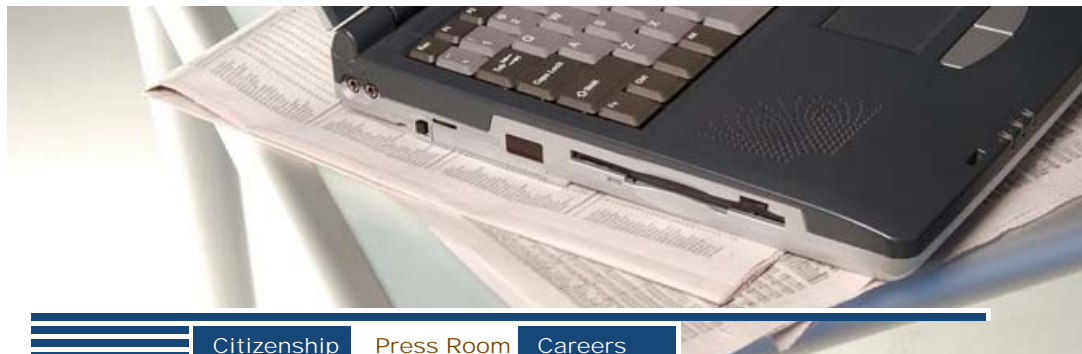


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Erickson Living News

Riderwood Residents and Staff Are Helping Habitat for Humanity to Renovate a House in Gaithersburg, MD

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Riderwood Residents and Staff Are Helping Montgomery County Habitat for Humanity to Renovate a House in Gaithersburg, MD

SILVER SPRING, MD (February 7, 2011) – Riderwood retirement community residents and staff, all of whom are members of Riderwood Friends of Habitat for Humanity, are helping Montgomery County Habitat for Humanity to renovate a house in Gaithersburg, MD, that will allow a couple to move from sub-standard housing into this house later this year.

Riderwood Friends of Habitat for Humanity are helping to gut the interior to prepare for re-design of the space, make structural reinforcements and changes to insure compliance with code, and install insulation. Among those participating in the work are Ama Frintong (a server in Riderwood's Overlook dining room), James Heilig (a member of the physician rehabilitation staff), and residents James Henkelman-Bahn, Krystyna Nasiegnieusta, David and Cathy Pasternak, Alan Mayers, and John Akerley.

Situated on ¾ acres on Emory Grove Road in Gaithersburg, the one-story house has 1,139 square feet plus basement. When finished, it will have two bedrooms and 1 ½ baths, double-paned windows and all new appliances.

Alan Mayers, a member of the steering committee that

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coordinates the work of Riderwood Friends of Habitat for Humanity, said, "We gain the satisfaction of improving the lives of others less fortunate than ourselves."

Riderwood Friends of Habitat for Humanity participate in as many as three such 'builds' a year, and also builds cabinets in Riderwood's woodshop for Habitat houses. "We who build cabinets for these houses have the additional satisfaction of creating beauty," said Mayers. "Our kitchen cabinets can stand comparison with fine commercially-built cabinets, but at a saving of at least \$1,000 per house."

In addition, the Riderwood Friends of Habitat for Humanity is currently recruiting volunteers to assist in the Goodwill-like *ReStore* that Montgomery County Habitat for Humanity operates in Gaithersburg.

Riderwood's association with the Montgomery County Habitat for Humanity began in 2004 when resident Bill Johnston, who had been working with Habitat for Humanity prior to his move to Riderwood, organized the building of kitchen cabinets in the Riderwood woodshop for Habitat houses in the area. Riderwood Friends of Habitat for Humanity was created in 2006 to partner with local Habitat for Humanity affiliates to provide simple, decent and affordable housing for low income families in Washington, D.C., and Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

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