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Habitat for Humanity of Seneca County

Rehab effort is ahead of plan

Work on our rehabilitation project in Ovid has been progressing ahead of schedule.

The rough electrical system has been installed, and the plumbing and heating systems have passed their inspections. The new windows have been installed, and soon attention will turn to new siding, the new roof and insulation and dry-wall installation.

Work continues three days a week — Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays — and there's always room for more people to join in.

If you are interested in helping but don't want to try your hand at construction, you could aid the effort by providing lunches for the workers on the work days.

The same core group that built the home on Adams Street in Seneca Falls is once again doing yeoman duty in Ovid. They've been joined by some new volunteers who have helped push the project

forward. The goal had been to finish by the end of September, but it may be sooner. That will depend on the number of volunteers who turn out to lend a hand.

We've had some groups helping us out lately. A crew of parolees from the Willard Drug Treatment Center has helped with footings for the back porch, and a group of student electricians from

the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES installed the wiring under the supervision of their instructor.

If you'd like to help, call the affiliate's telephone number, (315) 568-4872 and leave a message or show up at the work site on a work day.

The updated work schedule is posted on the affiliate's web site (<http://www.habitatseneca.org>).

Lodi family selected for Ovid home

Robert Baker and his son, Chad, have been selected as the Partner Family for the Ovid home.

They were selected from among those who applied for the home in a process which began last winter. Some issues which had to be resolved prevented their selection from being announced earlier.

Mr. Baker has been working most Tuesdays and Thursdays at the house, and Chad is excited about his new home. They also spent some time at our booth during CanalFest, and joined the golfers for dinner at our Golf Tournament on June 13.

Chad, 11, is a student in South Seneca Schools

New officers, board members elected

New officers and board members were elected at the affiliate's annual meeting on June 11, and many people will be taking on new roles.

The most visible will be the change in president, with Marilyn McDougal of Waterloo replacing John Scanlon of Fayette.

We also will have a new treasurer. Menzo Case will replace Lucille Cook in the job.

In addition to Menzo Case, two others are joining the board for the first time. Patrick Sayer and David Griffith, both of Ovid, were elected to two-year terms.

The affiliate's vice president, James VanKirk of Seneca Falls, and secretary, Martin Toombs of Seneca Falls, were re-elected to their posts.

The changes are effective July 1, the start of our fiscal year. Officer and Executive Committee terms are for one

year; board members are elected to two-year terms.

John Scanlon, who chaired our affiliation effort beginning in the fall of 1998, became our president in April of 1999 when we first organized ourselves. He didn't want to continue as president.

As the Nominating Committee discussed the problem of replacing John, it had to contend not just with filling the important job of the presidency but with all the other jobs he was performing as well. As a result, there are other changes which also were implemented.

Tony Ganzon, who had served as the Executive Committee member responsible for the Site Selection and Construction Committees, also had expressed an interest in reducing his involvement in the affiliate.

As a result, John Scanlon will be taking Tony's place on the Executive Committee and will continue his involvement with the construction effort in a new role. Ganzon remains a board member.

Robert Nelson of Seneca Falls has volunteered to take over another function which had been performed by John Scanlon. He will be taking care of the mail received in our mailbox, passing donations to the treasurer and sending thanks to donors.

Lucille Cook of Seneca Falls also

will remain on the Executive Committee, but in a new role. She'll be serving as the member for Functional Groups, which includes Church Affiliations, Volunteer Recruitment and College Affiliations. She's taken on a role which has been vacant since it was created.

McDougal has chaired our Site Selection effort since the affiliate was founded. She still needs to be replaced in that role to free her to concentrate on the job of being president.

Menzo Case, who with his wife, Sue, spearheaded the Annual Dinner fund-raising event last month, previously served as treasurer with the Habitat affiliate in Fulton, N.Y.

David Griffith is a former mayor of the Village of Ovid and Patrick Sayer is a former supervisor of the Town of Ovid.

On July 1, the Executive Committee members will be: President Marilyn McDougal; Vice President James VanKirk; Treasurer Menzo Case; Secretary Martin Toombs; John Scanlon, Site Selection and Construction; Ann Heizmann, Development; and Lucille Cook, Functional Groups.

Also serving on the board will be: Dennis Bender, William Cross, Tony Ganzon, Rev. David Gramkee, Edward Leonard, Robert Nelson, Scott Porter, John Sandroni, Paul Sandroni, David Griffith and Patrick Sayer.

Upcoming Dates

Executive Committee

Monday, July 9, 7:15 p.m.
Goulds Water Systems
Seneca Falls

Big party to mark Habitat's 25th anniversary

Habitat for Humanity International will turn 25 in the fall, and the event will not go without notice.

While Habitat doesn't have annual conventions, there will be one this year, from Sept. 13-15 in Indianapolis.

Former Congressman and former Buffalo Bills quarterback Jack Kemp will be the featured speaker for an event on Sept.

13 at the Indianapolis race track. Former President Jimmy Carter and Millard Fuller, the founding president of Habitat, will headline the gala planned for Sept. 15.

In between there will be training seminars, meetings, performances of a play written for the event and some home building.

Those who are interested in attending

the events can contact the affiliate office for further information or visit the Habitat web site (<http://www.habitat.org>) for more information. There also will be information available on our affiliate's web site (<http://www.habitatseneca.org>).

To clear the calendar for the international event, there will be no regional training programs this fall.

Next up: Dog show dinners

The Golf Tournament, our first Annual Dinner and CanalFest are all behind us now.

Each was a success in its own right, with that success based on the efforts of many volunteers who helped out with each one. In many cases the volunteers were different, and that was good to see as well.

Fund raising is a job that's never done, however.

We also have two ongoing projects. Kitty Peterson is working on the collection of deposit bottles and cans, and Donna Sparrow is working to put those little yellow houses in key

spots to receive donations.

The next major effort will be at the Wine Country Dog Shows in September at Sampson State Park.

We will be serving a chicken barbecue on Sept. 28 and a ziti dinner on Sept. 29. More than 5,000 flyers for the dinners have gone out to prospective participants in the dog show and the dinners could become very profitable events for us.

Volunteers will be needed to help serve the dinners on both evenings that weekend. Lucille Cook is organizing the effort for us.

Are you waiting to get a call asking for help?

A few people who've signed up to work with us during the past couple years have yet to step forward and do so.

It seems that part of the reason may be that they're waiting for someone to give them a call and invite them or ask them for assistance.

If you are one of those, please let this be your call. We can always use more help with all of the tasks which make the affiliate's operations and home building possible.

At times volunteers do make calls asking for specific assistance, and we appreciate it when you can say yes. But when everything is said and done, we are all just volunteers trying to get a big job done. That will be aided immensely if you take the initiative to let us know you are willing to help.

If you want to help at the house, show up on the work days and pitch in. If you want to provide some other assistance, call the Habitat office at (315)568-4872 and let us know, or contact the related chair directly if you know who that is.