

*Newsletter* | *Western King County*

# Trolley Street Celebration

*The Trolley Street site as it appeared in 1995.*

Fifteen years ago, Dr. Patsy Heald, a professor of Mathematics at Greene College, approached the college board with her vision of a partnership between the college and Greene City Building with Heart.

The project captured the imagination of the board, and the college soon donated a site on Trolley Street. Faculty, staff, and students signed up as builders, and a site was selected for the first project. The rest is history.

On August 3, a celebration was held on Trolley Street, which is now the heart of a vibrant community, at the heart of which are seven homes that were Building with Heart projects.

Six of the seven families who benefitted from the Trolley Street projects were represented. The celebration was attended by John and Sandy Sanford, Mike and Irene Rios and their twin sons, Sal and Rosetta Krieg, Alice Guthrie, Shelly Schwartz, Marion and Bernie Ross, and Jay Nufrick.

Several family members delivered a short speech. Other speakers included Bill Rosen, current Director of Building with Heart and owner of Zev's Diner; Tammy Hager, Mayor of Greene City; Nancy Elliot, President of Greene City Board of Real Estate Agencies; and Dr. Laurel Perry, Associate Director of Project VITAL and Community Liaison for Thurman Greene Memorial Hospital.

Many stories were told about the thousands of hours of hard work contributed by volunteers through which the projects were successfully completed. While there were some tears in the crowd as homeowners shared how their lives were changed, some were laughing so hard they cried as Mayor Hager shared a hilarious collection of funny stories (complete with “blooper” movies, in some cases) that volunteers have shared with us over the years.

Dr. Heald, former Director of the Building with Heart Trolley Street project and current Director of Development, recounted the project's original vision and identified how the vision was fulfilled.

The Trolley Street project garnered national attention and has been cited as an example of innovative design and construction. It was featured in the beautifully illustrated book *Building a Greener Future*, written by movie star, architect, and philanthropist Brant Pitt. Trolley Street homes are not only attractive and were economical to construct, they are energy-efficient and inexpensive to maintain.

Dr. Heald cited contributions of both materials and services by more than fifty Greene City community members. Bill Rosen announced several major new donations and unveiled the plan for the Clinton Street site.

## We are always looking for more volunteers

We would especially appreciate volunteers for our fundraising and public relations committees. Please contact our Director of Development, Patsy Heald, if you are interested in serving on any of these committees. If you are interested in volunteering in other areas, including construction, please visit our website, [www.bwhgreene.org](http://www.bwhgreene.org), or call (555) 555-1212 to sign up. Volunteer orientation classes are held every first and third Saturdays of the month at the downtown office, located at 349 Main Street, Greene City, RL 12340.

## Doc ’n’ Dawg

Dr. Sachio Yamato and Bill Dawkins are known to other Building with Heart volunteers as Doc ’n’ Dawg. Together, these men have managed every project on the Trolley Street site.

While often referred to as though they are a single person, Doc ’n’ Dawg come from vastly different backgrounds and bring different experience to Building with Heart.

Doc, born in Japan in 1926, came to the U.S. in 1952, and soon settled in Greene City, where he teaches Psychology and coaches Judo at Greene College.

Bill was born in Carbon Creek and has lived in the area his entire life, working as a carpenter and running Dawkins Construction with his sons, Richard and Darryl.

Doc ’n’ Dawg organize, train, and direct building teams in the Western King branch of Building with Heart. And they work side-by-side with volunteers, assigning and supervising tasks such as framing, siding, roofing, wiring, plumbing, installing drywall, and painting.

*Above Image: Sailors assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) help build a home for a mother currently raising six foster children.*

*(U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Cmdr. Karen E. Eifert - This Image was released by the United States Navy with the ID 110202-N-9268E-007. This image is a work of a sailor or employee of the United States Navy, taken or made during the course of the person's official duties. As a work of the United States Government, the image is in the public domain.)*

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They assess the skills of volunteers, assigning them tasks that are appropriate to their skills and training them to develop new skills. They also work closely with volunteers from the Western King Vocational/Occupational Training and Technical School.

## Board Update

We have a new Board Member, Sal Gandler. Sal is a resident of Greene City and President of Greene City Savings and Loan, which has been a generous supporter of Building with Heart over the years.

## Volunteer Builders in Online Video

Check out the video of volunteer builders in this online video!