



Carlton's Next Chapter

The residents of Carlton mobile home park can rest easier now.

After months facing an uncertain future, families living there now know they can remain in their homes now that Habitat and partners have stepped in to purchase the property in the Belmont/Carlton section of Charlottesville.

"We just can't imagine what we would have to do if we had to leave...this is security for us...this gives us a chance not to have to break up our family...break up our home and everything, it's just really important for us to stay here," said 12-year resident Nancy Sprouse.

On September 20th, Habitat closed on the purchase of the trailer park and immediately began responsible management on behalf of the Habitat Carlton Alliance – a new joint venture of Habitat and the Piedmont Housing Alliance.

"Just imagine what it was like to wake up one day in June and get a notice that the land under your home had been sold," said Habitat President and CEO Dan Rosensweig. "Thanks to our partners at PHA, the City of Charlottesville, Community Housing Capital, Virginia Housing, the Legal Aid Justice Center and, most importantly, the residents themselves, we can now begin the hard work of planning a future without displacement. We are so excited to begin the journey."

Rosensweig expressed a special note of gratitude to the Bolton family who had owned the park for decades. "They didn't have to sell it to us," said Rosensweig. "In fact they had another solid offer so their decision was based on a strong desire to make sure the residents could stay."

As part of its commitment to residents, the Habitat Carlton Alliance formally agreed to a minimum of 3 years without redevelopment and a rent increase cap of no more than \$15 per year. The greatest commitment of all though, is one of non-displacement for residents.

"Like at Sunrise and Southwood, our first core value and commitment is non-displacement," said Rosensweig. "Any resident currently living in the park who wants to stay and is willing to partner with us will have on-site housing solutions within their price range."

The Habitat property management team is now moving forward with one-on-one family meetings to learn more about the residents – who they are and what are their aspirations for themselves and the community.

Former Carlton resident Cheri Greene remembers getting involved with Habitat herself eighteen years ago, after responding to a flyer on her trailer door. While she was interested in moving to the adjacent Sunrise Neighborhood at the time,

she ultimately found her *forever home* on Paton Street, Habitat's first mixed-income community in Fifeville. Given her job in Facility Management Building Services at UVA, the Paton Street location made for a seamless commute – she could walk to work in fifteen minutes.



Cheri was happy to learn about Habitat's offer on the park being accepted on behalf of the residents.

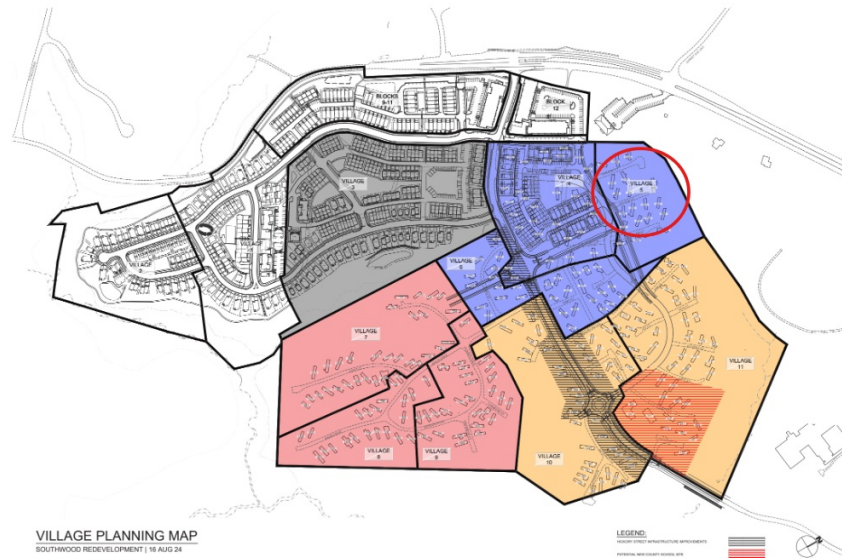
"I'm so glad they got that trailer park! That was good news! I [still] know some people that live in that park."

When it comes to advice for the Carlton community about how to work with Habitat, Cheri said she wants them to know that "it gives you an opportunity of being a first time home[buyer] and it's great for the young, because of the real estate and there's no way anyone can afford to buy anything up in Charlottesville."

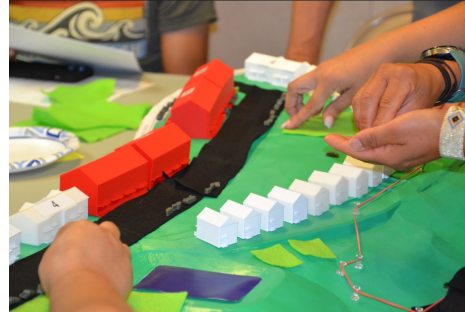
To learn more about the latest happenings at Carlton [click here](#).

Progress in Southwood: Resident Design of Village 5

Resident-led design planning sessions are back in full swing at Southwood, with residents of Villages 7, 8 and 9 now developing the site plan for the next section of redevelopment – Village 5.



On Thursday, August 29th, a group of more than 30 residents participated in a lively planning session at the Southwood Community Engagement office. Three separate resident design teams worked together to assemble scale models inclusive of Habitat and market rate homes, roads, parking, green space, and even cars! Common desired elements were discussed and identified by the group – including the inclusion of a large, centralized green space, Habitat homes with basements, and shared parking – all of which will be incorporated into the final site design. The engineering firm of Roudabush Gale and Associates led the inclusive process.



Get an aerial overview of Southwood with the [latest drone footage here](#).

Saints for Shelby

Last month, we were honored to be selected by a long-time group of friends and St. Anne's (STAB) graduates (class of 1976) for a service project in honor of one of their own.

This group of 17 women had a longstanding tradition of reuniting for annual trips together at Sandbridge, Virginia. With the knowledge that one among them, Shelby Ochs Owen, would not be able to go to the beach because of her cancer diagnosis, they set a new agenda: one of service to their community in her honor. Given their shared history in Charlottesville, they decided to reach out to Habitat for a chance to give back in Shelby's honor.

The determined group officially branded themselves the *Saints for Shelby* (the Saints was a nice tie-in to their Alma Mater, and it took on added meaning to the honoree, Shelby, herself an Episcopal priest).

Four back-to-back days of shared work on the construction site at Southwood increased existing bonds and forged new ones, including with Habitat staff. "We learned a great deal from you all, and my cup is full. You all should be very proud of what you are doing down there. The team you gave us...they were stellar...most of us had not ever done this type of work before. It was incredible. You all just took us right under your wings and helped us," Kissy McCrory enthusiastically shared.



Photo from left to right, top to bottom: Habitat Crew Keenan Field; SFS Stephanie (“Steph”) Combs Wilson; SFS Beth Wyker Nissen; SFS Becky Grattan Mercer; SFS Kissy McCrory; SFS Margaret Williams McFarland; SFS Sheppard Bear; Midweek Crew Volunteer John Carpenter; SFS Jarrett Michael Stephens; SFS Janet Horsley Willis; SFS Lesslie Preston Jeanes; Midweek Crew Volunteer Sally Pickell (in back); SFS Cam Winfield Hammill; SFS Polly McConnell; SFS Mary Welby Hardin von Thelen; Shelby Ochs Owen (in pink shirt); Habitat Crew Damon Shelton (in back); SFS Deborah Sims; Habitat Crew Grace Psenicska (in front); Habitat Crew Nick Taylor (in back); Midweek Crew Volunteer Don Goldman; SFS Margot Atuk; Midweek Crew Volunteer David Dierolf; SFS Cathy Hamer Bollinger; SFS Cary Brannock Milley (in front).

“I just knew when we walked up to that model home...what an incredible experience this was going to be,” proclaimed Cary Brannock Milley, “I was so energized by the camaraderie...and that we were making a difference in the name of our friend.”

As a personal touch on their service for the week, Shelby and husband Steve themselves came out to Southwood so that Shelby could bless the homes on which they worked, as well as everyone in attendance.

Saints for Shelby, you embody what our work is all about, and we can’t wait to have you back!

[Donate](#)

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Charlottesville | 434-293-9066

Habitat for Humanity | 967 2nd Street SE | Charlottesville, VA 22902 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!