

**INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:**

Milestone: ReStore	1
Enterprise Zone	2
Follow Our Progress	3
Happenings at Habitat	4

**Milestone:**

## ReStore Celebrates 10 Years

Ten years ago, the Habitat ReStore opened with a purpose – to help Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity (PPHfH) build more homes.

Executive Director, Paul Johnson, said, “The board wanted to find a self-sufficient, sustainable funding source.” In the summer of 2003, a committee put a plan together.

The concept was simple. Provide a store where people could donate new and used construction and building materials that could be sold to bargain hunters at a discount. All new and used items are

discounted between 50% and 70% below retail. The ReStore diverts and recycles thousands of tons of usable material from being deposited into local landfills.

Committee member, Scott Westermann, worked on the plan. “We wanted to create a different model,” said Mr. Westermann. “We did not want to compete with other stores like Goodwill, Salvation Army and Arc



Cutting the 10th Anniversary cake. From left: Laurel Thorstensen, PPHfH Board Member; Paul Johnson, PPHfH Executive Director; John Veteto, ReStore General Manager.

Thrift Stores.”

The committee needed someone to find a location and run the operation. Mr.

*We wanted to create a different model.*

Johnson and Mr. Westermann consulted architectural engineer, John Veteto, who was working with his church to build

(Continued on Page 2)



# ReStore 10th Anniversary

Continued from Page 1



a house for PPHfH. “One of the best decisions I ever made for the ReStore was to hire John and then get out of the way,” Mr. Johnson said. Familiar with the construction industry in Colorado Springs, Mr. Veteto built inventory, and the ReStore was profitable right from the beginning.

When a family donated some property to PPHfH in 2003, its sale became seed money for the ReStore. The funds were used to lease part of a former lumberyard and store at 411 S. Wahsatch that PPHfH later purchased.

All three gentlemen acknowledge that God has blessed the ReStore. Whatever the need, Mr. Veteto said, “It’s God’s store. He’ll take care of it.” One day the hot water heater for the ReStore restroom went out. A few hours later, a donor brought a brand new water heater that couldn’t be used on a construction site and donated it to the ReStore. It was perfect for what was needed and still in the packaging! Mr. Veteto said it is the “twinkle in God’s eye.”

*It's God's store.  
He'll take care of it.*

One of the biggest needs at the ReStore is for volunteers. In the last fiscal year, over

7,100 volunteers donated 29,317 hours at the ReStore, saving \$226,350 in operating costs. More volunteers are needed.

The ReStore was four years up and running when the region fell on difficult economic times. Yet, it still made a profit and continues to help PPHfH. Since its inception, the ReStore has contributed enough funds to build 31 houses.

Please shop the Pikes Peak Habitat ReStore at 411 S. Wahsatch, Monday through Saturday from 9:00 – 5:00. Donations are accepted Monday through Saturday from 9:30 – 4:30. You can make a positive change for El Paso County by helping to donate, shop, volunteer.



## Experience Tax Savings through the Enterprise Zone

Taxpayers can make monetary contributions to Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity and may take a tax credit of up to \$100,000 per tax year on Colorado state taxes. The *Enterprise Zone* tax credit lets you receive a 25% credit when you donate a monetary gift to Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity. Combined with charitable income tax deductions, your gift to PPHfH can result in substantial tax savings.

For example, if you donate \$1000, then 25% (\$250) can be claimed as a credit on your state income taxes. The \$1000 contribution also qualifies for a charitable contribution deduction for your federal taxes. As each individual case is different, Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity cannot provide instruction regarding your specific situation. Please confirm your eligibility with your tax preparation advisor.

**To have your donation qualify as an *Enterprise Zone* contribution, please follow these simple steps:**

- Donations of \$250 or more are eligible.
- Make your check payable to the “El Paso County Enterprise Zone”.
- Include your Social Security Number or Colorado Account Number. If you would like more information about taxpayer ID numbers, please contact our office.
- In the memo section of your check write “Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity”.
- Mail your check to Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity. Your receipt will come from El Paso County.