

TORNADO RELIEF

Larry and Beverly Pirkle were excited! The couple had spent 10 months building their dream home and they were finally moving in. Days later, a tornado took seconds to destroy everything but the cement slab.



Thanks to the combined efforts of Senator Arthur Orr, Commissioners Greg Abercrombie and Ray Long, Rev. Ray Crump and the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and Habitat for Humanity of Morgan County; the Pirkle family has begun to rebuild their home. We are looking for volunteers who can help us build, donate materials and professional labor, supply lunches, and pray for our needs to be met.

It's a big task. We need your help! Call the Habitat office (256-340-9609) or email us at info@morganhabitat.org to join this worthy cause!

LONG-TERM RECOVERY

Habitat staff member Landis Griffin has joined the local Long Term Recovery Committee in hopes of helping the community rebuild after the April 27th tornados. This group is made up of representatives from the Volunteer Center of Morgan County, Salvation Army, Community Action Partnership, United Way and FEMA. The purpose of this committee is to make sure no family slips through the cracks. The committee feels that with everyone working together, all needs within the community can be met. If your family or someone you know in Morgan County still



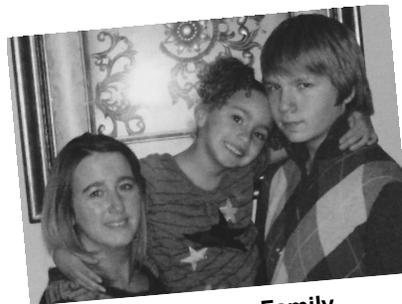
needs help, please contact Habitat or one of the non-profits listed above.



The Drinkard Family



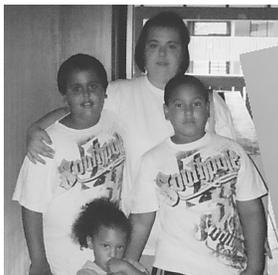
The Burt Family



The Kilgore Family



The Beason Family



The Jones Family



The Bolden Family



The James Family



The Parker Family



The Williams Family

Make the "American dream" come true for these families. With your donation, we can build houses AND hope.

CONTRIBUTORS

CARPENTER'S CLUB

Sherrie Maine—Master Builder
MarMac Real Estate—Rafters and Roof
Mark Schwan—Rafters and Roof
Ramsey & Donna Huffman—Joist and Wall
Cook's Pest Control—Brick and Mortar
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Kathery Bacigalupo
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First Baptist Church—Hartselle
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First United Methodist Church—Hartselle
Johnson Chapel United Methodist Church
Kings Memorial United Methodist Church
Neel United Methodist Church
Parkview Baptist Church
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Southside Baptist Church
Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church
West Hartselle Baptist Church

CORPORATIONS/ORGANIZATIONS

BP Chemicals
Bunge
Greater Morgan Co. Homebuilders Assoc.
Rotary Club of Decatur Daybreak
Wells Fargo

SCHOOLS

Austin High School FCCLA
Harvard University (MA)
Wells College (NY)
Wittenburg University (OH)

SUPPLY/SERVICE

84 Lumber
Absolute Air
American Wallzone Supply
Associated Masonry Products
Bedingfield Surveying
Bulldog Construction
Byco Plastics
Cerrowire
Danny Boy Plumbing
Dow Chemical
Elite Flooring
Gobble-Fite Lumber Company
Goss Electric
Greenway Recycling
H & H Limestone
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Lowe's
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Sherman Concrete
Sherwin Williams
Square D
Vest Plumbing & Gas
Whirlpool
Yale Lock

Family Spotlight: The Kilgore Family



Amy Kilgore's life started out pretty normally. She grew up in a typical middle-class family. When she was 13, her mom and stepdad divorced, and then things began to unravel. Her mom struggled with being a single parent to 4 children and began abusing drugs. When Amy was 15, she learned she was pregnant. After her son was born, there was no one to care for him during the day, so Amy quit school. Meanwhile, her mom's drug problem was causing housing challenges for the family, and they were served an eviction notice. Amy's mom moved out and her siblings scattered, but she chose not to go. She was still there when the sheriff showed up to evict her.

Over the next couple of years, she stayed with friends, but never felt settled. At 19, she finally got her own apartment. She recalls those days with some amusement. "I had no bed, but I went out and bought a big screen TV. I also bought a big plastic swimming pool, which I put in the middle of the kitchen (since I had no table). My son and the neighbors loved it...until the landlord found out!" She worked various jobs, and did eventually buy a bed.

When she found out she was pregnant a second time, she was overwhelmed. She didn't think she could handle another child just then. She ended up having an abortion, a decision she still describes as "the worst thing I've ever done". When her son was nine, she did carry a baby to term, and her daughter was born. Today, she loves being a mom and believes that having her son probably prevented her from becoming a drug addict. "He saved my life," she says.

Amy hit her late twenties and life settled down a bit, although financially, she still struggled. A friend suggested she try applying to the Habitat program. She attended an orientation, but doubted she would ever get into the program. She knew she had credit issues, and figured they would prevent her from ever getting a house. Later, when she learned a home visit was forthcoming, she began to be hopeful. When she learned she'd been approved, her first thought was, "So many others deserve it more than I do." Apparently, Habitat disagreed.

Amy has blossomed in the Habitat program. She feels that Habitat has helped her grow in a number of ways, including emotionally and financially. She loves the opportunity to volunteer and regrets that she never did it before. "It's the best feeling in the world to be out here, building a house. I love that my children are seeing me do something for others...being a good role model." She added, "I can build a house!" and then quipped that she is already telling the construction supervisor what to do.

It's been a long road, but things are starting to look up. In the near future, Amy will have a home and a yard to call her own. There'll be plenty of room for the big screen TV, as well as for the basketball goal she wants for her son. Hopefully, the kitchen will have a dining table, and NOT a wading pool. Guess we'll just have to wait and see....

Thanks to all our Rollin' on the River Car Show sponsors:

- Alabama Farmers Co-op • Decatur Electronics • Decatur Mall
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- Renasant Bank • Satterfields' Auto Tech • Steven Jones
- The Greens • Thomas Willis • Valley Overhead Doors



Let the countdown begin!



Don't pack up your nail aprons just yet! Just a few weeks from now Habitat for Humanity of Morgan County will proudly start construction of our 59th house. This house will be sponsored by Shiloh Baptist Church and the Women Build Builders. We plan on constructing this house in the Somerville area. Watch our online calendar for framing day. Hope to see you on site!



"Like" our page on Facebook: www.facebook.com/HFHMC.

Photo Gallery



Sonya Aldridge of Bunge presents a Bible to Sherry Williams at her recent house dedication.



Home at last! Yolanda Yarbrough and her children pose in front of their new home on Douthit Street in Decatur.



A joyful Sherry Williams receives the keys to her new home from Bunge plant manager Gene Moore.



Sandra Locke-Godbey is hard at work for the May Women Build event in our Hartselle subdivision.



In July, Habitat dedicated a new home for JR and Emily Loughman (at left) on Homeplace Avenue in Hartselle.



Donna Morris, Habitat construction supervisor Marlon Morris, and board vice-president Mark Schwan are all smiles at a recent dedication.



The Piecemakers of Wesley Memorial UMC presented several beautiful handmade quilts to the family of Yolanda Yarbrough at her house dedication.



Our third annual Rollin' on the River Car Show was a great success at the Decatur Mall on June 18.



There were dozens of beautiful cars to admire in our last Rollin' on the River Car Show.



Car Show visitors to the popcorn & cotton candy booth got service with a smile from "homeowners-in-progress" Sherry Williams & Megan James.



Did you know the Habitat ReStore had books? Lots of them! Stop by and check out the great selection.



Family Services coordinator talks about using a spreader in a recent Lawn Care and Landscaping class for "homeowners-in-progress".



These women gathered in our Hartselle subdivision on May 7 to demonstrate "girl power" for our Women Build event.

The ReStore Corner



Hello, everyone!! We are missing you here at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. We know you are getting ready for school to start up, so come check out all the items your college student can use: desks, chairs, chest of drawers, and wardrobes, to name a few. Maybe even a TV, an end table or a lamp. We've got them all...at prices you can afford!



And yes, I promise it will cool off soon, and then you may want to do a few projects in your yard. Right now, we have pallets of rubber roofing. Do you know how many different ways you can use that stuff? It can be used as a pond liner, a tarp, or even landscaping fabric to go under your mulch.



In the meantime, come on by and enjoy the free "sauna treatment" at the ReStore while it lasts!



[www.facebook.com/Decatur ReStore](http://www.facebook.com/DecaturReStore)

Habitat ReStore
620 Wilson Street NE, Decatur
256-308-1160
Monday—Friday, 8:00—4:00
Saturday, 9:00—2:00



Federal employees: Donate to Habitat through CFC. Our number is 59800.



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