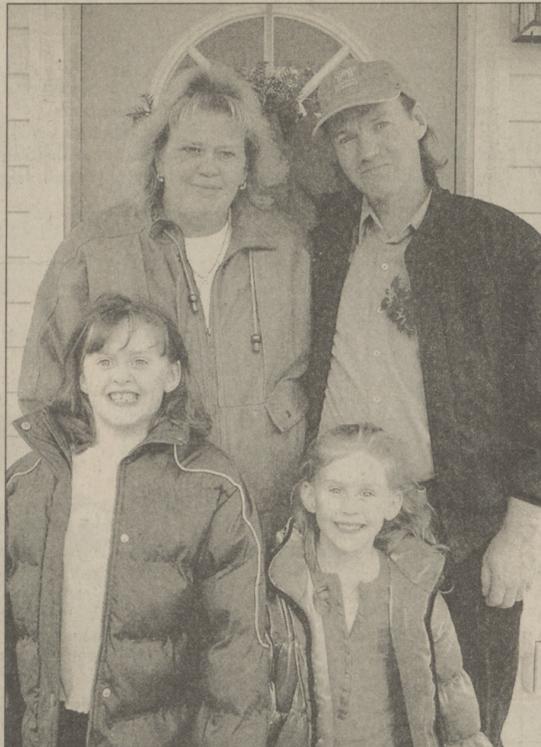
"We're all volunteers, but in reality, we've been paid very generously," said longtime Habitat volunteer Peter Nurse of Springville, who contributed

countless hours to the project. "That is a payment far beyond money; you can't imagine how valuable that is."

The new homeowners clocked approximately 650 volunteer hours — 250 more hours than required by the Habitat program. During the rough carpentry work, Pat didn't hesitate to lug around big sheets of plywood or to learn how to use a nail gun; when Habitat had trouble finding a drywall contractor, John jumped in and started sheetrocking the smaller rooms himself. Even their daughters helped out, wielding little brooms and dustpans to help keep the house shipshape during construction.

Also commended at the ceremony for their hard work were numerous volunteers, including Nick Perez, Jr. of Perez Construction in Tunkhannock and Peter Nurse, who received special recognition awards for their dedication to the project. Perez led the rough carpentry and exterior finish work on the house, while Nurse led the plumbing, heating, insulation, and utilities efforts.

Other volunteers recognized for their leadership included Keith and Jason Vandemark (excavation), Bill Host (roofing), Shawn Miller (drywall), Bob Kulow (electrical), Chris DeMarco (front and back



Pat and John Daily and their daughters, Alyssa, 7, and Mary, 5, moved into their Habitat for Humanity home in Mehoopany just in time for Christmas.

porches), George Macialek and Dave Conklin (interior trim), Ken Price (flooring), John Voda, and Frank Macedonio.

Endless Mountains Habitat for Humanity is an all-volunteer, non-profit, non-government organization that builds homes for low-income working families who would otherwise be unable to own their own homes. Habitat's work is made

possible through the donations of time, money, and materials from the local community. Endless Mountains Habitat for Humanity serves families in Wyoming County.

For more information about Endless Mountains Habitat for Humanity, call 836-3067. Donations may be mailed to: EMHFH, P.O. Box 308, Tunkhannock, PA 18657.

Land Trust honors top volunteer

Among the festivities at its 2004 Potluck Dinner, the North Branch Land Trust honored its "Volunteer of the Year," Mel Rich of Mountaintop Productivity Solutions. Rich has spent several hundred volunteer hours working on database solutions for NBLT, and has agreed to let NBLT become the beta test site for his soon-to-be-released information management system.

Dave Martin of Centermoreland was the recipient of the door prize. Dave received a deluxe bird feeder and bag of black oil sunflower seeds that was donated by Wild Birds Unlimited of Dallas.

The most humorous door prize was won by Jean Pope of Tunkhannock. Before the win-

ner was announced, dinner guests were told that a nice yellow touring kayak was being donated by David Buck of Endless Mountain Outfitters. There were a few "oohs" and "ahhs" from the audience. When the winning ticket was pulled, Pope sheepishly acknowledged that she was the ticket holder. Not being a kayaker, everyone could tell that she was not thrilled with being the winner. However, everyone laughed uproariously when Buck removed it from his pocket and delivered it to the table. It was a child's toy and all of 6 inches long.

To learn how you can help support land conservation in your community, visit www.nblt.org or call 696 5545.

Heating grants available for low-income UGI customers

UGI Utilities, Inc. is helping eligible gas and electric customers apply for federal energy assistance dollars to keep their homes warm this winter. These grants, which do not need to be repaid, help customers with limited or fixed incomes pay their heating bills, repair or replace a heater and avoid utility service shut off. Last winter over 13,700 UGI customers received money from this fund. The average grant was \$259.

Funds are limited and available on a first come, first served basis, so UGI urges customers to apply as soon as possible. For more information on federal energy assistance, customers should call UGI at 1-800-UGI-WARM (1-800-844-9276). UGI will provide information on the application process and assistance completing and submitting the required forms. To qualify for funds a customer must provide proof of income, a recent heating bill, and the name, birth date and Social Security number for each person in his or her household. A table of qualifying income lev-

els is attached.

At any time of the year, UGI customers who have a problem paying their utility bill are encouraged to contact UGI promptly for information on available assistance programs as well as payment arrangements. UGI Utilities' headquarters is located in Reading, PA. The utility serves 292,000 natural gas customers in 14 southeastern PA counties and 62,000 electric customers in portions of Luzerne and Wyoming counties. Additional information about UGI is available at www.ugi.com.

Maximum Income Levels for LIHEAP

Household Size	Annual Income	Monthly Income	Weekly Income
1	\$12,569	\$1,047	\$242
2	\$16,862	\$1,405	\$322
3	\$21,155	\$1,763	\$401
4	\$25,448	\$2,121	\$489
5	\$29,741	\$2,478	\$572
6	\$34,034	\$2,836	\$654
7	\$38,327	\$3,194	\$737
8	\$42,620	\$3,552	\$820
Add'l member (per person)	+\$4,293	+\$358	+\$83

Kingston Township winter parking ordinance in effect

Kingston Township Winter parking ordinance is effective through March 31, 2005. Under this ordinance, residents are prohibited from parking vehicles on streets between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. daily. Vehicles also are not permitted to be parked on streets during snowstorms, or for eight hours after the end of the storm. The ordinance is designed to keep streets open and clear so that snow removal measures can be effectively undertaken by the Public Works Department. Anyone with questions about the ordinance may call 696-1175.



New initiates welcomed into newly formed Beta Sigma

Shown are 17 educators who are initiates into the newly formed Beta Sigma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. From left, first row: Sarah Pryor, Tracey Halowich, Helene Dainowski, Marilyn Glogowski, Susie Young, Bonnie Turchin, Gail Keen, Mimi Koch. Second row: Lee Sikora, Noreen Gladey, Mary Ellen Fries, Erica Hasinus, Mary Slaby, Maureen Doerflor, Wendy Garrety, Patricia Jachimowicz, Darleen Smith. Absent is Candy Turberville.

IN SERVICE

Seaman Tarboro back from first deployment

More than 6,000 Sailors and Marines in the USS Wasp (LHD 1) Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) returned to their homeport of Norfolk, Va., this past fall after completing their first deployment as an ESG.

Among those on board the multipurpose amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) is Seaman Brian Tarboro, a 2000 graduate of Lake-Lehman High School, son of Anna-Marie Bandish of

Harveys Lake.

"I am an operations specialist," said Tarboro. "My job is to monitor radars and keep track of any vessels that enter our area."

Tarboro's ship serves as a primary landing vessel for the ESG, much like an aircraft carrier, to put troops on shore. Wasp is the flagship for the recently created Naval concept of an ESG, which combines the flexibility and power of the traditional amphibious ready group with the Marine Expeditionary Unit.

Traveling to places such as Jebel Ali, Seychelles, and Rota, Spain, allowed Wasp Sailors to experience the diversity of life

overseas.

"This deployment was my first, so I tried to do anything and everything that I could," said Tarboro. "The most interesting thing I did was watch some of the local artists work in Tarrogonia, Spain."

— By Bretta L. Heath, staff writer for Navy Public Affairs Center, Norfolk, Va.

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Navy Lt. Cmdr. Chris T. Petrock, whose wife, Jaclyn, is the daughter of Irene and Byron Race of Lehman, and his fellow shipmates recently returned from a routine scheduled deployment to the Arabian Gulf, while assigned to the air-

craft carrier USS John F. Kennedy, homeported in Mayport, Fla. Petrock is one of more than 7,600 Sailors and Marines aboard the ships of the Kennedy carrier strike group.

Carriers like the Kennedy are deployed throughout the world to maintain U.S. presence and provide rapid response in times of crisis. They serve as a highly visible deterrent to would-be aggressors, and are equipped with the most versatile and powerful weapons and aircraft available.

For more information on the deployment and high resolution photographs visit the USS John F. Kennedy website at <http://www.navy.mil>

Legion gives to library

The Dallas American Legion, Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 recently approved a \$250 donation to the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The donation will help the library to purchase some library resources related to the history of the U.S. military. Pictured during the check presentation is Post Cdr. John M. Emil Sr. and Marilyn Rudolph, children's librarian.



Dock insurance again available

The Harveys Lake Protective Association is again offering dock insurance. The cost remains at \$20 per front pile, with a \$100 minimum. That gives a dock owner up to \$3,000 coverage. For more information, call Mark Sobek at 714-5326.

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