

NORTH BRUNSWICK NBBM MAGAZINE

Life in the Leland Area of North Carolina

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*Building a
bigger & better*

**HABITAT
ReSTORE**

WITH BRUNSWICK COUNTY
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JASON GAVER



THE GREAT
**PUMPKIN
BLOWOUT**

TAKE A SWING
WITH **NICOLE
WELLER**

CIVIL WAR
**AFRICAN
AMERICAN
TROOPS**

PICKING THE PERFECT PICKLE

| WELCOME HOME ANGEL

| MARY WILLETTS EARP



Jason Gaver, executive director of Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity, surveys the progress of the new ReStore building.

All for Affordable Housing

To better meet community needs and fund more partner homes, Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity is opening a larger ReStore location in Leland.

BY MELISSA SLAVEN WARREN | PHOTOGRAPHY BY LEIGH ROBERTS



The drive for affordable housing in Brunswick County is about to get more help, thanks to a larger Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity ReStore location. The nonprofit organization has been renting its current space at 414 Village Lane in Leland, and though the location has served the community well, a bigger space is needed.

Jason Gaver, executive director of Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity, says, “The space was never ideal, but it was important for us to have a ReStore presence in Leland.”

Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity partnered with McKinley Building for the design and construction of its new Leland ReStore location.

More than four years ago, Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity purchased the land immediately to the left of the existing store at the corner of Village Road and Dresser Lane. The new store, at 92 Dresser Lane, is expected to open by the end of 2024 and will feature nearly 15,000 square feet of retail space with 12,500 interior square feet, twice the size of the current store, and an additional 2,500 square feet of outdoor space with an area for patio furniture and yard furnishings.

“We started construction in May of 2024 and expect to be completed sometime in the October or November time frame,” Gaver says.

The growth of the ReStore is directly related to the overall growth of the Habitat for Humanity of Brunswick County organization and is designed to serve more families. Gaver says they simply ran out of space at their current Leland location and “the new store will allow us to expand our product offerings to the community.”

The new ReStore will sell a combination of donated home goods and construction materials as well as purchased products like mattresses, box springs, pillows and blankets, just to name a few.

Habitat’s ReStores, located in Ocean Isle Beach, Southport and Leland, are open to the public and offer furniture, appliances and home goods. They’re also a home improvement center for building materials and accessories. They offer a constantly changing inventory of donated new and gently used items at a fraction of the retail price.

The profits from the sales of goods at the ReStores help the nonprofit organization fulfill its mission to build safe and affordable homes for

WHAT'S NEW



hardworking families in Brunswick County.

Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity was established in 1993 and is a locally run affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. The organization was founded on the idea that safe and decent shelter should be a fundamental human right. Its mission is to end

repayments, in addition to the profits from their ReStores, to help finance the construction of future Habitat homes.

Homeowners include young families with small children, single parents and those with disabilities.

“There is a misconception that we give homes away,” Gaver says. “That could not be further

our 31st anniversary, we will start our 100th home.”

A first for Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity is the development of a subdivision. At the end of 2023, the organization broke ground on Fuller Court, a 10-home subdivision in Leland just for Habitat for Humanity partner families. The 6-acre lot will also feature a park and a basketball court for the neighborhood.

The ReStores directly fund these projects. The new Leland ReStore, along with the other locations in Ocean Isle Beach and Southport, are run by paid

staff and supported by volunteers who take in donations, clean and test them and then merchandise the products on the sales floors.

“With this new ReStore, we will cement ourselves as part of the Leland community and continue to provide our neighbors with lower-cost items for their home furnishings or home repair projects at a convenient location,” Gaver says. ■



substandard housing.

Habitat for Humanity partners with people in need throughout the county to help them build homes. Habitat homeowners work alongside community volunteers, investing significant hours of time and sweat equity to build their own homes. In return, the homeowner pays a below-market interest rate mortgage. Habitat uses money collected from partner family mortgage

from the truth. We provide a hand-up, not a hand-out.”

Gaver says his organization expanded in 2023 to build six homes for partner families and plans to expand further.

“We have a very aggressive growth plan that will see us continue to increase the number of homes we build every year,” he says. “There is such a need for affordable housing, and we want to be part of the solution. This year,



CAN YOU HELP?

You can help support all the **ReStores** by shopping, donating or volunteering. For information on how to volunteer:

🌐 brunswickcountyhabitat.org/volunteer.

The new **Leland Habitat for Humanity ReStore** will be at:

92 Dresser Lane, Leland

(910) 338-3648

🌐 brunswickcountyhabitat.org/Leland-nc-restore

Check website for hours.