

## CHENANGO COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY COMPLETES SIXTH HOUSE

Anyone passing through the hamlet of Guilford may have noticed the Chenango County Habitat for Humanity sign on the lawn of the Klee House. Through the generosity of Rita Kane and the Klee House Board, Habitat is able to have an office there for a modest monthly rental.

Habitat is an international and national organization dedicated to helping people in need of adequate housing. Its volunteers both repair existing housing and build new dwellings. The picture accompanying this article shows a house recently completed in the Town of Sherburne – the sixth finished by the Chenango County affiliate. While some tasks such as well-drilling are performed by contractors, most of the labor on these projects is supplied by volunteers. At the Sherburne house, for example, 24 volunteers contributed nearly 4000 hours of labor.

One of the common misconceptions concerning Habitat is that it “gives away” houses to those it serves. The reality is that once a family agrees to partner with Habitat, they commit to a set number of hours of “sweat equity” (usually 350 hours) and to re-pay a no-interest mortgage.

Habitat is always looking for volunteers for a variety of tasks including serving on the Habitat Board of Directors. Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM at Klee House. For more information, call Bob Davis at 895-6390.



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