



Lydia Walker and Swede Little refinish the bathroom in the Kreideman home. Photo by Judy



County Commissioner Larry Yergler & SVFCH PR Chair Judy Blalack spoke at a Silver Valley Greater Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting chaired by Shirley McClain.

Photo by Phillip Ruff

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans'

2nd HARVEST

MOBILE FOOD BANK EVENT COMING UP!

Free food—fresh produce—breads—fruit—vegetables

May 19 in Pinehurst

July 7 in Wallace

September 15 in Kellogg

Call Dwight Hoeck, 664-6909, for more information.

*The Lord liveth;
And blessed be my rock;
and let the God of my salvation be exalted.*

Psalm 18:46

What's Happening At The Work Site?

By Verne Blalack

This year's work site is mainly at 204 Hill St. in Smeltonville. That's between B & C streets south of the main drag (near the hill). On the site, there is a house that (I'm told) was built in 1930. It obviously has been added on to at least three times. It has a full unfinished basement that has seven small rooms with ceiling heights under seven feet, meaning that no bedrooms, kitchens, or bathrooms can be located there. However, a laundry room does exist, and the other rooms can be used for storage. Upstairs we have 2 bedrooms, a bathroom, dining room, a living room, and 4 closets. A small open porch is entrance on the front and an enclosed entry porch is located at the back. A double garage adjoins the back alley and there is a small storage building in need of much repair. The front yard is enclosed with a four foot high chain link fence.

The homeowner-to be, Darnell Kreideman, is employed at Wal-Mart and the site was purchased so that she could save on transportation costs. It was purchased from HUD (Housing & Urban Development) for \$35,000. Jeff Crawford of Systems Design replaced the old gas furnace with a high efficiency one and replaced the old electric water heater with a gas one. He ran the gas lines so that we can replace the electric dryer and range with gas appliances. Electrical energy is now twice as expensive as natural gas.

Kevin Hutchings and Swede Little have replaced almost all the old plumbing and Swede and Lydia Walker have been working on the bathroom walls.

Bob Larson, Chris Leetch and Sharon Asher have framed a 2X4 wall inside the exterior walls of the basement with help from our homeowners-to-be, Darnell and Ben & Jacki Huber. We also have occasional help from Mike Humphrey, Don Ashcraft, and Kyle Kreideman. Now that the walls are framed, they are helping me rewire the house to meet the ever-changing electrical codes.

When the rough-in wiring is finished and inspected, we can insulate the basement walls. We will also build and attach a 2X6 insulated wall onto the exterior of the home and add more insulation in the attic. Super energy efficiency homes are needed by our low-income homeowners. Also, we don't build garages for them in order to enable these families to have an affordable home. Thus, we are seriously thinking about deducting the value of the garage from the cost of the site and using it for storage and for a work site since it has its own electric meter.

If you would like to help us help Darnell rehab a home she can afford, just let me know a day ahead of time. Call 682-3240.

Silver Valley Fuller Center for Housing's Impact on the Silver Valley

Low Income Family Home Construction (1/4 to 1/2 median income)

- ❖ 17 homes completed—17 families now paying taxes and becoming an integral part of our communities
- ❖ 1 of 4 building permits purchased in the Valley since Jan 1, 2011, for new or rehab homes—this one is located in Smelterville
- ❖ Footings poured for another home at Sunnyslopes.
- ❖ Collaborating with Shoshone Co. Housing (providing land in Mullan) for another low income home.
- ❖ We build “green” with extra insulation, thus lowering utility bills.

Providing opportunities for visitors to discover our area—thus becoming our ambassadors elsewhere.

- ❖ RV Builders in June—we still hear and receive donations from our first helpers in 1994! and from others since then ☺. Many RVers return.
- ❖ “Ride the Wall” attracts many riders from N. ID, Wash., & some other states.
- ❖ Fuller Center Bike Adventure will bring about 30 riders going from Olympia to Washington, DC. They arrive on June 17th, will work on construction on the 18th, and attend churches on the 18th.

Education * We provide instruction! *****

- ❖ We train our families how to become good homeowners—legal issues; repair; & especially in budgeting.
- ❖ We spend parts of 7 or 8 weeks each summer working with youth from the Shoshone Base Camp on our construction sites. [Since we now are doing “Greater Blessings Projects” (when we have funds), we will have more sites.]
- ❖ The Bike Group will be mostly untrained.
- ❖ We have hosted various high schools, NIC, & U of I groups.
- ❖ We work with “Community Service” people needing to put in their hours.
- ❖ We are willing to train volunteers who come to the work site.

ReUse Store

- ❖ We are selling donated appliances & materials, etc., at 204 Hill St, Smelterville—specific hours not yet set. Call Judy at 682-3240.
- ❖ Items are listed on our website www.svfch.org

Publicity

- ❖ We try to keep the public informed through our monthly “Silver Bulletin”—mailing 1400+, handing out about 200 and emailing 100.
- ❖ We have a web site www.svfch.org
- ❖ The News Press & KWAL hold interviews and publish notices.

We still have about 35 Little Shop tickets for sale.

Tickets available at: Kingston Kwick Stop, Real Life Ministries Café, Espresso Barn, Furniture Exchange, Bitterroot Mercantile, Josie's Full of Beans, Farmers Insurance, Osburn Gas-Mart, Indelible Tidbits, 1313 Club, Polla's Mart, all the US Banks & AmericanWest Banks in the Valley, Kellogg Lumber Co, Building Maintenance & Supply, and Ace Hardware. *If you don't want the building there is a bid of \$1000 for the winning ticket.*

LEARNING AS WE GO

By Verne Blalack

When our housing ministry was in its beginnings, the dream of community volunteers coming together and helping low income families build a simple, decent, affordable home was wonderful! That dream, after 17 years and 17 homes is still wonderful. Usually associated with that dream is a visual image of happily driving nails and raising walls. Even I (the old stoic) have to admit that building and raising the walls is fun. Volunteers also enjoy destroying things. In order to build our first home (Bob and Lisa Lane's) we had to remove their old shack. The weather was helpful and removal went well.

Then, one Saturday, the Board decided to personally join in on the fun of making the dream come true. That day it rained and ditches were dug with picks and shovels. Some of the Directors never worked on the actual site again! They made worthy contributions elsewhere: choosing families, raising funds, publicizing our efforts, etc. None-the-less, they frequently found unexpected challenges there also. Fortunately, overcoming challenges make you not only wiser, but also more self confident until you actually look forward to challenges because you know you'll be able to overcome them and learn something new in the process that will help you in the future.

Over the years we've realized that some of the family members, like some of our Board members, aren't very anxious to help build a home. In one family the parents couldn't agree on whether they should make their teenager sons work. As a result, the lazy sons never worked, (although I noticed they weren't reluctant to live there when they became adults!). In another family, I noticed that the wife rarely showed up at the job site until the home was nearly finished. I suspect she never really believed the dream would come true until it was almost a reality.

Anyway, at the last Board meeting the Board passed a resolution that no new families will be selected unless they agree that, if possible, all able family members 13 years and older will have to work an average of 6 hours per week until the home is completed. Henceforth, building a home will always be a family affair. Not only do we hope that this will help bond the family together, but we know that it will nullify the resentment of many of our volunteers who are giving up their time (and money) to help build a home for family members who are not willing to work themselves.



Our grant writer Christina Derbyshire meets Chairman, Sandy Patano, at an Inland Northwest Community Foundation's luncheon.

The keynote speaker, PJ Watters, said that they provide all one needs to have a donation or bequest entrusted to them to disperse in grants according to the donors' wishes. They accept cash, stocks, property, etc. In some cases, the donor can continue to live on the property. PJ clarified that the initial gift to establish an endowment would need to be \$10,000—later gifts can be less. You can reach her at 509-624-2606.

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Thank you, April Donors
Your showed us the silver lining
in April's rain clouds.

Jacques & Jan Lemieux, Jim & Norma Seaton, Tom & Michelle Kilbourne, Gary Stanley, Keith & Lois Dahlberg, Daniel McGee, Mary Woolum, Necia Wright, Tom & Connie Fudge, Lois White, Vern Hanson, Ron & Ladonna Boothe, Marie Carver, Patricia Minar, Marilyn White, Verne & Judy Blalack, Lloyd & Wilma Sanders, Haley Gosline, Patrick Russell, Terry Royce, Glory Carlile, Barb Elfsten, Pat & Joyce Dunphy, Wally & Barbara Huff, Yoke's Foods, Shoshone Medical Center, Dan & Shirley Schierman, Anonymous, Mark Thyr's-Farmers Insurance, Nathan Wendt-CPA, Don & Nancy Berger, Jack & Linda Wombolt, Connie & Steve Peterson

Coming Events

- May 8—Mother's Day
- May 10—Construction, Partnership, PR & Fundraising Committees, 6 PM, Mountain View Congregational Church
- May 10—Board, 7 PM, Mountain View Congregational Church
- May 19—2nd Harvest Food Bank, Pinehurst
- Jun 12—Welcoming dinner for RV Builders, 6 PM, Mountain View Congregational Church
- Jun 17-19—Bike Adventures
- Jun 21—Ride the Wall, 6 PM, Enaville Resort
- Jun 25—Pig Roast, 4-7, West Shoshone Park, Pinehurst

We are honored to receive these memorials.

- From Bob Fisher*
In memory of Jerry Milot
- From Helen Jacquemin*
In memory of Donna (Martin) Kulju
- From Verne & Judy Blalack*
In memory of Joseph "Bud" Lavergne
- From Geraldine Daugherty*
In memory of Jerry Milot

Greater Blessings Projects Fund

Judy & Verne Blalack
 Glory Carlile
 Assembly of God Church Kellogg
 Josephine Davis



We are delighted to receive a donation
from Dan & Shirley Schierman
honoring Lois Porter's Birthday.



Frank Gabriel, Wally Huff, and Verne load a full pickup of Huff's donations including a propane furnace and a double vanity with basins, faucets, and matching toilet. These items and others are for sale. Look on our website www.svfch.org under ReUse Store. Call 682-3240 to see them in Smeltonville.



Justin Curtis and Jeff Hill of Shoshone Medical Center load more items from the Pinehurst Chiropractic building onto Verne's "Old Blue" pickup.

Photos by Judy

Here's Help for SVFCH . . .

- ❖ I'd like to join the "300 Club" and pledge at least \$10 per month for one year. Please note 300 on your check.
- ❖ Here is my pledge for \$ _____ per month for one year.
- ❖ Here is my gift of \$ _____.
- ❖ I have a house and/or land to donate.
- ❖ I can make a no-interest loan for \$ _____. Please call about working out the details.
- ❖ I can provide construction materials either discounted or at no cost.
- ❖ I would like to help with construction and/or committee work. Please call me to help or send a volunteer form.

- I do not wish to be on your mailing list.
- I do not wish a receipt or thank-you.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please return to Silver Valley Fuller Center for Housing, Inc. ♦ P.O. Box 874, Kellogg, ID 83837 ♦ 786-6013



Jacki Huber and Sharon Asher measure before sawing.
Photo by Mike Humphrey



Verne loads a desk donated by Shoshone Medical Center from the old Pinehurst Chiropractic building.
Photo by Sharon Hewitt



Marilyn White and Jacki Huber greet folks at EXPO.
Photo by Mike Humphrey

The printing of this newsletter is courtesy of

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Supporters Like You



Wish List

Homeowner applicants
(call Marilyn at 753-4131 for application)

Gleaner—must use own pickup

Participants for "Ride the Wall" registration attached

Volunteer ReUse Store Manager
See available items at www.svfch.org

Helpers for the Fuller Center Bike Adventure's Stay—meals; transportation; invitations to churches on June 19
(call Nancie at 682-4027 or R'Gean at 682-3240)

Volunteers at the work site

Volunteer(s) helper with grant writing

RV Builders for our June build
see www.svfch.org for info