



Habitat
for Humanity®
of Addison County, VT

NEWS
from the
CREWS
Fall 2020

Seymour Street design hits home run

The design of HfHAC's first Seymour Street home in Middlebury won a major award from the American Institute of Architects' New England Region this fall (see <http://middleburymagazine.com/dispatches/home-heart/> for more information). Architect John McLeod described the honor as the highest level award the organization gives.

One of the judges described the project as having everything: "It was very economical, there were students, they created a prototype; the prototype was adapted based on the needs of the users; the users participated in the construction so that they were one with the house. And it's beautiful—very simply and elegantly done."

McLeod said of the award, "This is especially exciting in that, among all the world-class architects and architecture reviewed by the jury, they chose to recognize a project involving affordable housing, high performance



(super energy-efficient) design, design with/by liberal arts students, and construction by (mostly) volunteers."

Meanwhile, construction continues on the second Habitat home on Seymour Street. This fall, crews have been hanging sheetrock and installing a

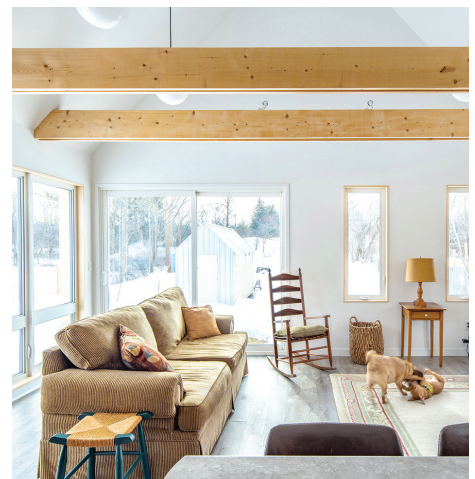
Above, a view of the exterior of the two Seymour Street homes; below, the interior of Seymour No. 1.

standing seam roof that will eventually sport solar photovoltaic panels, similar to the first Seymour Street home.

Update: Habitat and the Coronavirus

The volunteer building crews were able to start working at the end of April after a one-month delay due to COVID-19 restrictions. We are practicing all mandated safety measures with limited people working, face masks, hand sanitizing stations, and social distancing. In addition to building the second home on Seymour Street, volunteers have also been renovating a condo unit donated to HfHAC. See stories elsewhere in this issue.

— **Steve Ingram**, *president*,
Habitat for Humanity of Addison County



From island to in-land: Design/build project winds up in Goshen

Each summer in recent years, local architects and HfHAC collaborators John McLeod and Steve Kredell and builder Alex Carver have led a group of students from Middlebury and other colleges to Hurricane Island in Maine to gain hands-on experience designing and building projects to benefit the community. This year, the COVID-19 pandemic quashed those plans, but the group quickly shifted gears and moved the Island Design Program in-land to Vermont.

Nine students and their leaders teamed up with Habitat for Humanity of Addison County to design and build a storage shed for a soon-to-be-built Habitat home in the Booth Woods subdivision of Vergennes. The student crew hit the ground running during the weeklong program. They started by consulting



The student crew produced something more than an ordinary shed for the Booth Woods project.

with Habitat leaders at the Vergennes site, then huddled at the Blueberry Inn in Goshen, where they created a design, ordered materials from local businesses, and built sections of the shed, which they then transported to Vergennes and installed on site.

As you might expect, this is no ordinary shed. It features two storage rooms on either side of a breezeway, and accessed by a sliding barn-style

door. McLeod said the red and white cedar design takes cues from the boxy, horizontal designs of the planned homes. Translucent material across the top of the structure provides plenty of light.

Though the Island Design Assembly program's relocation to Vermont was unplanned, McLeod reports that the arrangement worked so well that it will continue to be based in Goshen next year, with a modified name: Mountain Design Assembly, producing more projects to benefit the Addison County area.



Booth Woods homes on the drawing board

HfHAC expects installation of electric and sewer lines, as well as clearing of two of the four lots planned in the Booth Woods subdivision in Vergennes to take place this fall. Construction of the first home is expected to begin in spring 2021. The project includes four homes of varying sizes. A class of six Middlebury College students, overseen by architect John McLeod and builder Alex Carver, is currently finalizing designs for the first three homes (*architect's rendering, at left*), with the fourth to be designed by students starting with the spring 2021 semester.

HfHAC GIVING SPOTLIGHT

How you can help Habitat's builders

Have you thought about your gift to Habitat for Humanity of Addison County (HfHAC) this year? There are many ways to give: cash, credit card, check, stock, bonds, mutual funds, wire transfers, recurring gift, and a few others that take a little planning but make a big difference in the lives of our families and projects here in Addison County.

Gift and estate planning

Consider naming HfHAC as a beneficiary of your will, IRA, 401k or donor advised fund. You can add Habitat to your will, donate life-income annuities, or gifts of real property, life insurance, or gifts from trusts.

Donate now!

HfHAC's annual appeal will be mailed in mid-November. Please send in your gift now or donate online at <https://addisonhabitat.org/donate-2/> and we'll take you off the list for this mailing. Thank you for your continued support!

Donating a house or property

This allows HfHAC to either sell and use the proceeds to pay for our next house or build on the land. Recently, a condominium in Middlebury was generously donated. It has been renovated and we plan to sell it to help pay for our second Seymour Street house and the beginning infrastructure for our Vergennes Booth Woods' project homes. We also had land deeded to us so we could build two homes on the Seymour Street lot instead of one duplex. Gifts of property and land provide tangible support for hardworking families in Addison County.

Annuities and/or unitrusts

These giving vehicles can benefit Habitat for many years to come. You transfer cash or securities into a legal instrument which pays you and/or your beneficiaries income for life. The balance, upon the death of the income recipient(s), passes to HfHAC. At the time the instrument is set up, you receive a tax deduction for a portion of the gift. Please consult your tax advisor or financial institution to create a fund. If you would like, we would be glad to assist you in establishing the fund.

Recurring monthly gifts

Your bank can establish a system to send a little bit every month to Habitat to sustain our ongoing work. For those who are budget conscious, yet still want to give, it gives you the ability to give something every month, and in the end might be more than could be given at one time.

Whatever donation vehicle you choose, please know that your gift is appreciated by all of us at HfHAC and by the families we support in our community. Please contact Jeff Rehbach (jeff.rehbach@gmail.com) or Phil Yauch (pyauch@securespeed.us) about making a gift. Thank you for being a part of Habitat's mission in Addison County.



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Sale of Otterside condo in the works

HfhAC expects the sale of a condominium at 67 Otterside Court in Middlebury to be finalized this fall. The two-bedroom, two-bath property was generously donated to the organization by Sandra Mayo. Habitat remodeled the condo throughout, including a new kitchen, new flooring and fixtures. The organization is grateful for this substantial gift, as it puts HfHAC on solid ground for the next phase of building more affordable homes for families in Addison County.

“HfHAC would like to thank **Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman** for being a good corporate citizen and working with us on the sale of the condo unit.”
— Steve Ingram,
President, HfHAC



HfHAC was selected by the Milk & Honey Quilters' Guild last year to receive the proceeds from ornaments made and sold by Guild members. The ornaments were sold at the 2019 Quilt Show and at the Vergennes Congregational Church. HfHAC co-founders, Margaret and Peter Carothers, are seen here receiving the check from Dorothy Hayes of the Guild in March. Thank you!

Connect with us online!

Due to COVID-19, we are communicating primarily via e-mail and social media. Follow us on Facebook (Habitat for Humanity of

Addison County VT) or contact us at habitat.addison@yahoo.com and provide us with your e-mail address so we can keep you informed of future events, including a food drive during the winter to benefit HOPE.