Beams and Dreams: An Annual Celebration of Warren County Habitat for Humanity

By Brittany Powelson WARREN COUNTY NJ

On October 7th, Hawk Pointe Golf Club saw a warm-hearted, generous group of people supporting Warren County Habitat for Humanity at their annual Beams and Dreams event. Around 150 members of the community gathered to share their love and support for the organization and its mission: building homes, communities, and hope in Warren County.

The doors opened, and guests placed their bids on item baskets within seconds. Old friends and coworkers reunited with each other and enjoyed a delicious cheese display as an appetizer. As guests filed in and made themselves comfortable, Bert Baron, WRNJ morning radio host and the night's emcee, prepared to invite the night's speakers on stage. Warren County Habitat Board President, Kathy Halpin, officially welcomed the audience to the fundraiser, and Pastor Peter Jamieson, Warren County Habitat Board Member, blessed the meal before guests were sent to fill their plates at the buffet. Renowned Hackettstown musicians Grover Kemble and the Noble Brothers gave a lively jazz and soft rock performance. Before the night came to a close, Bert Baron led the live auction, where guests could bid on an electric log splitter, a quality recliner donated by Berk's Furniture, a private golf lesson from Hawk Pointe Golf Pro Peter Stefanchik, a foursome of golf donated by Oak Hill Golf Club, and an off-roading experience donated by OK4WD.

Executive Director Ben Eskow and Director of Development JJ Norment also spoke about Warren County Habitat's growing Home Repair Program. The program strives to keep qualifying homeowners in their homes safely and affordably by providing necessary repairs to their residences. Within the past year, the Home Repair Program has completed over 25 projects for low- to moderate-income families in the area. While Warren County Habitat's primary focus will always be building homes alongside partner families in Warren County, the Home Repair Program allows the organization to expand our impact and serve even more families.

This year's Beams and Dreams event raised over \$30,000 for Warren County Habitat for Humanity's work in the community. Funds will go towards the Home Repair Program, along with two new home builds for families that are set to be completed in the Spring and Summer of 2024. The funds will also help support their second retail location, The HUT, where customers can purchase donated clothing, coats, jewelry, shoes, accessories and more for bargain prices. All proceeds from sales go back into programming for the organization.

Warren County Habitat for Humanity would like to acknowledge Hawk Pointe Golf Club yet again for the use of their gorgeous venue. While there are many organizations who supported this event, they would also like to thank Elizabethtown Gas and Valley Bank for being Beams and Dreams' main sponsors this year.

For more information on the Home Repair Program, Warren County Habitat's homeownership program, the ReStore, The HUT, the Community Center and more, follow Warren County Habitat on Facebook at www.facebook.com/warrencountynjhabitat, Instagram @warrenhabitatforhumanity, or visit their website at www.warrenhabitat.org.





JJ Norment (Left) and Ben Eskow (Right) smile for a photo before speaking to the audience





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