

Smith-Phillips Lumber & Building Supply Dedicates Habitat Home on 16th Street

WINSTON-SALEM, NC - Smith-Phillips Lumber & Building Supply dedicated the community built Habitat for Humanity 16th Street project on Wednesday, December 10, 2003. The home was sponsored by Smith-Phillips and nine area businesses on behalf of Lastisha Aiken; her three year old son, Johntae; one year old son, Christopher; and her 19 year-old sister, Lenora. Neither the cold nor the rain dampened spirits as attendees huddled together under the cover of the front porch to watch as Ms. Aiken received the keys to her new home from Mickey Boles, President of Smith-Phillips Lumber & Building Supply.



The community built Habitat for Humanity house.

The 16th Street Build Project, spearheaded by Mickey Boles, brought together area businesses in an effort to improve their neighborhood and support the local community. The Aiken home is the first Habitat home to be built on 16th Street.

"Habitat for Humanity is a good fit for us. It is a great cause, related to our industry, and you can really see the fruits of your labor," stated Mickey Boles, President of Smith-Phillips. "It feels good to be a part of a project like this. We appreciate our loyal customers who allow us to give back to our community."

Employees from Smith-Phillips and Quality Oil raised the walls and the roof in four days. Smith-Phillips' customer, Trinity Construction Company, owned by Leon Oglesby, donated time and expertise to assist during the first day of building. Members of the community also lent a helping hand by donating food, time, and assistance in an effort to help Ms. Aiken and her family realize their dream of home ownership.



Bishop F. D. Patterson, Lastisha Aiken and Mickey Boles, President of Smith-Phillips Lumber & Building Supply

"By investing in our community, we help keep Winston-Salem growing. Most importantly, we get to grow a little spiritually in the process," stated Boles.

Quality Oil Company; Frank L. Blum Construction Company; Gateway Holdings, LLC; Vulcan Materials Company; Pine Hall Brick Company, Inc.; Clemmons Hardwoods Cabinets/Flooring; JKS Motorsports, Inc.; Glaize

Components; and WBFJ Music from the Heart joined Smith-Phillips Lumber & Building Supply in supporting the 16th Street project with donations of cash, construction materials, and manpower to build the house. Prior to the ribbon cutting, Ms. Aiken took a moment to thank the sponsors, volunteers and Habitat for Humanity staff for all of their hard work.

About Smith-Phillips Lumber & Building Supply
Smith-Phillips Lumber & Building Supply, established in 1880, has proudly carried on the tradition of being a leading building supply center in the Triad for over 123 years. During that time, Smith-Phillips Lumber & Building Supply has been dedicated to supporting the community in which it does business through organizations such as Habitat for Humanity. Smith-Phillips pledges itself to continually maintaining a high standard of excellence in serving its customers with quality and pride. For more information please contact Smith-Phillips at 336.722.8167 or by email at spmarketing@triad.biz.rr.com.

'I Always Had Faith'

Man Who Served Nearly 20 Years In Jail For Murder Says He Hopes The Community 'Can Heal From This'



Hunt prays at the Community Mosque after his release shines."

Rabil, Hunt's longtime attorney, broke down as Hunt spoke of Rabil's commitment. Hunt told how dedicated his attorney was in 1993, when Rabil's first wife was sick. She later died of cancer.

"They gave me the strength to maintain," Hunt said. "There were times I felt like I was going crazy being locked up."

"It makes you sick to your stomach that someone can be in jail for a long time and not be guilty of anything," said Sheriff Bill Schatzman, whose office has not been involved in the case but runs the jail where Hunt has been held. "We're human beings, but the system is fallible."

No one was ready just yet to apologize to Hunt for the mistake.

"I think justice will take its course, God willing," Hunt said. "I always had faith that one day I would be free."

"I pray that we can all—black, white, blue and green, everybody—can heal from this and grow as a community so we won't be separated by race," he said. "Injustice can happen to anyone. I pray that we, together, will not allow this to happen to anyone else."

Hunt told his supporters that he is not sure what his future holds, beyond taking care of his family and finishing his education at Winston-Salem State University.

Hunt spoke for more than half an hour about his disappointments, the courage that he has found in friendship, the strength that he has found in his wife's love, and his faith.

Asked what he wanted to do that he had not been able to during his years in prison, he had a simple answer.

"I just want to watch the sun go down."

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